

# The Warren Record

Published Every Friday By

## The Record Printing Company

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, \$5.00; SIX MONTHS, \$3.50 OUT OF STATE: ONE YEAR, \$4.00; SIX MONTHS, \$3.00

### Board Is Too Large

In January the 1970 session of the Legislature will meet, offering the Town of Warrenton an opportunity to amend the Town Charter if the members of the board of town commissioners so request.

We would like to see the charter amended to reduce the number of town commissioners from seven to five, which seemingly would be enough for a town the size of Warrenton. Our neighboring town of Norlina had managed to transact the business of that only slightly smaller town with only three commissioners and, while we do not request it, we would suggest that Warrenton might be able to do the same with little loss.

From our observation over the years and particularly during the past year we have come to the conclusion that the size of the board makes it unwieldy and interferes with the administration of the town's business. If the entire county can

be operated with a board of only five members, it would seem that its county seat could be operated by a board of the same size.

It has been demonstrated that the only way large boards can operate successfully is through the creation of a small executive committee. Warrenton's board may be too small for the creation of an executive committee, but it is too large for the most efficient operation.

At its meeting on Monday night, Town Manager J. Ed Rooker told the commissioners that present indications are that the town's tax rate, now the highest in the history of the town, would have to be increased for the 1971-72 fiscal year. At a time when careful scrutiny must be made of all expenditures, we feel that the more than \$400,000 paid annually for the salaries of two unnecessary commissioners might be a good place to start cutting expenditures.

### More Work To Be Done

Warren County students who have been out of school following a racial disturbance at John Graham High School returned to school on Monday morning without incident and Warren County schools are now operating with normal attendance.

The state of emergency period expired at Warrenton and over the county early Monday afternoon and it was the consensus of the board of town commissioners Monday night that conditions do not call for their renewal. For the first time in several days there were no pickets on the streets urging boycott of Warrenton merchants and in recent days fire calls have been few.

Seemingly, and hopefully, peace has returned to Warrenton and Warren County after a disturbance of several weeks which, if it accomplished nothing else, clearly

demonstrated that there is much work to be done by both blacks and whites if we are to have race relations essential to the maximum development of our town and county. Perhaps the first step towards good race relations would be for each race to take a good hard look at the moat in its own eyes.

We do not intend to preach a sermon about the racial disturbance, other than to say that the time when we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace is not a time for the building of hate or indulging in self-righteousness, and to suggest that the approaching New Year is a most appropriate time for a resolution that we shall work harder for a better understanding and more cooperation and good will between the two races bound by destiny to live together and hopefully as brothers under the Fatherhood of God.

### Renaissance Of The Bicycle

The Smithfield Herald

That 63-year-old physician in New York City who makes house calls on a bicycle is a pioneer exploring the new life style that conservationists say we Americans must adopt if we survive the threat of a deteriorating environment.

Dr. Reynald Chase, who serves patients in Manhattan, took to pedaling to save time and costs. He can ride a bicycle within a mile or two of his office much faster than he can move by bus or taxicab. And his pedaling means he doesn't have to pass along transportation fares to patients.

But his resort to the bicycle means more than time and money saved. And it does more than provide for him a convenient means of health-promoting exercise, though he doesn't discount the value of that at all. Whether he intended to or not, Dr. Chase dramatizes a change in the American way of life that seems increasingly necessary.

He dramatizes a way to solve the traffic congestion problem in a big city—and in

many a small city and town across the land. And he demonstrates one way to reduce the pollution of atmosphere resulting from motor exhausts. If many Americans follow in Dr. Chase's tire tracks, there also will be a welcome decline of noise pollution.

The environmental prophets keep telling us that the automobile must become less important in the life style of the future, even as our dependence on all kinds of gadgets and things must decline if we are to restore ecological balance. Walking and cycling have a destiny that seemed not to exist a few years ago.

Bicycling lately has become popular among adults seeking rhythmic exercise. At no time in the advanced stages of the Automobile Age did it completely go out of style. Witness the small minority of Americans who have long preferred pedaling to motoring as a means of transportation to and from work. But the renaissance of the bicycle seems to lie ahead. It is probable that news of New York's pedal-pushing physician will send bicycle sales soaring in the weeks and months ahead.

### Sales Tax: Unavoidable?

The Christian Science Monitor

For the record, let it be noted that the people of the United States will pay three times as much in sales taxes—state and local—this year as they did in 1960. We say "for the record" because we are not sure what can be done about this, other than to practice economy in government and try tax reform.

Welfare, education, highways, city renewal, all cost more. Salaries are up. The taxpayer foots the bill. Local property owners complain about the ever-rising property tax. Come March and April, the average middle-income citizen grouches about the federal income tax. The sales tax hits everyone.

Now there is some talk in Washington about applying a value-added tax—meaning virtually a federal sales tax—all across the nation. A good many states and cities would holler about this, seeing it as a federal invasion of state and city revenue sources.

Sales taxes are frowned upon as regressive, as hitting the poor particularly, and as sales-inhibiting. But they happen to have been the prime source of revenue in 34 of the 44 states imposing them in 1969. Where else shall the states go for the major part of their revenue?

### Quotes

What makes resisting temptation difficult for many people is they don't want to discourage it completely.—Franklin P. Jones.

About the time we think we can make the ends meet, somebody moves the ends.—Herbert Hoover.

### Mostly Personal

By BIGNALL JONES

While watching a TV program a few nights ago, I became interested in a black speaker talking about the aspirations of the blacks, particularly in his remarks about retaining the culture of his race. He used two fingers to illustrate how two people could have separate cultures and still be a part of the same body. This was reminiscent of the late Booker T. Washington's illustration of how the races could live separately but equally.

Although old age has many disadvantages it has the advantage of a great deal of personal experience, including a great deal of the evolution of the Negro race over a period covering more than 50 years. While I am sympathetic to the aspirations of any people to retain their cultures, this has not been the experience of most groups in America and it is difficult for me to see how the Negro is going to keep his in an integrated society.

Every race and every group that has been assembled into the society of the United States has made a genuine contribution to the nation in what has not been a retention of cultures but rather a merging of different cultures. I have seen this in Warren County with the settlement of the Germans in the Ridgeway Community.

When I was in my late teens many Germans living in what we then called Germantown had been born in Germany and brought their language and their customs to Warren County. They were highly intelligent people and through the years showed the natives how to farm. They took poor land and by the use of manure and the plowing under of clover crops built their land to the point where it became some of the best in the county.

At the time when I first visited the community one noted the small homes and the huge barns, indicating that they were familiar with the Scandinavian proverb: "A fine barn will build a fine home, but a fine home will never build a fine barn."

Their homes were surrounded by vineyards and acre after acre of dewberries were to be seen. From these grapes and berries they made wine by the barrel for home consumption, with an occasional sale or gift. They had good gardens and they ate good homegrown food with plenty of milk and butter and they largely confined their alcoholic consumption to the wines which they usually drank in a civilized manner. They were law-abiding people with a great respect for authority. They tipped their hats to my father, simply because as superintendent of schools he was part of the authority. They were and remain a fine people with a rich heritage but they are no longer Germans but Americans, and only a few of the older generation can speak or understand German.

But for some 40 years after the first of the Germans came to the Ridgeway community they retained their language and much of their culture. When I was a boy some of the older people still spoke German in their homes, had difficulty in speaking English, had their own German school and in their church one Sunday in the month the sermon was preached in German. But no more.

When the schools were consolidated the German school was closed and the children attended the Norlina high school where they were soon integrated into the life of the community and made a real contribution to their county. Many were good athletes and could be distinguished by their fine teeth and sturdy bodies, no doubt due in part to the milk which had always been a part of their diet.

They have married and intermarried with the natives, but still they have more often married and intermarried among themselves until the old German town community is a neighborhood of kinsmen, proud of their heritage, traces of which still remain. But they no longer call themselves German-Americans. After three generations they call themselves Americans and in two wars have fought against their own kin in Germany.

What has happened to the Germans in Warren County and over the nation has happened in my lifetime to the Irish in Boston, the Swedes in Wisconsin and other ethnic groups over the country.

My mother's people are of Scot descent, a fact of which I am very proud. After her people had been in this country for more than a hundred years, my mother as a child would

### Letter To Editor

REPLIES TO MR. YOUNG

To The Editor:

In reply to a recent letter to the editor from Mr. Robert Young in which he said that no mention was made of why I was fired by Mr. Bernard Thompson from Warren General Hospital, and stating that Mr. Thompson must have had a good reason for doing so, I will appreciate your publishing the following statement:

I have been asked to give the reason why I was fired from Warren General Hospital on June 27, 1970. Mr. Thompson summoned me to his office,

dance the Highland Fling for the pleasure of her father, and my brother wears a jacket bearing the colors of the Brodie Clan, and somewhere I have a necktie made of similar colors. This is nothing more or less than a display similar to that of people displaying their coats of arms. Both are rather meaningless in this Democratic day. And yet in spite of being proud of this part of our heritage, I am not about to wear kilts down the streets of this town.

The ancestors of most of the blacks have lived in this country just as long as have my ancestors from Scotland. Some of their African culture has been retained and much of it has been adopted by the whites, such as their dances, their watermelons and okra. But the American Negro is no longer an African. After more than a hundred years of a common language, a common literature, a common food and a common culture he is an American, and not an Afro-American, any more than I am a Scotch-American or an English American.

James Baldwin, a brilliant writer and well educated, but militant and bitter black, left America and lived in France for a number of years. While there, he recounts in one of his books, that he had several contacts with African blacks, but found that they had little in common. He found that he had a love for America in spite of her faults and came home to use his pen and the platform to try to improve the lot of the blacks in the United States. He has, I think, succeeded to a point, if in no other way than to show that the color of one's skin has little or nothing to do with one's intellect.

at which time, I was busy with a patient's hair, so when I finished, I went to his office. Marie Abernathy was seated beside his desk in her street clothes. I said, "you wanted to see me Mr. Thompson?" He asked if I knew that Dr. Bunch had insulted Marie Abernathy about my time. I said no, I did not, and if he did I would apologize for him, as well as myself.

Marie Abernathy said she couldn't fix the time and get insulted about it. We had a meeting and were asked for volunteers to work the 3-11 shift, at which time, there were six volunteers and two non-volunteers, who were the first to be put on the list. Neither one said we wouldn't work that shift, but we rather not — both had reasons. Mr. Thompson said, did you know that I had to come over here and stay with her for four hours she was so upset. And the only thing he could do for me was to fire me. I said, Mr. Thompson, I won't take this like you did — one person's word. I will see you in Court.

I left his office and returned back on the hall to finish the patients I was assigned to — I gave them their baths and combed their hair. These patients were all Negroes. If there is not a Black nurse to do their hair it is not done by a white nurse — they say they don't know how to comb their hair.

We had a meeting with the members of the Board and they wanted to know what kind of nurse I was. Mr. Thompson replied, one of the best we have at Warren General Hospital. One member wanted to know if I refused to work the 3-11 shift. I was fired before I had a chance to. Yet Mr. Thompson said I broke the chain of command.

I went back to work one day — in Room 32 with a patient when I was approached by Mr. Thompson and was told, "Candies, you were hired by the Board to work in Dr. Bunch's office, not on the hall." I said Mr. Thompson, no one told me this and I am not mad at you." He said, "Candies, I had planned to hire you back, but before I will be made to hire you, 'Hell will freeze over.'"

On that day I left and didn't return until I went to Court and went back to work under Court Order. You would think I had committed a terrible crime before the Board could make a decision to reinstate me on my job. But that's the consequences you pay for being Black.

Twice I have raised money to

help the hospital. The curtains in the patient's rooms are there because of some of my fund raising efforts. So that's to show my interest in the hospital. For years I have always been paid by the month, but since I returned to work I am only being paid for the days that I worked. I asked about this and why. I was told that Mr. Thompson had a meeting and they decided to pay me for only the days I worked, and not by the month. I have been getting paid by the month since 1966.

I was also told if I came back to work, over half of the employees would leave, but the same help is still there and two more added.

So, Mr. Young, you wished to know why I was fired — here it is, and the half about the hospital and Board still hasn't been told.

I have been back to work for about a month or more, and I still have to go back to Court and try to get my back pay. (MRS.) CANDIES MILLER

About 1,000 tons of meteorites annually fall on the moon's surface; they compose about 2 percent of the lunar soil.

### Mrs. Davis Employed Part-Time Consultant

Mrs. Mabel H. Davis of Wise has been employed by the Family Counseling Center at Louisburg as a part-time consultant in the area of children's services.

Mrs. Davis, who recently retired from her position as instructional supervisor with the Franklin County school system, in her new position will assist in identifying children with special needs and will attempt to expedite their referral to a source of evaluation or treatment.

Mrs. Davis is also serving as vice president of the North Central Region, North Carolina Mental Health Association and a member of the board of directors and the executive board of the NCMHA.

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Mt. Pleasant Baptist Sunday School will present a Christmas program at the church on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 6 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

THEY'LL LOVE RECEIVING



The Warren Record

FOR A CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT LASTS THE WHOLE YEAR

IT'S ONLY \$3.00 A YEAR . . . AND WE MAIL IT ANYWHERE. OUT OF STATE

\$4.00 A YEAR

GIVE A SUBSCRIPTION

## REMEMBER WHEN...

### A Nickel Would Buy A Two-Scoop Ice Cream Cone?



LOTS OF THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE THEN: BUT YOUR TELEPHONE'S STILL THE BIGGEST BARGAIN IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD BUDGET.

Carolina Telephone MEMBER OF THE UNITED TELEPHONE SYSTEM