The Marren Record

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A Joyous Christmas

A calf track in the snow is transformed by the magic of Christmas into the track of a reindeer; a carelessly handled bell in the night becomes the tinkle of a sleighbell to a young child sleeping with his brothers in an upper room of a far from pretentious home many long years ago. This lives in memory to be frequently recalled as Christmas after Christmas comes with seemingly more rapidity and is perfectly familiar to many of yesterday's children.

Faith is a great thing and particularly the faith of children which is expressed not only in the belief of a Santa Claus who will bring them gifts, but the faith in his overriding love for little children.

If there were no Santa Claus we would have to invent one, for in the strains and stresses of this world there must be a faith and

trust in goodness and a belief in love furthered by the teaching of a child at its mother's knee. Fortunately, we do not have to invent Santa Claus for he lives today as he lived yesterday and will live tomorrow and for as many tomorrows as the faith of childhood persists and as long as there is in the adult world a belief in the healing value of love and its need to solve the world's problems.

"God's work on this earth must be performed by man," and the work of building a cathedral is God's work no less because he uses his agents. And Santa Claus is no less an agency of God in His teaching of the lesson of love and the necessity for the faith of a child if we are to inherit the Kingdom of God.

It is with a realization of this need and this faith that we extend to all our readers our sincere wishes for a Happy Christmas.

The Court And Environment

Greensboro Daily News

What may eventually become a flood of environmental cases has made its first appearances in the Supreme Court. That the justices will be sympathetic to environmentalists is suggested by a couple of recent actions; the question is whether there is sufficient law on which to rule in their favor.

In a decision which gave heart to conservationists everywhere, the court declined last month to reverse a lower court ban

The Project, lear to the heart of the real environmentalist Nelson Rocketeller, would have encased 10.4 miles of the east bank of the Hudson in concrete, and would have put 9.5 million cubic yards of land-fill into the river itself. Conservationists seized on an 1899 law that requires the army corps of engineers to obtain congressional permission to build a dike on a navigable river; they argued that the landfill would constitute a "dike," and evidently the justices were willing to accept that definition in the interest of con-

Also in November, the court ordered a stay of construction of highways in Memphis to that have been routed throu public parks. It said that no work could be done until it rules on conservationists' appeals next year, thus denying the road-

builders their favorite technique of ripping up the land while the courts or the legislatures try to decide what to do. The legal grounds of the appeals in these two cases may prove too narrow for the court to decide in favor of the conservationists, but at least the court has recognized the notion that construction must not begin until all legal possibilities have been exhausted.

What all of these cases suggest is that we need better and broader law on which to base environmental cases. Searching existing law for loopholes and gimmicks is a time-con suming and legally perverse way to fight the despotlers. It may be that what is needed is a constitutional amendment establishing the validity of environmental claims and giving citizens the right to exercise those claims.

Several states, such as our Virginia neighbors, have already passed laws or constitutional amendments to that effect, and Senator Hargrove Bowles is pushing for one in North Carolina. But since pollution and despoliation are so frequently interstate problems, it seems likely that sweeping federal law is necessary. Perhaps some enterprising member of Congress will take on the drafting and lobbying of an "Environmental Bill of Rights" in the next session; it would be a good way to spend the year.

The Air Is Full Of Goodwill

By JULIA CANADAY In The Smithfield Herald

Such a wonderful season this is! There is an infectious galety in the air as we walk along the streets and exchange greetings with friends. There is an atmosphere of love and goodwill toward all meet. For the time being, worries are forgotten and faces are alight with anticipation and happiness. Who, but an old Scrooge could harbor a grudge or prejudice at such a time?

It may be hard to believe in this age, but many families still thrill to the charm and magic of Christmas reading in the home. There are so many wonderful Christmas stories. First of all, of course, is the ageless Christmas story in the New Testament. And many still read such stories as O'Henry's "Gift of the Magi," Whittier's simple but fascinating classic "Snowbound," Henry Van Dyke's "The Other Wise Man," and Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."

Dickens wrote this immortal story in 1843 when he was 31 and the father of six chil-

dren. The "Carol" came to him one night when he took a walk. A first printing sold some 150,000 copies. A later edition sold 25,-000 copies. Though he had lectured extensively, "A Christmas Carol" was his first public reading.

While Dickens was pleased with the response to the printed story and to his reading of it, he probably didn't dream that 127 years later many of our finest Yuletide traditions would come from his story. He could not foresee that Tiny Tim and old Ebenezer Scrooge would be as much alive in 1970 as the merry folks one yells "Merry Christmas" to along the streets.

Brainiest Animal?

Henry Belk in Golds News-Argus

What animal has the most sense? Can be trained to respond to commands and directions?
From what "Willie" Williams says the raccoon must be added to the list. And I remember that an orange grower in Florida agreed with Williams.

The coon, said the orange grower, can go through an orange grove which has hundreds of trees full of fruit. And the coon can unerringly select the trees which have the most sweetness and or fruit juice. And the coon does not have to try and search to find the trees with the best fruit. He never misses in a selection and he never has to discard a tree he has picked as being juiclest and best flavored.

Williams said that the orange grower must know what he is talking about.

"One of my friends invited me," said Wil-

"One of my friends invited me," said Williams, 'to go with him to his reasting ear tract of land and help myself to some big ears of corn. And he told me that I had better go and get the corn now as there were coon tracks, indicating that the sly creatures had been helping themselves to corn.

The coon, Williams says, will pick a large ear of corn, take a few bites out of it.

discard it. But he can instinctively select

Quotes

An optimist is a man who hurries because he thinks his wife is waiting for him.-Lucille

Doubt is not necessarily the mark of a passimist or a cynic. Some of the happiest and gayest men are first class doubters. They are distinguished because they have the courage to face facts.-William Feather.

Whatever you are by nature, keep to it; never desert your own line of talent. Be what nature intended you for, and you will succeed; be any thing else and you will be ten thousand times worse than nothing.—

In nature there are neither rewards nor s - there are consequ

Mostly Personal

For many years, long before paid vacations were an accept-ed part of business practice, usually with staggered vacations weekly newspapers set a precedent with their weekly Christmas vacation by skipping one paper during the holidays. Actually, the holiday lasted for more than a week as the paper was published early in the week preceeding the Christmas holiday and a late start was made on the small paper following. I suppose the custom was first started as a matter of economics as advertisements during the Christmas week failed to pay the cost of printing the paper and in later years it was continued because no other holidays

Few papers now skip an edition for Christmas although several semi-weekly papers in the state skip one of their papers during the week. It has been years since The Warren Record has missed an edition, although employees are given a few days off at Christmas as well as a week's paid vacation and several paid holidays during the year.

Usually the Christmas edition is a larger edition than usual and it is produced earlier because of the needs of the advertisers. It calls for considerable more work and sometimes for overtime, but usually everyone works to get the paper our as early as possible so they will have more time off for Christmas. The South Hill Enterprise, which does our press work, usually comes out on Wednesday. This year the force has agreed to work on Saturday and Sunday in order that the paper might be printed on Monday and the employees have the rest of the week off. They are a little bit disappointed that some of the men must come back Tuesday to print our paper and we, with sympathetic understanding, are rushing to get the paper to South Hill as early as possible on Tuesday.

In the old days when all type was set on the Linotype and all cuts had to be cast and sawed, we usually started on our Christmas edition two or three weeks before Christmas and a week before the Christmas edition we had printed about half the paper in four-page sections and had them handfolded. With off-set, production is much faster, particularly in regard to Christmas greeting advts. which only have to be trimmed, waxed and pasted down, eliminating hours of melting, casting and sawing. Where we used to spend a day or more feeding our two-page press and hand-folding and assembling the section, 12 pages of an edition is now run tes. Stuffing of a larger number of pages is accomplished in usually about an hour and a half.

In the twenties all four of the Jones brothers were at home working on the Christmas edition, and all were young and had their minds on girls, dances, parties, hunting and other fun, so we had a real incentive to get the Christmas edition out early. One year, I remember, we worked all night long and finished up the paper at 10 a. m. the next day, before going to bed and after a few hours rest, and a long week of fun.

Then we worked no women, except a part-time bookkeeper, but now more than half of our force are married women, who have much to do in preparing for Christmas and are anxious to get out early. So we usually work for an early edition.

Last year when we had prepared to get the paper out on Monday and agreed to work a while on Sunday, Grace, my wife, who helps me make up the

Letter To Editor

THANK PEOPLE To The Editor:

My wife and I would like to have you consider publication of the following in your Letters to the Editor section:

We wish to thank the pe who responded to our plight in mid-November when our young son was trapped in a well. In particular those who were so willing to expose themselves to danger received our admiration

no less than the actual rescuer. Providence provided for his miraculous escape without in-jury but the efforts of all who responded minimized his and our anguish in this most heart-rendering situation. Again, our most sincere thanks.

L. JULIAN HAYWOOD 3551 Lowry Road Los Angeles, Calif. 90027



MRS. WAYNE DALTON MARTIN

Miss Bragg Becomes Bride Of Mr. Martin

Miss Dawn Carol Bragg be- | came the bride of Wayne Dalton Martin in a ceremony performed at eight o'clock on Saturday night, Dec. 19, at Fairmont Methodist Church in Richmond, Va. The Rev. L. Douglas Hill, Jr., performed the double-ring ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Bragg, III, of Richmond, Va., and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie D. Martin, Jr., of Norlina.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Miss Joy Bragg of Richmond, Va., was maid of honor and Mr. Alan Adcock of Norlina was best man.

paper, decided that we would go down-on Saturday and make up the paper although we both were half sick at the time. So we managed to finish up that afternoon. A good thing it was, for I came down on Sunday with 24hour 'flu and could hardly lift my head from the pillow. For the first and only time in more than 50 years I missed helping wrap up the Christmas edition.

announced place, Mr. and Mrs. Martin will make their home in Richmond, Va.

Among those attending the wedding from Norlina were Mr. and Mrs. Willie D. Martin, Jr., and daughter, Faye, Mrs. W. D. Martin, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Jake Norwood, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Adcock, Mr. Gene Richardson, Miss Nancy Mitchell and Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Parham.

Extension **Bulletin Board**

Tuesday, Dec. 29: The Snow Hill Homemakers Club will meet at 7:30 p. m. with Mrs. Samuel P, Alston for an after Christmas party.

Wednesday, Dec. 30: The Olive Grove Homemakers Club will meet with Mrs. Gertrude Carter at 6:00 p. m. for an after Christmas party.

Say you saw it advertised in The Warren Record.

Over Three Million Visit Kerr Reservoir

The year 1970 marks a mile-stone in the history of the John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir. will exceed three million. L. L. Sutphin, Reservoir Manager, expects the three millionth visit This is the first year that annual visitation to this popular recreation spot, located in North Carolina and Virginia,

Homemakers Club Holds Christmas Meet

The Thrift Hill Homemakers Club held its Christmas meeting at the home of Mrs. Rosa Dunston on Tuesday evening. The home was beautifully decorated for the Christmas Season. Gifts were exchanged from under the Christmas Tree among the eight memberspre-

During the social hour, Mrs. Dunston invited the guests into the dining room where ham rolls, coffee, mints, candy kisses and fruits were enjoyed by

to take place during the week of December 20-26.

Colonel Paul S. Denison, Wilmington District Engineer, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, States that visitation records for this project have been maintained since the preimpoundment year of 1951. Visitation for that year totaled 135,000. Two years later, when impoundment of the reservoir was completed, the number of visitors was 1,007,500. Colonel Denison in emphasizing the accelerating rate of visitation noted that total visitation to the project reached 20 million in 1954 and will surpass 38 million through this year.

In 1927 a 10,000-square-mile iceberg, eight times as large in area as Rhoda Island, drifted past the Falkland Islands off Argentina.



At Christmas, a special prayer: May mankind be blessed with "Peace on Earth." And a special wish: May your personal Christmas be a most happy one.

MARTIN PLUMBING & HEATING CO.

MESSE B! MARTIN, Owner

WARRENTON, N. C.



to greet all our fine patrons with sincere best wishes for a Merry Christmas and to express our deepest appreciation for your continued friendship and many kindnesses.

Tractor & Equipment Co.



HENDERSON, NORTH CAROLINA