

# The Warren Record

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BIGNALL JONES, Editor

HOWARD F. JONES, Business Manager

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## A New Plan Needed

The growing dispute between boards of County Commissioners and Boards of Education over county tax resources bodes no good for either county government or for county schools and we think it needs the leadership of the Governor to find a solution to a dangerous problem.

The taxpayers of Warren and other counties elect a Board of County Commissioners whose duties are to run the affairs of the county generally, with the exception of its schools. The same taxpayers elect a Board of Education whose duty it is to operate the county's schools, with the guidance of a Superintendent of Schools which the Board of Education elects.

Most of the counties in the state have county managers, appointed by the Boards of Commissioners to assist them in the operation of their duties. Usually these managers are bright young fellows college trained in county management, which does not require any course in school administration. Good, hard common sense is not enough. These are the persons in most counties who have been charged with making up the county budgets, which are subject to the approval of the commissioners. Usually the recommendation of the county manager is followed with few exceptions.

How much the county manager is

responsible for reduction in school budgets we do not know, but from newspapers reaching our desks and from other media wherever there is a county manager, he makes up the county budget, and we suppose knows and follows the dictates of the commissioners to whom he owes his employment. In recent years there has been a growing tendency to cut school budgets, which is leading to a growing number of legal appeals. This is sparked by a shibboleth of hold the line engendered by a decision in California, which has both perhaps the highest ad valorem taxes in the nation and the largest socialistic load, and sought to be applied to a state which has one of the lowest tax rates in the nation, both county and state, and which is far from first in welfare payments.

We contend that neither the county commissioners nor the county manager can have any realistic idea of what it costs to operate the schools, but do know what it costs to run other departments and the temptation to cut the schools seems irresistible.

The answer it seems to us is for the Legislature to have a study commission determine just what part of the total county budget should be allotted to the schools and following full debate enact such recommendation into law.

## May Lack Life

By PETE HULTH

In The Smithfield Herald

Robert Bell, Smithfield optician and town commissioner, and I were talking about making a living. We discussed how some people are more intent on making money than on living.

He recalled that the North Carolina American Legion News had run an article noting that some folks learn well the art of making money - but not how to live.

Here's the "Food for Thought" he clipped from that publication:

In 1923, a very important meeting was held at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. Attending this meeting were nine of the world's most successful financiers.

Those present were:

The president of the largest independent steel company.

The president of the largest utility company.

The president of the largest gas company.

The greatest wheat speculator.

The president of the New York Stock Exchange.

A member of the President's cabinet.

The greatest "bear" in Wall Street.

Head of the world's greatest monopoly.

The president of the Bank of Interna-

tional Settlements.

Certainly we must admit that here was gathered a group of the world's most successful men. At least men who had found the secret of making money.

Twenty-five years later, let's see where these men were:

The president of the largest independent steel company, Charles Schwab, died bankrupt and lived on borrowed money for five years before his death.

The president of the greatest utility company, Samuel Insull, died a fugitive from justice and penniless in a foreign land.

The president of the largest gas company, Howard Hopson, is now insane.

The greatest wheat speculator, Arthur Cutten, died abroad insolvent.

The president of the New York Stock Exchange, Richard Whitney, was recently released from Sing-Sing.

The member of the President's cabinet, Albert Fall, was pardoned from prison so he could die at home.

The greatest bear in Wall Street, Jesse Livermore, died a suicide.

The head of the greatest monopoly, Ivar Krueger, died a suicide.

The president of the Bank of International Settlement, Leon Fraser, died a suicide.

## News Of 10, 25 And 40 Years Ago

### Looking Back Into The Record

July 15, 1971  
William (Billy) Frazier, coach at Suffolk, Va. High School, has accepted a position as athletic director at John Graham High School, succeeding Coach Harvey Brooks.

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The first cotton bloom for the 1971 season in Warren County was reported to The Warren Record last Friday by W. D. Martin of the Oine section. The bloom was grown on the Martin farm by G. A. Richardson of Route 2, Norlina, who picked it on July 8.

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Ben U. Allen, Henderson attorney, has been appointed assistant solicitor for the Ninth Judicial District, embracing the counties of Warren, Franklin, Vance, Granville and Person.

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July 13, 1966  
A dance in Thompson's

Warehouse and a parade down Main Street highlighted the 66th annual session of the North Carolina Colored Volunteer Fire Association here this week.

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Warren County farmers in surprisingly large numbers have made application to have crop land placed in the Soil Bank, Clyde M. Coleman, ASC secretary, said yesterday. Applications to remove nearly 500 acres of land from production and place it in the Soil Bank had been made up until noon Tuesday and the applications are still coming in.

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A former police officer has accepted a position as chief of police at Littleton. Maurice Lee Pinnell has been employed as successor to Dennis Winnifree at Littleton and has assumed

his new duties.

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July 11, 1941  
The members of Gardeners Baptist Sunday School enjoyed a barbecue and weiner supper on the church grounds Friday, July 4. The supper was given the members of the Sunday School by C. K. Sadler and family. Around 100 were present to enjoy the occasion and the music which was furnished by the Warren County Blues Busters.

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Seven Navy fliers landed their planes at the local airport Sunday afternoon rather than risk the danger of rough weather and remained in Warrenton until Tuesday morning when clear skies permitted a take-off for another lap of their journey from Philadelphia to the government training field at Corpus Christi, Texas.

By BIGNALL JONES  
Our grandchildren, Patrick and Elizabeth, of Rocky Mount have been spending several days with us, and on Saturday afternoon we all went to Kimball's Point on Kerr Lake for a picnic supper and found a vacant table and space at the identical spot we so often ate when our own three children were small. Two of these former children, Howard and Ann, were with Grace and me.

Sometimes when all the family, including Pat Ralford, my son-in-law, gather and the subject of Kerr Lake comes up, Howard and Mary Brodie will recall, how frequent visits to the lake during its construction became almost a ritual, and as we all rode we all listened to "The Shadow," on the car radio.

I have always liked to see men at work on a construction project and I thoroughly enjoyed the construction of Kerr Dam from the first afternoon we saw from a distance the pilings that led us to the dam to the filling of the lake hundreds of visits later. Howard in memory may complain of the hardships and monotony of these delightful trips, but he grew up to inherit the trait as was witnessed by the daily visits he and I took to the scenes of the construction of the John Graham High School Gym and the water and sewage plants on Fishing Creek, and later to the scene of the construction of the consolidated Warren County High School, and now to construction of Harris' Convenience market and laundromat, Byrd's Grocery and Rite-Aid drug store, as Warrenton obtains its first shopping center, plus an occasional visit to where a multi-million dollar waste water regional water plant is under construction.

Late Saturday afternoon the skies were blue following several days of showers and at times heavy rains, and as I sat at a table, provided by the taxpayers, or more likely from tourists dollars, enjoyed the delicious food prepared by my wife, and glanced over the blue water, I both enjoyed and reflected.

Kerr Dam was built by the United States Government with a three-fold purpose: primarily to end flooding on the lower Roanoke River, to serve as a means of providing electrical energy, and to provide recreational facilities for persons living in the area. It has been a tremendous success in all three fields.

Two private power companies owned dam sites on the Roanoke, Carolina Power at the present site of Kerr Lake, and Virginia Power Company, at the present site of Lake Gaston Dam, for a number of years with no construction. Carolina Power and Light Company opposed the building of Kerr Dam and sent a delegation before the Warren County Commissioners seeking their opposition to a project which was to bear the name of a Warrenton Congressman John H. Kerr in appreciation of his work to end Roanoke floods. The delegation sold the commissioners on their do-nothing policy and the board went on record as opposing the construction of the dam, but John Kerr, Jr., persuaded them to reverse their action.

Two million persons visit Kerr Lake each year, hundreds of persons have built summer homes on Kerr and Gaston Lakes, and many retired persons have built permanent homes on the two lakes, many in Warren County, adding to its tax base, and providing business for Warren County merchants. The building of the dam has brought wealth to many, and reversed a population decrease trend.

Most of the citizens of Warren County want a more progressive leadership to enhance the life style of the county, and bring needed economic prosperity to the county. I recommend that Durham county be placed in the 2nd congressional district in order to co-ordinate the industrial wealth of Durham county with the rural agricultural processes of Warren County, to produce more jobs for Warren County citizens. Educated, progressive, and qualified people can lead Warren County citizens to this goal.

James W. Byrd

Mr. James Byrd  
Post Office Box 657  
Littleton, N.C. 27850

Dear Mr. Byrd:  
Thank you for your comments on the Reagan Administration's education proposals. As you may know, these proposals have not yet taken the form of specific legislation. Once they do, the Senate Education Subcommittee, on which I serve, will hold hearings to consider in depth the

## Mostly Personal

### Lake Visit Brings Memories

It was built by the government because it was too big to be then built by private enterprise.

I thought of these things as I enjoyed the beauty of the lake, with its cruising motor boats and beautiful sail boats and hundreds of campers and picnickers, but I thought of other things.

I remembered that once, perhaps a couple of hundred yards from where I sat, stood the W. A. and J. K. Kimball home, where two brothers and their families lived, and not only worked together, but shared a joint banking account. The farm was located in two states and three counties. One of my unforgettable memories is of the night I was a supper guest in that home where good food was served amid much laughter, teasing and fun. The Kimballs and their friends over the years have added much to my enjoyment of life.

And I thought of the time the dam was completed and the gates closed and the giant lake began to slowly fill, creating lake after lake which finally merged into the whole. Slowly the Kimball home place disappeared beneath the waters of the lake, and for several years in times of low water, the steps of the home could be seen, but not thought of in years.

A short distance north of where the road forks to Kimball Point, the road to Palmer Springs divides and runs through Keats to

where it intersected with a road leading from Palmer Springs to Townsville. Once a white fence cut off this road north of Keats to prevent people from driving into the forming lake. One day on the lower planks of this fence stood two little girls, the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Alston of Littleton; he was a professional photographer. The little girls with the rising water in the background made a beautiful picture, which was published in The Warren Record.

Then there was the day that I went on a tour of the inside of the dam with a group of persons. Given hard-hats we inspected the giant dynamos which filled a part of the floor of the dam, and other machinery that made their operation possible. From the floor of the dam a circular stairway led to the top of the dam and through a man-hole in the highway to the roadbed. Climbing these steps was arduous, and those who were known to have weak hearts were advised not to try to climb. There were no fatalities but a considerable increase in knowledge that day.

Years later I was to be privileged to take a similar trip inside Gaston Dam. This too was most enjoyable. If anyone who reads this column ever has the opportunity to go through a dam, I suggest that he or she take it.

## Letter To The Editor

To The Editor:

As a member of the Warren County ESAA, Cultural Arts, and Guidance, Parents Advisory Council, I wrote Senator John P. East, (R) N. C., Labor and Human Resources Committee Member (Education), of the excellent work Warren County ESAA is doing to upgrade Warren County students in the academic processes, and that funds are needed to carry on this worthwhile program in which educators hope he will support. Enclosed is Senator East's letter to me. My interpretation of his letter concerning the policies of the Reagan Administration's educational proposals is that Warren County will need well qualified, and educated members of the county commissioners and the county board of education to plan for the funding and future progress of Warren County students. Warren County District System should be abolished, and the best minds in the county, regardless of the district they live, or the race, sex or political reason's should assume county leadership.

Most of the citizens of Warren County want a more progressive leadership to enhance the life style of the county, and bring needed economic prosperity to the county. I recommend that Durham county be placed in the 2nd congressional district in order to co-ordinate the industrial wealth of Durham county with the rural agricultural processes of Warren County, to produce more jobs for Warren County citizens. Educated, progressive, and qualified people can lead Warren County citizens to this goal.

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## Paperwork Proves

### To Be Burdensome

By REP. L. H. FOUNTAIN  
WASHINGTON, D. C. - Paperwork. It's a burden we must face too often - paperwork at tax time, paperwork in connection with hundreds of government programs and reports, and paperwork when we take out a loan, are but a few of the times when we answer seemingly endless questions on lengthy forms. In fact, it sometimes seems as though everyone is interested in a detailed, written summary of our entire existence, from birth to death.

But, as burdensome as paperwork can be to us as individual citizens, the process is often far more painful for the business community - especially small businesses.

Today the average small businessman must spend so much time filling out government paperwork, much of it unnecessary, that a real drop in American productivity has become evident because of it. This group of individual businessmen is required to fill out over 300 million forms and answer over seven billion government questions annually.

By influencing business leaders to be excessively cautious, the regulators and paper peddlers, as necessary as they at times may be, are now in a position to affect directly or indirectly many very important decisions such as investment in new equipment, expansion, and yes, even hiring and firing policies.

The Congress has been wrestling with this problem for some time, and last year we passed the Paperwork Reduction Act, legislation which directed various government agencies to ease the paperwork burden on individuals, organizations, and institutions and to eliminate wasteful and non-essential forms.

In one simple example of the problem, I sat down with a small town savings and loan (S&L) executive, and carefully examined over 10 forms which had to be filled out to show that their loan policies were fair. We reduced the excessive forms and questions to two sheets which provided all the information requested. But, frightening was the fact that this process costs the S&L association approximately \$12,000 annually; and to my amazement, the S&L executive never showed anger. He just wanted his Congressman to see the problems he faced.

In another example, just one agency demanded 8.4 million hours of paperwork burden of business in 1980. That burden consists of the time it takes to gather and compile the information granted by the government

as well as the time it takes to fill out the forms such as in the S&L example.

One application for business expansion from one government agency illustrates just how time consuming and complex some of the requirements and filling out of forms and questionnaires can be. In this instance, the initial application form for the government - and these forms are often several inches thick - is estimated to take one person two weeks to fill out after all the information has been compiled. And thicker forms for larger businesses can take months to prepare.

Clearly there is a need for some degree of paperwork. Our society demands that certain rules and regulations be met, and some paperwork, regrettably, is a part of that process.

However, the time has long since come for a more thorough and periodic look into the necessity of tons and tons of paperwork - paperwork which cost business, large and small, some to the point of bankruptcy; and ultimately the taxing consumer through a loss in productivity and ever increasing prices for the things we buy.

Common sense tells us that we just must eliminate much unnecessary paperwork and streamline the rest. The statutory Offices of Inspectors General (IG) - waste and thievery watchdogs placed in various government agencies through legislation which I sponsored - may provide at least a partial answer. In fact, experts in the field predict they will save billions for the taxpayers. The GAO has recommended that the IG's periodically evaluate the efficiency of paperwork control in certain agencies.

However, if we are to overcome our present economic predicament, we must have cooperation from the business community and government alike. And a reduction in excessive and unnecessary paperwork would be a significant and meaningful step in the right direction.



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