

The Warren Record

The Record Printing Company

Published Every Thursday By
P. O. BOX 70 - WARRENTON, N. C. 27589
BIGNALL JONES, Editor — DUKE JONES, Business Manager

Member North Carolina Press Association
ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER AT THE POST OFFICE
IN WARRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA, UNDER THE LAWS OF CONGRESS

"Second Class Postage Paid At Warrenton, N. C."
SUBSCRIPTION RATES: ONE YEAR, \$3.00; SIX MONTHS, \$1.50
OUT OF STATE: ONE YEAR, \$4.00; SIX MONTHS, \$2.00

Consider Change In Election

We think it is time that our citizens should be giving some thought to a possible change in the matter of electing members of the Board of County Commissioners at the next session of the General Assembly. We would like to see district representation on the board abolished and the county return to a county-wide system of electing board members in order that the most capable men would be commissioners regardless of what section of the county in which they reside. This would not necessarily mean that commissioners would not be elected from districts, but often it could mean more capable representation. Modern transportation has reduced distance to a point that where a man lives in the county no

longer matters and the entire county is of county-wide interest. But if citizens hold out for district representation, then, in fairness, each district should elect its own representative.

If we are to have county-wide elections, and there is no constitutional bar, we would like to see commissioners elected for a staggered four-year term, with two members being elected in one election year and three in the next election.

We would like to have the views of our citizens on this in order that we may pass them on to our readers. It is not the duty of a newspaper to operate the county, only to stimulate thought on public questions.

Abolish Proposed Surcharge

During the years that the editor of this newspaper has reported meetings of both town and county boards, he has spent countless hours listening to commissioners discuss the solution of problems that have already been satisfactorily solved in other towns and counties. In many instances a few telephone calls or letters could save the Commissioners and the busy editor much time and in some instances could save the county or town a considerable sum of money.

The latest example is the wrangle over joint action by the Warrenton commissioners and the county commissioners over the extension of water lines to Warrenton's Industrial Park. A similar problem has been worked out satisfactorily by numerous towns and counties long enough ago to have demonstrated the soundness and legality of the plans used.

With just a little time and a few telephone calls, the editor has been able to get a view of the common practice of the State by calling three counties, Wake, Vance and Granville. Of course three counties do not guarantee a uniform plan for the entire state, but it does indicate a widespread plan and one that has worked well in the three counties contacted.

The general policy seems to be that towns accepted the responsibility of extending water and sewer lines to the town limits, and that the county pays the cost of running these lines to an industry or industrial park where the county can recoup its money through the collection of taxes in a given number of years.

The towns accept the responsibility of providing an ample supply of water, and also the supervision and maintenance of the lines. In return for this service on the part of the town the county deeds or allows the lines they have purchased to become a part of the town system. In none of the three counties contacted was a surcharge made or lines retained by the county.

The principal interest of the county, according to the chairman of the Vance Board of Commissioners, is to attract industries to the county and aid in the development of the county. He said that the county has no facilities for maintaining water and sewer lines and does not want to engage in the water business.

The director of the Granville County-Oxford Industrial Commission told the editor that Granville County makes no surcharge. He said that in his opinion that a surcharge by the county would not only harm

the town in the operation of its water system outside the town, but could well be a bar to obtaining any other industry.

It seems to us that the county would be wise to deed the tank to the town as a matter of simple economics. A tank has to be maintained, it has to be scraped, cleaned and painted. It would probably cost the county in a few years around \$5,000 to clean and paint the tank. If a leak should develop in either water line or tank, the county has no facilities for making repairs and no funds other than tax funds for paying for repairs that must in many cases be done "right now." The town can pay for maintenance from profits from water sales. The surcharge on Cochrane will not be enough to paint the tank. As a matter of fact the surcharge is not sound under present conditions and is unfair to Warrenton whose citizens pay a considerable part of all the taxes paid by Warren County citizens.

Heart Sunday And You

(From a Clipping Submitted by Mrs. Leroy Bartholomew)

The Heart Fund volunteer who rings your doorbell within the next several days deserves to be greeted with a smile, a warm handclasp and a generous contribution.

In a sense, she is working for you, and over the years her services - combined with those millions of other volunteers - have helped to save thousands of lives.

She is fully entitled to share with medical science the credit for dramatic advances achieved over the past 15 years in the fight against heart and blood vessel diseases.

To be sure, these spectacular gains were achieved by the scientists. But never forget that much of this research activity was underwritten by dollars which she and others like her so laboriously collected.

So give generously. Put out the welcome mat. Make this the most successful Heart Sunday appeal in the history of our community. Give - so more will live!

Quotes

It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare to attempt them, but they are difficult because we do not dare to do so. — Seneca

I have yet to find the man, whatever his station in life, who did not do better work and put forth greater effort under a spirit of approval than he would ever do under a spirit of criticism. — Charles Schwab

Will is the rarest quality to be met with among people of education and the most common among the uneducated. — William Hazlitt

Nothing is as irritating as the fellow that chides pleasantly while he's overcharging you. — Kin Hubbard

It is the test of a good religion whether you can joke about it. — G. K. Chesterton

Mostly Personal

By SIGNALL JONES

"The thing that has most impressed me about Warrenton has been its ability to do what it wanted to do," the late Dr. Bill Rodgers told a small group of us as we chatted on the street a few years before his death.

That remark has reoccurred to me often in the years that have passed as Warrenton has faced problems, sometimes solving them with determination and sometimes with ingenuity and at other times faltering and making one wonder if the town has lost its heritage of which Dr. Rodgers spoke.

Reared on a small farm where the hospital now stands, Dr. Rodgers worked as a boy in his father's store on the corner of Main and Market Street where Hy Diamond now operates a store. With savings and help from his father, he attended medical school and upon graduation returned to Warrenton where he was a part of and witness to the transformation of the town from a village to a modern town and where he saw demonstrated that which caused him to make his remark on the street in his latter years. He loved this town and this county and worked for its advancement. No one worked harder to bring Warren General Hospital here than did Dr. Bill Rodgers, but that was only one of his good works. It would be a pleasure to eulogize this man of whom I was extremely fond, but that is not the purpose of this article.

In the days when Dr. Bill went to college, attending college did not mean the exodus of a boy from his home. Warrenton was home to Dr. Bill and when he had prepared himself, he came home to work. The same was true of Dr. Gid Hunt Macon, Dr. Frank Hunter, Bill Poik, and of a number of others who found that they could afford to use their talents where their hearts lay. Others left, finding a village too restrictive of their ambitions, and many were rewarded by considerable financial success. These made more money but it is questionable if they made a better life or found more happiness.

But those who returned to Warrenton witnessed an amazing transformation, perhaps not matched by any other town in the United States. We came to Warrenton in 1909 and with Dr. Bill saw this take place.

Dr. Bill was not born and neither was I when Warrenton took its first amazing step that was to give it the title of "The Town That Owns Itself," in a write up in a national magazine in the early twenties. Finding itself without a railroad, in about 1883 Warrenton built its own, providing 70 per cent of the money needed to run three-miles of track to Warren Plains. It was a business and financial success and for many years carried both freight and passengers. When I went to the University of North Carolina in the fall of 1918 with Pat Hunter and Robert Davis we rode to Warren Plains over the Warrenton Railroad.

When we came here to make our home, Warrenton was a quiet village of around 800 persons, I suppose. It had a relative good trade, but it had suffered from not being on a main railroad line, a handicap reduced but not overcome by the building of the Warrenton Railroad. The streets were unpaved, although there was much sidewalk, due to profits from a liquor dispensary. The streets in the business section were lighted by kerosene lamps and each day just before dusk they were lighted by the town's lamp-lighter. Stores and homes were served by primitive outdoor toilets. Stables were a part of the town's business, and horses, cows and chickens were to be found at most homes and flies and rats and English sparrows filled the town.

A well on the south end of the court square furnished water for people coming into town and a long horse trough was provided for watering animals and a long horse rack held the horses as they stood and added debris to the town. The meat market provided by the town was unscreened and refrigeration was very limited. And there were in addition to flies and rats and smell and mud in winter and dust in summer typhoid fever due to lack of proper sanitation.

Most people in the cold of winter heated water on a wood stove and on Saturday night washed in a pan, making "bird baths" suffice for the rest of the week; although there were some who, when the weather was cold, at times skipped the weekly bath. Women slept in long nightgowns by night and were washed in corsets and a multitude

of petticoats by day, a fact never dwelt on. A few of the elite men slept in night shirts, but the great majority slept in the heavy long underwear which they wore all week. Pajamas and shorts nightgowns were undreamed of. Deodorants were undiscovered, but the sale of powders and perfumes were good, and they helped in the heat of summer. The shaving of underarms of women was unknown and the use of rouge and lipstick was taboo.

That is the bad part of the picture when we came to Warrenton and a part of the universal picture of rural America and accepted without much thought, amid the pleasures of a truly beautiful town inhabited by a friendly and kindly people, many of whom wore patches with dignity and would have been ashamed to boast of poverty.

But Warrenton was not without ambition and a desire to restore its glory of pre-Civil War days when it was one of the ten most important towns of the state. As early as 1907, it began to dream of lighting its streets with electricity and for a time engaged in a futile scheme to bring current here from Fleming's (now Hamme's) pond. But it was about five years later after Peck Manufacturing Company came to town, that its dream was realized, and the second step forward was taken. The town passed what was perhaps its first bond issue, organized the Warrenton Electric Light Company and bought its current from the Peck Company. I don't recollect that there was any considerable opposition to this move.

The same was not true a few years later when the town voted bonds to install a water system. This was fought by a few prominent citizens who had their own private water systems, but was passed without much difficulty.

For years the late John Plummer, who operated a livery stable on a large lot at the west end of Macon street, sold ice from the basement of his home facing the street of this lot. But town citizens felt that this system was not sufficient and the town formed the Warrenton ice plant, located at the northern limits of the town and in later years sold to the Flemings of Norlina. I don't remember how this

Capt. R. G. Hedgepeth Pilot in Vietnam

WITH U. S. COMBAT AIR FORCES, Vietnam — U. S. Air Force Captain Robert G. Hedgepeth from Littleton, N. C., and a fellow F-100 Super Sabre pilot recently struck an enemy encampment 23 miles east of Ban Me Thuot, Vietnam.

Captain Hedgepeth, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Hedgepeth, Littleton, found visibility and maneuverability limited at the target site due to low clouds and mountainous terrain. The captain and his wingman made a pass over the area to locate specific targets before they began their aerial attack.

The two fighter-bomber pilots destroyed several enemy fortifications and inflicted numerous casualties.

company was financed but it was town owned.

About 1917, the town paved the business section of Main Street, although it was several years later before other streets of the town were hard-surfaced.

During the prosperous years immediately following World War I, the citizens decided that the town needed a modern hotel and voted \$100,000 in bonds for the construction of Hotel Warren, a show place and a source of revenue for several years, but Warrenton's only unprofitable venture into town ownership.

In the earlier twenties Warrenton thus owned its electric light system, its railroad, its ice plant, and its hotel, all built by the town to meet the needs of the town when private enterprise could not be induced to risk its capital.

And remembering this in later years, Dr. Bill Rodgers knew of what this town was capable and was sustained by a faith in the town's ultimate progress. And I thought of his remark and I too remembered what our citizens had done by working together as I listened a few nights ago to the commissioners stressing difficulties instead of opportunity as they discussed water for an industrial plant that could very well again place Warrenton on the road to progress.

For I, too, still believe that Warrenton can do what it really wants to do.

Airman Lee Diamond

WITH U. S. COMBAT AIR FORCES, Vietnam — U. S. Air Force Airman First Class Lee G. Diamond, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hy Diamond, 311 Harris St., Warrenton, N. C., is on duty at Phu Cat AB, Vietnam.

Airman Diamond is an aircraft equipment repairman in the 37th Combat Support Group, a unit of the Pacific Air Force, headquarters for air operations in Southeast Asia, the Far East and Pacific area. He previously served at MacDill AFB in Fla.

The airman graduated in 1955 from John Graham High School and attended East Carolina University. His wife, Jane, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Mellasky, 1851 Sterling Road, Charlotte, N. C.

Small Child: "Mother, isn't Santa Claus supposed to be an awfully good man?" Mother: Yes, dear. Why?" Small Child: "You should have heard what he said last night when he fell over my skates."

Say you saw it advertised in The Warren Record.

Serving in Vietnam

WITH U. S. COMBAT AIR FORCES, Vietnam — U. S. Air Force Airman First Class Lee G. Diamond, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hy Diamond, 311 Harris St., Warrenton, N. C., is on duty at Phu Cat AB, Vietnam.

Airman Diamond is an aircraft equipment repairman in the 37th Combat Support Group, a unit of the Pacific Air Force, headquarters for air operations in Southeast Asia, the Far East and Pacific area. He previously served at MacDill AFB in Fla.

The airman graduated in 1955 from John Graham High School and attended East Carolina University. His wife, Jane, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Mellasky, 1851 Sterling Road, Charlotte, N. C.

Small Child: "Mother, isn't Santa Claus supposed to be an awfully good man?" Mother: Yes, dear. Why?" Small Child: "You should have heard what he said last night when he fell over my skates."

Say you saw it advertised in The Warren Record.

Announcing-

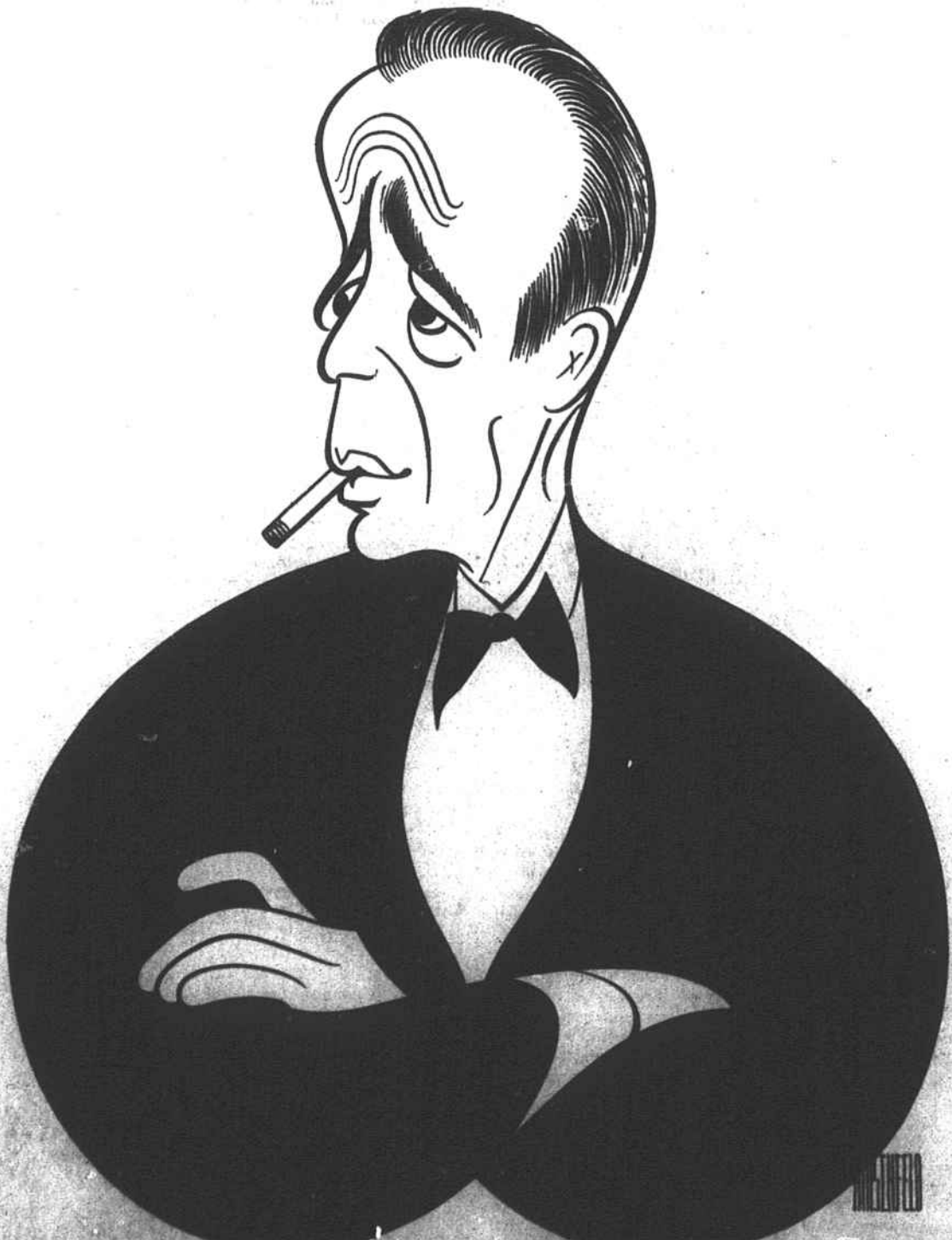
THE OPENING OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED

C&F MOBILE PARK

Located Just Off Highway 401 At Afton

PHONE: 257-4330
257-4336
DAY OR NIGHT

WILLIAM L. FULLER, Jr.
HARRY J. CARTER
Owners & Operators



In 1940, Bogey played Chips Maguire in "It All Came True." You paid 20 cents to watch. And if you were really in the money, you had a nickel left over for a bag of popcorn. Since then, the cost of living has gone up about 160 percent. But the average price of electricity for your home has gone down 44 percent, nearly half what it was when the chips were down for bad guy Maguire.

CP&L
Carolina Power & Light Company