

The Warren Record

Published Every Wednesday By
Record Printing Company

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

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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

Warrenton and Neighboring Areas	\$4.00 per year	\$1.00 per month
Other Areas	\$5.00 per year	\$1.25 per month
Outside the State	\$6.00 per year	\$1.50 per month

Whitmel S. Peoples

Whitmel Stringfellow Peoples, 78, of Warrenton died at his home here on Sunday morning shortly before he was to serve as one of the ushers at Emmanuel Episcopal Church which he had served so well for many years. He had been in failing health for a year or more.

He will long be remembered for his services to his church and to Warren County Memorial Library, of which he served for many years as chairman of the Board of Trustees. A native of Mecklenburg County, Va., where his ancestral home now lies below the waters of Kerr Lake, he moved to Warrenton with his bride some thirty years or more ago and has made a substantial contribution to his adopted town.

"Whit" was a perfect gentleman. We were privileged to serve on the vestry with Whit for the past three or more years and

found his counseling wise. In the discussions that occurred during vestry meetings, we can never remember him raising his voice. It is impossible to think of his committing a rudeness.

Whit was a person of great privacy, a commendable trait, but one that made it difficult to learn of his many virtues. One who was once his near neighbor commented following his funeral Tuesday, "he had such beautiful manners." A county official who had contacts with him through his work at the library said that his good manners made it a pleasure to work with him.

And those of us who were privileged to know him can be grateful for the fine example he furnished his fellow citizens, knowing that the world is a better place because Whitmel Peoples lived in it.

After Christmas, What?

By WALTER SPEARMAN
In The Smithfield Herald

Now that the holiday excitement has died down and the stomach aches have subsided, are you wondering what to do after Christmas? One possibility is to learn from experience. Think back through Christmas before you start making your New Year's resolutions.

Don't think you have to eat all the Christmas goodies during the Christmas season. Store some of them in the freezer for the lean days of March. They will do better in the overloaded freezer than in your own overloaded stomach. Especially candy and fruitcake.

When you take down the Christmas tree and put away the ornaments for next year, have the courage to throw away what doesn't work. Those little birds that won't stay fixed on the tree might as well be thrown away. The lights that didn't work this year won't work next year either. Junk them. And the

tree holder that won't hold the tree steady this year might as well be thrown away now — not next Christmas Eve when you're mad again!

Of course, the members of your family who disappointed you this year can't really be thrown away — next year, just don't expect more than they can provide.

When you want to clear away that stack of 1983 Christmas cards, better make a list of the senders so you'll have them next year. Better still, pack away the cards in a clearly-labeled box. Then next year you can turn back through them for happy reminders or, as some people do, cut off the picture fronts of the cards and use them as gaily decorated gift cards for your 1984 presents.

Best of all, pack away the happy memories in a corner of your mind, so you can bring them out from time to time and enjoy them in May as you did in December.

Following A Winner

Peter F. Drucker in Esquire on IBM founder, Thomas Watson, Sr., as quoted from The Charlotte Observer.

Watson . . . believed in a worker who took responsibility for his job, was proud of it and loved it. He believed in a worker who saw his interests as identical to those of the company. He wanted, above all, a

worker who used his own mind and his own experience to improve his own job, the product, the process and the quality. . . .

As in Japan today, there was no contractual obligation on the part of Watson's IBM not to lay off people. But there was a moral commitment. In the first Depression years, 1931 and 1932, IBM did indeed lay off a few people, but Watson immediately stopped it. . . . Employment security for workers has been IBM practice for 50 years now.

. . . The worker, Watson argued, knew far better than anyone else how to improve productivity and quality. And so around 1935 he invented what we now know as quality circles. . . . Again and again I have been laughed at in Japan when I talk about Japan's management embodying Japanese values. "Don't you realize," my Japanese friends say, "that we are simply adapting what IBM has done all along?" And when I ask how come, they always say, "When we started to rebuild Japan in the '50s, we looked around for the most successful company we could find — it's IBM, isn't it?"

Postal Economy

Tiny Norfolk Island in the South Pacific derived 28 percent of its total income in 1982 from sales of its postage stamps. They brought in 750,000 Australian dollars that year, National Geographic reports.

Mostly Personal

Change In Celebration

By BIGNALL JONES
Saturday night, New Year's Eve, the entire family was in bed and presumably asleep as the New Year was ushered in. It is likely that our failure to stay up to welcome the New Year has gone on for a number of years. Saturday night, however, as I waited for sleep to come, I thought of how for years we welcomed the New Year without the benefit of either radio or television.

The occasion did not pass unnoticed as there were a number of New Year's Eve parties, just as there are now, only then the proportion of young people to old was much greater. A custom observed here until the middle twenties was the ringing of church bells on the stroke of midnight. Ringing the bell at Emmanuel Episcopal Church was my self-imposed and joyous duty. I still remember holding my large watch in hand waiting for the minute hand to reach twelve before pulling the rope that caused the Episcopal Church bell to peal in unison with the bells of Wesley Memorial Methodist Church and the Baptist Church bells. Joining in the salute to the New Year were the whistles of Peck Manufacturing Company and Warrenton Box and Lumber Company, and sometimes the whistle of a distant railroad locomotive.

No longer are the church bells rung here on New Years. They have been replaced first with the radio and the playing of "Auld Lang Syne" by Guy Lombardo, and since the mid-fifties by television which depicted hundreds of thousands of persons dancing in the streets of New York, and their shouts and the din of horns as the New Year made its appearance.

Few of us, I think, are totally satisfied with the kind of life we have lived during the past year as we look back on our sins of commission and omission and look forward to the new year as a time for a new beginning. This is true so far as I am concerned. Another nice thing about New Year's Day is that the days which have

begun to lengthen with the advent of winter. A few short weeks and we will be able to enjoy the sunlight as the day's work ends.

The above thoughts about the New Year are written as a substitute for a continued article

about Washington, D. C., for reasons which I will explain next week. Meanwhile I will take this occasion to thank many friends for their kindnesses to me during the past year and to wish for all our readers a Happy New Year.



HOME OF THE WHITE SQUIRRELS. Olney, Illinois has the largest wild albino colony in the world. The pink-eyed, white squirrels are commonly seen scampering around town—where an ordinance gives them the right-of-way on streets.

Prune Or Remove Overgrown Shrub

A shrub that has been allowed to grow too large detracts from the beauty of the landscape and should be pruned, if possible, or replaced with a smaller-growing plant.

Shrubs that are out of proportion are often eyesores and detract from the over-all landscape picture, suggest North Carolina State University agricultural extension specialists.

The shrubs may get out of proportion in their relationship to walls, flower beds, buildings or other features. Many of the best foliage shrubbery grow rapidly and should not be used in restricted places.

Pruning and removal are the two alternatives. Not all plants lend themselves to severe pruning. Severe pruning isn't going to help the beauty of the plant if it leaves sheared masses. The only solution in these cases is removal, substituting low-growing plants.

Some of the plants tend to become too large, and they include some of the most popular landscape plants used around North Carolina homes and buildings.

One of these is pyracantha, a showy shrub with the bright clusters of berries in fall and winter. Photinia is

another.

This is the popular hedge plant and is frequently used near the corners of large buildings.

One form, called red-top, makes masses of red leaves at the ends of stems.

Another good example of plants that could easily become too large in restricted places is the cherry laurel — also called Carolina cherry laurel. The eleagnus, ligustrum and pitosporum fall into the same category.

In the areas of the state where it grows, the loquat — Japanese plum — grows well and often becomes a size problem.

Burford and Chinese hollies are other widely used plants that need plenty of space and need to be trained by pruning.

Shrubs to be considered for planting in confined areas, such as beneath windows, at intersections of walks and so forth, include hetzi and helleri holly, rotunda holly, dwarf yaupon and dwarf burford holly. These are possible replacements for the more massive shrubs.

Other useful low-growing shrubs are dwarf aucuba, wintergreen barberry, dwarf creeping gardenia and horizontal juniper.

Jordan Is Back From Sea Duty

Navy Sonar Technician Seaman Charles F. Jordan, son of John and Martha Lynch of Rt. 2, Littleton, recently returned from a seven-month deployment to the Mediterranean.

He is a crewmember aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Virginia, homeported in Norfolk, Va.

Most of the ship's time in the Mediterranean was spent off the coast of Lebanon in support of the Multi-national Peacekeeping Force. The Virginia provided gunfire support for the U. S. Marines in Beirut, firing more than 300 rounds of ammunition.

Each person in the United States uses about 90 gallons of water a day for cleaning and gardening; two more are used for drinking and cooking, National Geographic World reports.

Letter To The Editor

A Good Practice

To The Editor:

I used to consider it a nuisance to put the Zip Code on all my out-going mail, but not any more.

Here is an example of a letter that reached me, only because the Zip Code was included in the address; nearly everything else was wrong. It was addressed to: C. Skillman, Box 204, Rt. 1, Warrenton, Pa. 27589.

So now I am happy to use the Zip Code on all of my mail.

CLARENCE E. SKILLMAN
Rt. 3, Box 204
Warrenton, N. C. 27589

News Of Yesteryear

Looking Backward Into The Warren Record

Jan. 7, 1944

Ensign George Allen Burwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Burwell of Warrenton, now serving with the Pacific Fleet, adds his condemnation of those who strike in war time to those of thousands of other soldiers giving their views in letters to their home folks, many of which find their way into the local press.

Frank H. Gibbs, mayor of Warrenton, stated yesterday that he wished to add his own endorsement to that of Governor Broughton as expressed in his proclamation of Dec. 28 praising the unselfish work of the War Ration Boards of the State.

The Rev. and Mrs. A. P. Chambliss entertained at dinner on Thursday evening for Miss Bernice Chambliss and Mr. George Black of New York City and Mrs. Clarence Anderson, Jr. of Bridgeport, Conn.

Jan. 2, 1959

Serls Hardware Store, operated since 1950 by Frank Serls, Jr. and his son, Niles, has been purchased by William B. (Billy) Lanier. Lanier for the past 35 years has been connected with W. A. Miles Hardware Company.

Mr. and Mrs. John Boyd Short of Middleburg announce the engagement of their daughter, Edna Gray, to Roy C. Neal, Jr., son of Mrs. Roy C. Neal of Warren Plains.

Richard Wooding, 39, of San Diego, Calif. yesterday began management of the Norlina Hotel. Wooding and his wife will replace Mrs. L. I. Price, who has operated the hotel since April.

Jan. 3, 1974

Robert Stephen Rodwell of Warrenton was appointed Clerk of Warren County Superior Court on Monday by Judge Hamilton Hobgood of Louisburg, resident judge of the Ninth Judicial District. He succeeds Mrs. Lanie M. Hayes, who retired on Dec. 31 after serving in the clerk's office as deputy clerk, assistant clerk and clerk of court for more than 31 years.

Peter G. Seaman, a native of Warrenton, has been promoted to vice president and senior trust officer by Southern Bank of Richmond, Va.

John H. Harmon and Frank W. Ballance, Jr. have established a \$10,000 scholarship fund for North Carolina Central University Law School students. The two North Carolina attorneys are both 1958 graduates of the law school.

Dateline: Washington

Business Suffers

By REP. TIM VALENTINE

The economy looks like it's bouncing back toward a sustained recovery. While this is some cause for celebration, it also tempts one to overlook some parts of the economy that continue to suffer grievously, notably small business.

Business failures throughout 1983 continued at a staggering pace. Approximately 30,500 failures were recorded with Dun and Bradstreet, a national credit rating and information service. That figure is up 5,000 from 1982, is three times the average postwar rate and the highest since 1932, the worst year of the Great Depression.

Data from the Minority Business Development Administration indicates that minority business failures have nearly quadrupled over the last several years. The number of business persons filing for protection under bankruptcy laws matched 1982's record pace of over 90,000.

Continued high interest rates appear to be the culprit that prevents many small businesses from fully participating in economic recovery, with short-term interest rates extremely high. Although real interest rates on small business and farm loans declined slightly from their postwar highs of 1981-1982, they are still double postwar averages.

Some point an accusing finger at the Federal Reserve Board for operating a tight money policy, but a bigger cause stems from the extraordinary sums that must be borrowed to offset spiraling Federal deficits. Small businesses have a tough enough time competing in the credit markets with their larger brethren. They shouldn't have to compete with their government as well.



The first President of the U.S. to be born outside the boundaries of the original 13 Colonies was Abraham Lincoln, born in Hodgenville, Kentucky, in 1809.

CALENDAR

Legion Auxiliary To Meet

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet Thursday, Jan. 5, at 8 p. m. in the home of Mrs. Palmer King with Mrs. Melvin Shearin serving as co-hostess.

Blazettes Announce Meet

The Warrenton Rural Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, known as the Blazettes, will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 8 p. m. at the home of Betsy Gardner.

Public Meeting Is Called

A general membership meeting of the Hawtree Volunteer Fire Department will be held Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 p. m. at the fire house. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers, and all interested citizens of the Wise, Paschall and Oakville communities are urged to attend.

Directors Will Gather

The Twin County Rural Health Center's board of directors will hold its regularly monthly meeting on Monday, Jan. 9, at 7:30 p. m. in the conference room of the center. Secretary Laura F. Powell said that the meeting is of great importance and that all directors are urged to attend.