

The Warren Record

Published Every Wednesday By
Record Printing Company

P. O. Box 70 - Warrenton, N. C. 27589

BIGNALL JONES, Editor
HOWARD F. 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:
In Warren and adjoining counties Elsewhere
\$8.00 Per Year \$10.00 Per Year
\$5.00 Six Months \$6.00 Six Months

A Dangerous Condition

There is little doubt that the Highway Commission, the Board of County Commissioners and the Warren County Board of Education, as well as other motorists who travel the Warren Plains Highway, know that the road is too narrow to safely handle its traffic. Not only is the hardsurfaced part of the highway too narrow but the shoulders are also dangerously narrow, and in some cases nonexistent.

Not only is a significant portion of the Warren County High School bus traffic forced to travel over this road but also traffic from much of the county traveling to other schools.

Supt. of Schools Mike Williams

said yesterday that this road had been a school problem for several years. A school patron last week, who has no child traveling over this highway, pointed out to us the danger of school buses traveling over this road, which was something of which we were aware, but not aware enough. As a result, this editorial is being written with but little hope that the problem will be solved.

However, if our local readers will write letters to the editor protesting the state's neglect of the road, and will pressure our authorities, state and local, the story may be different. Don't let us wait until we have a bad school bus-truck collision.

'Life' In Prison

In The Charlotte Observer

Nowhere in the criminal justice system do the aims of punishment and rehabilitation conflict more sharply than in the decisions on parole for murderers. In South Carolina, that conflict has sparked a public outcry—and for good reason.

In 1971, John Hall Cannon, then 18, murdered his mother, stepfather and 4-year-old half brother. He was sentenced to three life terms. Last week, less than 12 years after the murders, he was released on parole.

The Cannon case aptly illustrates the conflict. He killed his own family, including a child, without provocation. Later he became a model prisoner, apparently remorseful about his crimes and determined to lead a law-abiding life. As one S. C. parole board member said, "He seemed to me to have a complete turnaround from the immature boy he was the day he committed that crime."

That is true of many murderers. Only a few are bloodthirsty killers, too vicious to ever be set free. Most murderers commit their crimes in the grip of passion or madness and afterward are no more dangerous than anyone else. They often are model prisoners, not "criminal types" at all.

Some critics of the Cannon parole

are, as one S. C. parole board member observed, "people who wouldn't want to parole a fellow who steals \$100 worth of groceries."

But others, and we are among them, believe murder is a crime so vastly different from any other that it demands an especially severe punishment, as a sign of society's abhorrence of taking a life.

Capital punishment is not the answer. Coldblooded killing by the state teaches anything but respect for life, and it cannot be undone if later evidence proves the convicted person is innocent. Nevertheless, the alternative must be more severe than the punishment for crimes against people. A dozen years in prison is not enough. A minimum of 20 years, as both Carolinas now require (S. C. law has been changed since the Cannon conviction), is better.

For a model prisoner who committed murder while very young and is genuinely changed and remorseful, 20 years may seem a long time. It is. But it is not as long as the murderer's victim will be dead.

Few Requirements

Those who are the happiest do not have too many happiness requirements. — Robert Half.

News Of 10, 25 And 40 Years Ago

Looking Back Into The Record

Sept. 3, 1943

Plans are underway for the establishment of a modern, all electric bakery here around the first of October. Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Calhoun of South Hill, Va. have leased the building on Main Street for many years occupied by W. H. Riggan grocery store and later operated by his son-in-law, T. B. Creech, as Creech's Market and Grocery.

visitor in Warrenton for a short while on Tuesday.

August 29, 1958

Hotel Warren's dining room, closed on Aug. 20, will reopen on Sunday. A. C. Fair, chairman of the hotel committee of the town of Warrenton, said yesterday that the hotel has been leased to Mr. and Mrs. David Jarmon of Pikeville, who will begin the operation of the hotel on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Holtzman gave a fish fry in their yard on Sunday evening in honor of Lt. and Mrs. William Holtzman of the U. S. Air Force, stationed in Sacramento, Calif., who are here for some time.

Mrs. Edmund White entertained at a dinner party on Friday evening for Mrs. W. R. Gregg, house guest of Misses

Edith and Lucy Burwell.

August 30, 1973

Warren County farmers are expected to experience "one of their best years in history" with a gross income of approximately \$14.5 million, County Extension Chairman L. B. Hardage said this week.

Master Sergeant Harry P. Norvell, son of Mrs. Ann P. Norvell of Wise, is a member of the management engineering team which has been named the best of its kind in the U. S. Air Force.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Gottschalk of Elberon were among the more than 60 guests from over the state at a dinner at the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh on August 16 when Gov. and Mrs. Jim Holsouser were host and hostess.

A Portuguese Legend

By BIGNALL JONES

Many readers of this column may remember a feature article about "Peter Francisco" in the May 25, 1983, issue of The Warren Record which I had written following a visit of the family, with Mrs. Robert Davis, to Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. The following article is a sequel and is written following the receipt of a biography of "Peter Francisco, The Portuguese Patriot," by William Arthur Moon, as a result of my article of May 25.

On the flyleaf of the volume under date of August 17, 1983, is written: "In appreciation to Bignall Jones, Editor, for his interest in Peter Francisco! This book is presented to Warren County Library in memory of my father, Marvin Mann Davis who was born in Warrenton, March 26, 1879, and died January 30, 1961, at Crewe, Virginia. He was the son of Bettie (Elizabeth) Ann Jones, daughter of William Duke Jones, owner of Jones Springs near Warrenton and Colonel William Smith Davis (son of Matilda Spotswood Boyd Davis and Joshua Davis II).

"Lest We Forget! Peter Francisco, whom General George Washington called him his One Man Army."

"Julia Davis Brown, Regent, James Allen Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, Amelia and Notoway Counties, Virginia. Peter Francisco Festival Chairman since 1972.

"With compliments of the author: W. A. Moon."

From the inside covers we learn that the author, William Arthur Moon, was born June 10, 1902 in Otterbien, Indiana. In the 30's he was appointed to serve as head of the Extension Division of Virginia State Library. He designed the first traveling libraries (bookmobiles) to travel in Virginia.

On the front inside cover is written:

"This is a true story of a man from a foreign country who, as a boy around five years of age, was left on a dock in Virginia in 1765. He grew up to be a giant of a man who served in the American Revolution with fierce pride and performed outstanding feats of strength and heroism. He died in 1831 never knowing where he came from.

"Mr. Moon unraveled the many mysteries of his life—his origin and identity, his services in the Continental armies, his marriages, where he lived, and the many legends surrounding his life.

"The author spent many years on intensive research in the United States and abroad. Courthouse records and other primary sources of history upset a number of former theories about our hero. These are corrected and explained herein.

"Until recently Peter Francisco was a forgotten man. Now, however, there is a great surge to bring him into his rightful place in history. Monuments, statues and parks are being dedicated to the great Portuguese patriot.

"General George Washington said: 'Without him we would

have lost two crucial battles, perhaps the war, and with it our freedom. He was truly a One-Man Army."

This most interesting book will be placed in the Warren County Memorial Library according to the written instruction of Mrs. Julia Davis Brown within the next few days. So far I have found it not only an interesting book to read, but I think it is a fine book to be read to the young. I shall make no attempt to review its contents, other than to correct one mistake from Baker's brochure as published in the May 25 issue of The Warren Record, which read: "Appearing at City Point, Francisco was placed under the guardianship of Judge Anthony Winston, and spent his boyhood at Winston's home in Buckingham County, Va."

Moon's account said that "the boy scrounged for a living on the City Point wharf for some time before he was sent to the Prince George County Poorhouse

where he remained until bound out to Judge Anthony Winston of 'High Tower' Plantation in Buckingham County, Va."

There is a bit of destiny in the way I received the book.

As all readers of this column will know, as a boy I lived next door to the William Jones Davis family in Warrenton. Here from time to time brothers and sisters of "Cousin Will" visited him. Among those was Marvin Davis and his children, including Julia.

One night last week I met Gertrude Draper Miles at A&P store and she told me that she had just attended a reunion of her college class at Farmville, Va., where she met Julia Davis Brown, and was told to give me a book about Peter Francisco, which she did the following morning. Another coincidence was that we were visiting Elizabeth Davis, widow of Robert, my lifelong close friend, when we visited Guilford Courthouse National Military Park Peter Francisco.

Don't Skimp On Paint

How do you determine the amount of paint that will be needed to cover the exterior of your home?

An experienced painting contractor can often tell you what you will need by visual inspection — and be fairly close to the mark. A precise determination requires calculation of the square feet of surface to be covered. One gallon of quality paint will usually cover about 500 square feet. You can estimate total square feet by multiplying the average height by the distance around the house. Be generous with your measurements. You want to have enough paint for the good, solid coverage needed to seal against moisture penetration.

Why do lumber dealers often ask you what you plan to use it for when you order construction materials?

Lumber is graded (and priced) according to quality. You can use lower quality lumber, sometimes referred to as economy grade, in the basement, attic, or to provide support for wall paneling. Economy grade lumber is sturdy, but may have knots or other imperfections and thus is used where it will not be visible. Economy suggests that it saves you money — and it does. You pay more for top quality lumber, but you need to use it in areas that will be exposed. Imperfections in lumber will show, even after the surface is painted.

By REP. TIM VALENTINE

Water is one of our most precious natural resources. We in North Carolina are fortunate to have a number of lakes and rivers that provide recreational and economic opportunities, and enhance our environment.

Unfortunately the Roanoke River Basin and its most important bodies of water, Lake Gaston and Kerr Lake, are being threatened by a proposed water supply pipeline to the Tidewater area of Virginia. The pipeline would take up to 60 million gallons of water per day from Lake Gaston, whose level would then be boosted by transferring water from Kerr Lake. The U.S. Corps of Engineers is currently considering an application from the City of Virginia Beach for a permit allowing the pipeline to be built.

While I would never deny the legitimate need of any city for water, I strongly believe that the residents of the Roanoke River Basin have first claim on the use of their own resources. Virginia Beach should be looking in its own backyard for water instead of taking the water we need for economic development in northeastern North Carolina.

On August 25 I spoke out against the pipeline proposal at a public hearing in Lawrenceville, Virginia. I renewed a request to the Corps of Engineers for an environmental impact statement and asked that another public hearing be held on the proposed use of Kerr Lake as a storage pond for the Virginia Beach water system. In recent weeks I have urged the Norfolk District of the Corps to make all the information they have amassed on the pipeline available to interested citizens, because the public should have an adequate opportunity to become fully informed before this important decision is made.

The pipeline proposal is clearly not in the best interests of those who live in the Roanoke River Basin. Unilateral action by Virginia Beach to siphon away water that has flowed since time immemorial in the Roanoke River is unwarranted and unfair. Our neighbor to the North should not be permitted to drink from our trough at the expense of our economic future.



"Eddie really treated me royally last night. Went to the Dairy Queen, and later to the Burger King."

Our warehouses here at the Government Printing Office contain more than 16,000 different Government publications. Now we've put together a catalog of nearly 1,000 of the most popular books in our inventory. Books like *Infant Care*, *National Park Guide and Map*, *The Space Shuttle at Work*, *Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents*, *Merchandising Your Job*

Talents, and *The Back-Yard Mechanic*. Books on subjects ranging from agriculture, business, children, and diet to science, space exploration, transportation, and vacations. Find out what the Government's books are all about. For your free copy of our new bestseller catalog, write—

New Catalog
Post Office Box 37000
Washington, D.C. 20013

937 Bestsellers

