

# The Warren Record

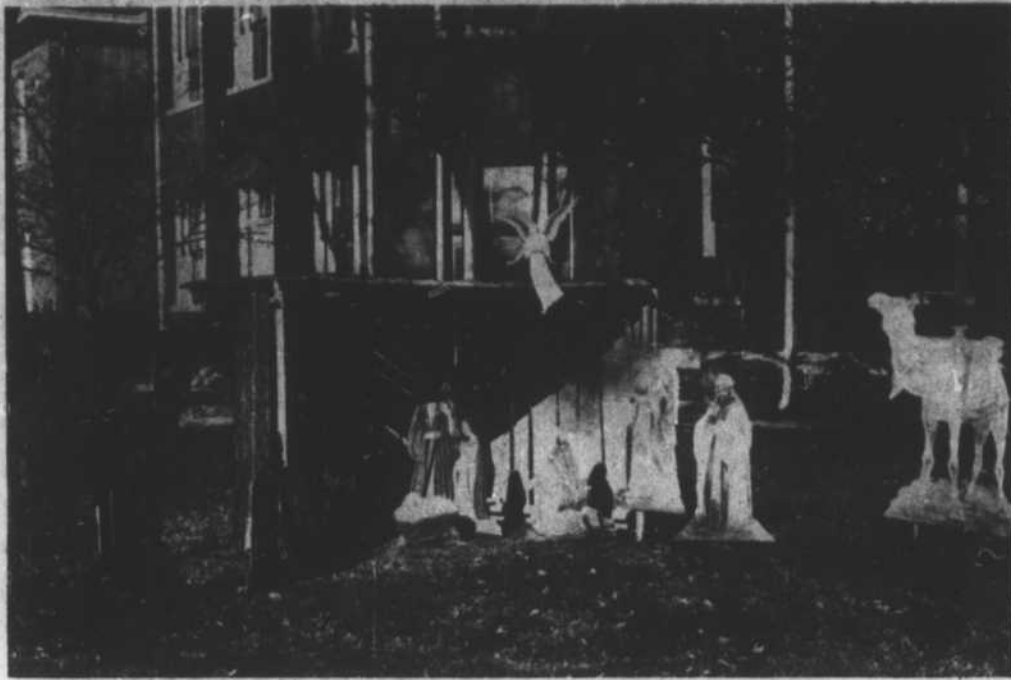
VOLUME 74

Subscription: \$3.00 A Year; \$4.00 Out Of State, 10¢ Per Copy

WARRENTON, COUNTY OF WARREN, N. C.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1970

NUMBER 50



CRECHE ERECTED ON COURT SQUARE by the Warrenton Junior Woman's Club. The Junior Club will sponsor the annual Christmas Sing on the court house on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 7 p. m. There will be special numbers by local youth choirs and group singing. Santa will attend and will have candy for the children. Hot chocolate and coffee will be served to all attending. In case of inclement weather, the Sing will be held on Dec. 21.

## Suspended Students Seek To Return To John Graham

Warren County Black students, suspended last Wednesday following fires and other disturbances at John Graham High School, returned to school on Wednesday morning following a meeting of the students Tuesday night in which they agreed to return to school.

Following a conference between Principal Fred Bartholomew and Frank Banzet, attorney for the Warren County Board of Education, and John Ellis and Attorneys Frank Ballance and T. T. Clayton, representing the students, Bartholomew ruled that the students would not be accepted at the school until the results of their trial in district court was learned. Many of these students are scheduled to be tried on Friday morning.

Following the decision of the principal, the students left the school and met at a local church with their leaders. Results of this meeting had not been learned when this newspaper went to press at noon Wednesday.

Supt. of Schools J. Roger Peeler said on Wednesday morning that attendance at all the county schools was normal until those students who were refused admittance left the

school.

At their meeting Tuesday night, Ballance said, "The students expressed the desire to return amid an atmosphere of calm and with an attitude of meaningful discussion with the school officials toward settlement of demands previously submitted."

He said parents of the students believed the return would show their willingness to work toward a moratorium on further demonstrations.

Both the Town of Warrenton and the County were placed under a state of emergency last Friday by proclamation of Mayor Miles and Amos L. Capps, chairman of the board of county commissioners. The proclamations are in effect from 6:30 p. m. until 6:30 a. m. and said in part:

"No person shall possess any dangerous weapons or substances unless they remain in a place of storage on his premises, or, if they cannot be readily stored on his premises, unless they remain in a customary place of storage not readily available to the possessor. No person may transport or sell or otherwise transfer

any dangerous weapons or substances. I find it necessary to the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare to exempt from these restrictions the following classes of people in the circumstances indicated: Any law enforcement officers or personnel duly authorized to maintain order and on active duty may possess any weapon necessary to carry out their duties when on active duty.

5. I direct the sheriff of Warren County and his subordinates to restrict and deny access to any area, located on road where the same is deemed necessary in order to help overcome this emergency or prevent this emergency from worsening. These restrictions on access shall be indicated by means of barricades, posted notices or orders to any one in the area. No person shall obtain access or attempt to obtain access to such restricted areas."

Mayor Miles said Wednesday morning that both proclamations would expire at 2 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. He said that he would consult with Claude T. Bowers

(See STUDENTS, page 10)

## Five Added To County Commission

Five additional members were appointed to the Warren County Bi-Centennial Commission by the Board of County Commissioners in the final session of the old board last Thursday.

Added to the Commission were Mrs. Anna Butler and Mrs. Jack Harris of Warrenton, Mrs. W. T. Skinner, III, of Littleton, Mrs. Owen Robertson, Jr., of Norlina and Mrs. Clinton Capps of Arcola.

The commissioners also appointed two members to the Board of Trustees of Warren General Hospital to replace two persons appointed at the November meeting of the board who declined to serve. Robert M. Stegall was named in place of Tasker P. Hicks and Franklin Stansbury was appointed in place of Sam Moore.

All the commissioners were present at the final meeting of the old board. Being replaced by a new board Monday were Chairman Amos L. Capps, who has served since 1950; John Wilson, who was elected in 1950 and served to 1958, when he was replaced for one term by Clanton C. Perkinson with Wilson returning to the board in 1960; Robert P. Thorne, who has served since 1954, and Alfred J. Ellington and Richard R. Davis, who have served since 1958.

In the 1970 Democratic Primary Capps was replaced by William T. Skinner, III, Robert T. Thorne was replaced by Herbert Harris, Richard R. Davis by Pete Jones, John Wilson by Clyde R. Edwards. Alfred Ellington was replaced by Claude T. Bowers, who defeated John Hawkins, a black, in the General Election.

Letters of appreciation were received from Mrs. Frank P. Hunter and from Mrs. Wiley G. Coleman thanking the board for its resolution of appreciation for their husbands.

L. C. Cooper, Extension Agent, expressed his appreciation to the commissioners for the cooperation shown to him and to the Extension Service during their tenure of office. Selby Benton thanked the commissioners for the support they have given to the Industrial Commission and Bute Development Company. L. B. Hardage, County Extension Chairman, who was out of town, sent a letter of appreciation to the commissioners for their cooperation and many courtesies extended to him and the Extension Service by the board. This letter was read to the commissioners by Mrs. Eugene Rogers, office secretary, and made a part of the minutes of the board.

It is expected that Warren County will have a permanent registrar for the registration of voters next year. Mrs. Wiley M. Coleman was named to serve as registrar at approximately 12 hours a week, beginning Jan. 1, 1971. The specific working days will be decided by the County Board of Elections.

The report of Claude J. Fleming, Dog Warden, showed that he traveled 71 miles in November, picked up 31 dogs and made no sales.

The board agreed to increase the salary of Sheriff Clarence A. (See ADDED, page 10)

## Cucumber Growers To Meet At Courthouse

The Warren County Farm Bureau Cucumber Committee will sponsor a cucumber growers meeting at the Warren County court house at 7 p. m. on Friday night, Dec. 11, to which all cucumber growers of the county are invited, Dennis Harris, Farm Bureau President, announced yesterday.

Harris said that he would like for all cucumber growers to become more informed about the Farm Bureau cucumber marketing program as well as cucumber marketing in general.

All cucumber growers who have any recommendations for improvements in the cucumber program in Warren County are urged to attend, Harris said. "There is a lot to be done to help the cucumber growers in this county," he said, "and now is a good time to begin."

(See FIRES, page 4)

## Johnson Named Attorney

# Claude Bowers Named Chairman Of Board Of County Commissioners



Mrs. Lanie Hayes, right, Clerk of Warren County Superior Court, administers oath of office to members of the new Board of Warren County Commissioners. They are, left to right: Pete Jones, Herbert Harris, William T. Skinner, Clyde R. Edwards and Claude T. Bowers.

## Board Of Commissioners To Meet On Monday; Other Changes Made

The Board of County Commissioners on Monday morning voted to hold their regular meeting on the first Monday in each month, unless the first Monday should fall on a holiday. In that event the meeting will be held on the following Tuesday.

The old board of commissioners had been holding their meetings on the first Thursday for a number of months.

This was but one of a number of renovations to be put into effect by the new board of commissioners.

Working with an agenda sheet prepared by the chairman, without interruptions except to wait for bonds to be brought in for approval, the board concluded its organizational meeting and transacted a number of other business items during the morning session.

Bowers said that an agenda sheet would be a part of each meeting of the board and that the commissioners would remain in session only long enough to conduct the business on the agenda, except in special emergencies. "We will transact the county's business first and then visit," the chairman said.

Previous meetings of the county board have usually been all-day sessions.

Those who wish to appear before the board at future meetings for business reasons are requested to make an appointment with Board Clerk Jim Hundley and these appointments will be placed on the agenda sheet by Chairman Bowers.

Bowers said that the purpose

of having an agenda sheet is two-fold. One is that it makes for a more orderly transaction of the county's business. Its second and main purpose is to save the time of busy persons who must appear before the board.

The chairman said that the board would remain in session only long enough to complete the agenda, whether it was for an hour or all-day.

Chairman Bowers suggested to the commissioners that in order to bring county government closer to the people that the board should enlist the aid of the various service clubs of the county. He said he would contact all such service clubs and have them appoint a permanent chairman to study where club needs require county assistance, or where they would

benefit the county as a whole, and present such ideas to the board. The plan was approved by the board.

Chairman Bowers told the commissioners that he would apply to Wayne Adkins, District Highway Engineer, for a highway map of Warren County containing in red the roads the commissioners preferred to develop. Bowers said he feels that the board would have a better understanding of the problem if it were put in writing.

The commissioners also plan to attend schools for county commissioners to be conducted by the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill. All the commissioners and County Attorney Charles Johnson plan to attend the first of these three-day meetings on Dec. 14-15-16.

The second meeting will be held in Chapel Hill in January.

## Six Students Under Bond Are Re-Arrested

Six black students who were released on bond following last Thursday's disturbance at John Graham High School, were re-arrested early Friday morning and jailed under \$500 bond for their appearance in Warren County District Court.

They were charged with carrying a concealed weapon. Arrested at 12:45 on Friday morning by Deputy Sheriff Harold Robinson near Astelle on

the Henderson road were Larry Darnell Green, driver of the car; Alfreda Jordan, president of the Black Student Movement at John Graham High School; Wesley Eugene Brandt, Gwendolyn Champion, Terry Perry, and Carlton C. Plummer.

Robinson said that the car in which the students were riding contained a shotgun and a jug containing about half a gallon of gasoline.

All those arrested were released on reduced bonds Friday.

## Cantata

The Warren Plains Baptist Church adult choir will present its Christmas cantata, "The Music of Christmas," at the church on Sunday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p. m., under the direction of Mrs. Glenn Weldon. The public is invited.

## TO MAKE WREATHS

The Ladies of Wesley Memorial Methodist Church will make Christmas wreaths on Dec. 16 for sale at \$4.00. Interested persons are asked to call Mrs. W. E. Spruill, 257-3235.

## BAKE SALE

The Warrenton Junior Woman's Club will sponsor a bake sale in the Chamber of Commerce Building on Main Street from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. on Saturday, Dec. 12.

Mr. Alvin Stegall of Durham was an overnight guest of Mr. and Mrs. K. P. Stegall on Tuesday.

## Over 100 Fires Reported In County

More than 100 fires, most of which are believed to have been set, raged over Warren County from Wednesday, following arrests of black students at John Graham High School and the following Monday.

Origin of many of these fires is being investigated by Warren County police officers, the SBI and the Forestry Service officials.

Fire Chief A. A. Wood of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department reported on Thursday morning that firemen of his company had answered nine fire alarms since 5 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. Wood said that in one case a grass fire was believed accidentally set, but in the eight other cases there was strong evidence of the fires having been deliberately set. Damage from the fires was the heaviest in a case involving a vacant house that

was furnished and barns of hay which were lost.

Chief Wood, whose company consists of about 30 volunteers in Warrenton and nearly 100 others in auxiliary units about the county, said men were standing by at their station through most of the night.

The company answered a fire call reported at 10 o'clock Thursday morning to a woods fire that had allegedly been set near Soul City, just off the road from Manson to Axtel, near the Vance County line.

At 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning, firemen went to the Joe Andrews place at Afton. Andrews, an Afton merchant, lost a barn and its contents of hay to flames, firemen said.

Shortly after midnight, a barn on the road from Axtel to Afton, near Axtel was burned. Both barn and hay were lost, according to firemen. Mrs.

Janet Seaman was listed as owner of the barn. During earlier trouble, a large two-story vacant house on that property was completely destroyed by flames.

Before midnight Wednesday, firemen answered an alarm to a vacant home at Embro, owned by Arthur Hill Harris. Firemen said the nine-room house, which was at least partly furnished, was saved, but that damages were heavy to building and contents due to the distance firemen had to travel to reach the scene.

Earlier, firemen went to Axtel, to a location behind Soul City, where a large woods fire was burning on both sides of the road between Manson and Axtel. Firemen were at the scene of this blaze for over an hour, Chief Wood said.

At 7:15 Wednesday night, a barn full of hay on property near Warrenton where Clyde Edwards is tenant was lost to flames, despite efforts of firemen.

About six o'clock Wednesday night, firemen went to the scene of two woods fires off U. S. 401 south of Warrenton, one on property owned by Gordon Limer. In cases of the woods fires, said Wood, only property damage listed was to trees.

One earlier call at Axtel, Wood said, was to a fire not believed deliberately set.

On Thursday afternoon the firemen were called to Mrs. Eva Watson's farm at Astelle where a barn and hay storage frame were burned.

The firemen were called to John Kilian place near Ridge-way at 8:10 on Thursday night and responded to a woods fire at Charlie Capps place that

(See FIRES, page 4)

## Junior Woman's Club To Sponsor Book Fair

The Warrenton Junior Woman's Club will sponsor a Book Fair on Dec. 11 and 12 in the Chamber of Commerce building on Main Street. The books will be on display from 9 a. m. until 5 p. m.

Books may be purchased from the display or ordered from the publishers.

On display will be attractive books for all ages in all popular price ranges. All reading areas will be represented, including classics, fiction, biographies, adventure stories, science, nature, craft, mys-

tery, and reference books. The Educational Department of the Junior Woman's Club is working with Educational Reading Service, a professional book fair company, to furnish an individual selection of books for the fair.

The Book Fair committee invites all students, parents, and visitors to attend the fair. The committee said the fair will not only help spur an interest in reading and building home libraries, but will also contribute to educational projects of the Junior Woman's Club.

Claude T. Bowers of Warrenton was elected chairman of the Warren County Board of County Commissioners on Monday at an organizational meeting following swearing-in ceremonies in the grand jury room of the court house at 10 a. m.

Charles Johnson was elected county attorney, succeeding Jim Limer, who had been county attorney for the past 12 years. Johnson, who is attorney for the Warrenton Board of Commissioners, said that he would retain that position also unless a conflict of interest between the town and county should develop.

Bowers and the four other new members of the board — Pete Jones of Afton, Herbert Harris of Vaughan, William T. Skinner of Littleton, and Clyde Edwards of Norlina — were sworn into office by Mrs. Lanie M. Hayes, Clerk of Warren County Superior Court.

Present for the swearing-in ceremonies were Mrs. Bowers, Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Jones, wives of the commissioners, Selby Benton, Monroe Gardner, Cecil Pope and members of the press.

William T. Skinner was elected vice-chairman of the board. As vice president he will preside over the board meetings in the absence of the chairman and is given authority to counter-sign checks with the clerk and county auditor.

A. P. Rodwell was re-elected county auditor, tax collector and tax supervisor.

Mrs. Janice Haynes and Eugene Wilson were reappointed as assistant tax collectors.

Willie Cook was re-elected janitor.

Jim Hundley, Register of Deeds, was re-appointed custodian of the court house.

The Bank of Halifax of Littleton, Peoples Bank and Trust Company of Norlina and the Citizens Bank of Warrenton were named depositories for county funds.

Chairman Bowers was named as the person having authority to enter the lock box of the county commissioners in the Citizens Bank vault.

Following the organizational meeting, the board voted to retain 50% of the listed valuations for tax listing purposes. This means that if a person's house, for instance, is listed for \$10,000, he would only pay tax on \$5,000.

The auditor was instructed to turn over the 1969 delinquent tax list to the county attorney for collection.

Upon recommendation of A. P. Rodwell, Jr., county tax collector, the commissioners appointed the following tax listers for the 12 townships of the county:

River - J. Robert King.  
Sixpound - Mrs. Edna M. Harris.  
Hawtree - Gid W. King.  
Smith Creek - W. S. Hicks, Jr.  
Nutbush - Mrs. Annie N. Wilson.

Sandy Creek - Leland D. Gottschalk.  
Shocco - Boyd M. Reams.  
Fishing Creek - Mrs. Louise H. Gupton.  
Jenkins - Mrs. Alma W. Reid.  
Warrenton - A. E. Wilson.  
Fork - Mrs. Patsy D. Coleman.  
(See BOWERS, page 4)

