

The Warren Record

Published Every Wednesday By
Record Printing Company

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

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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

Pre-Election Thoughts

The progress of a nation can not be judged by the number of millionaires created but by the welfare of the people as a whole. There is no doubt that the affluent are better off financially than they were four years ago nor is there any doubt that the number of those below the poverty line is growing, now that inflation has not been stopped, that it is still growing, nor that the future of our country is saddled with a three trillion dollar mortgage upon our children and grandchildren.

One must marvel at the success of a Reagan Administration advertising campaign, where Republican candidates are promoted like beans and soup, in

their efforts to make Democrats irresponsible spenders, while Reagan remains the greatest all-time spender.

On the other hand, there is no question that the people of North Carolina are better off today than they were four years ago, or eight years ago, or for that matter 25 years ago.

When we watch the senatorial contest that has lasted much too long and the cost of which is disgraceful, we must wonder how wise we were to amend the United States Constitution so that U. S. Senators are elected by the people instead of by the Legislature as provided by those seeking to form a representative government.

'Voodoo Economics' Here

In The Smithfield Herald

Jim Martin, the Republican candidate for Governor, apparently wants to import Ronald Reagan's "voodoo economics" to North Carolina.

He would have the state's Legislature repeal the inventory tax, the intangibles tax, and the sales tax on food and non-prescription drugs. The \$634-million annual revenue shortfall that would result by the end of the decade would be made up by economic growth and state spending cuts, Mr. Martin claims.

That sounds exactly like Ronald Reagan's approach to federal fiscal policy. The trouble is, North Carolina's Constitution doesn't allow deficit spending by the State Government—while the Federal Government is able to go deeper and deeper into debt because of Mr. Reagan's incompatible combination of large tax cuts and big boosts in federal spending, especially for military armaments.

This is the same Jim Martin who has criticized the Democrats in Raleigh for allowing state teacher salaries to fall back toward the bottom of the national ranking over the past decade. He and other Republicans fail to point out what it would have taken to raise teachers' pay a couple of years ago; an increase in state taxes at a time of

economic recession. How, then, does he expect to boost teacher salaries during the next four years while cutting state revenues by an astounding 11.3 percent?

Mr. Martin's call for repealing the sales tax on food carries a strong appeal to Democrats who believe any cuts in taxes ought to benefit the poor as well as the rich. It appears to be a calculated appeal to balance Mr. Martin's call for repealing the intangibles tax on stocks and bonds and other financial holdings of wealthy North Carolinians.

But North Carolina, at last report, ranked 41st in the nation in combined state and local taxes. And our state and local governments need the revenues from the intangibles tax, the inventory tax, and, unfortunately, the sales tax on food in order to strive for better schools and other services our growing communities expect from their governments.

Large-scale repeal of state and local taxes is a bogus issue that threatens to undermine North Carolina's commitment to continued economic progress. It can be read as nothing more than an 11th-hour campaign tactic by a candidate who must realize his chances of winning election are growing slim.

Free Enterprise?

In The Southern Pines Pilot
Free enterprise, for all its benefits, is hardly the answer for world population control.

Yet that is the doctrine which the administration was pushing at the United Nations sponsored conference on population held in Mexico City.

Other countries represented at the conference were puzzled by the U. S. position, and in truth their puzzlement is understandable.

Third World countries, faced with starving populations that continue to grow, are confronted with a reality which needs realistic solutions more than ideological preachments.

Birth control and free enterprise are not necessarily compatible components of one of the most serious problems facing the world today.

Worth Quoting

"The country of every man is that one where he lives best." — Aristophanes

"Everyone is a genius at least once a year. The real geniuses simply have their bright ideas closer together." — G. C. Lichtenberg

"Fear of misfortune is worse than the misfortune." — Hasidic Saying

'First Lady From Plains'

By BIGNALL JONES

For the past several weeks as time has permitted I have been reading Rosiland Carter's delightful autobiography, "First Lady From Plains." It is a delightful story of life in a small Georgia town, of growing up and falling in love with Jimmy Carter, who was to become governor of Georgia and President of the United States, through determination and family effort perhaps unequalled in the annals of the United States.

While she, with many other family members were campaigning to elect Jimmy Carter Democratic candidate and then President, she traveled in every state in the Union except Alaska. Many times, she learned that all people are alike, she claims. Many Warren County people in their travels have discovered the same thing.

Since Walter Mondale, as candidate for President of the United States has for months been in the public eye, it may be of some interest as to how and why Carter chose Mondale as his running mate, as related by Rosiland Carter:

"I don't think Jimmy actually decided himself until the night he made the decision to call... Walter 'Fritz' Mondale.

"It was a difficult decision. Jimmy had always felt that Mondale was too liberal for him, but changed his mind when they met. Not only did they get along very well personally, but during their three-hour discussion, they seemed to agree on a variety of domestic and foreign issues. Mondale was not as liberal as his reputation suggested. He was strong on defense and reducing the budget deficit, and Jimmy was impressed by his straightforward and crisp way of presenting his positions, having carefully prepared himself for the interview. Of course, there were political considerations in the choice of Mondale as well. Jimmy, being a Washington 'outsider' needed someone who knew Washington as well. Mondale's Minnesota constituency was a geographical plus, and Mondale as a running mate would assuage the Humphrey wing of the party. Jimmy never regretted his choice."

Having read Mrs. Carter's description of the Georgia capitol, one of the most beautiful in the country, I feel an urge to visit it, but it was her description of the White House that fills one with wonder, astonishment and pride of country, as well as a few spots on some of the "high up." She found out that in state dinners at the White House, some of the guests were not above stealing silver and other souvenirs.

Jimmy, almost as soon as he had settled in the White House, began his efforts to reduce consumption of energy by cutting out lights, and reducing the settings of thermostats to 60 in the daytime and 55 at night, resulting in Mrs. Carter, and the other ladies, wearing heavy underwear. A very unpopular move taken by President Carter was his effort to reduce the size and use of automobiles by a people who did not see

that the need existed.

During the time he was stressing the need for economy Jimmy asked us to guess how many television sets were there, including those in the east and west wings. He had received a report that morning from the task force advising on the ways to cut federal waste and management. "I guessed forty, someone else fifty and Chip chimed in with maybe a hundred." Jimmy shook his head. "We hadn't come close. There were 325 television sets in the White House and 220 FM radios. And the federal tab for newspaper and magazine subscriptions came to \$85,000 a year." It was not long before these numbers were drastically reduced.

Mrs. Carter reported that the third floor of the White House had not been completed until it was renovated by President Harry Truman. While there were many bookcases in the White House there were not enough to satisfy President Carter, who soon had a large mahogany bookcase installed along one wall, which led a worker at the White House to say that the other Presidents did not seem to read so much.

In spite of reduction in televisions, life was not bare in the White House with its own private motion picture house, finest draperies, silver, china and crystal and meals of one's choice, served by butlers, and many attractive small rooms which could be used for hide-aways. From the White House the inhabitants had a

fine view of flower gardens from which fresh flowers were used to decorate the rooms of the White House. From a small room near the top of the building President and Mrs. Carter had a beautiful view of the Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Washington Monument.

The handling of gifts was also a problem.

Mrs. Carter wrote: "We quickly had to develop a policy for handling gifts, too, because hundreds of them poured into the White House each week. The number and variety of gifts sent to the President and his family are astonishing. Some like those from older people living in convalescent homes who spent hours weaving potholders, crocheting little doilies for table-tops, or making fancy boxes to hold Kleenex, are from the heart. Others are more commercial and people who wanted the President's name for endorsement.

One little girl from California came to spend the night with Amy, and when she went home she told the Press that Amy wanted a chainsaw for Christmas. I don't know how she confused a chainsaw and an electric chain which Amy really wanted, but the story spread and soon chain saws began arriving at the White House, even red, white and blue with stars on it. We sent them all back except one that had a card signed by everyone in the factory where it had been made. We kept that one for the Carter presidential library."

Looking Back Into The Warren Record

November 3, 1944

On next Tuesday, voters of Warren County will go to the polls to cast their ballots for president and vice president, making their choice between Democratic nominees Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman, and Republican nominees Thomas E. Dewey and John Bricker.

Cpl William S. Hicks, Jr. of Norlina is spending a 30-day furlough at home after surviving 19 months overseas in the European Theatre.

Misses Rose Paschall and Amy Rose Spain of Flora McDonald College spent a recent weekend at their homes near Drewry.

October 30, 1959

Miss Bell B. Fenton arrived in Warrenton this week to begin work on the big musical comedy revue "Around the World in a Daze," which will be presented on Thursday and Saturday, Nov. 5 and 7, at Warrenton High School auditorium.

The Rev. and Mrs. Laurie Baxter and daughter, Ellen, of Lake City, Pa. arrived in Warrenton on Wednesday night to make their home. The Rev. Mr. Baxter has accepted a call as rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church at Warrenton and the Church of the Good Shepherd at Ridgeway.

The Norlina Library has been moved to Mrs. William White's store building in Hyco Street.

October 31, 1974

One of the largest pieces of Warrenton business property ever sold publicly will be put on the auction block next month. Farmers Warehouse, a 61-year-old structure resting on slightly more than an acre and a quarter of land will be auctioned November 26 by R. B. Butler Auction Company. It is being sold by the Tarwater family of Warrenton.

A police career that has spanned 40 years will end next month for Warren County's oldest law enforcement officer in terms of service. Kenneth Short, night officer at Warrenton, will resign effective Nov. 15, according to Police Chief Freddie Robinson.

A second petition has been prepared by citizens in opposition to the Sandy Creek waste treatment plant planned by the City of Henderson.

Expresses Thanks

To The Editor:

On Sunday morning, July 17, 1983, I was involved and severely injured in an automobile accident which occurred on the west side of U. S. Highway 158 between Macon and Warrenton at the Aycock residence. With me in the car at the time of the accident was my niece, Tanya Brown, who was two-years-old at the time.

This letter is to publicly express my sincere appreciation for the kind and humane treatment provided me and my niece by the Aycock family and Mr. Riggan who lives on the East side of Route 158 at the same location.

While I lay unconscious in the car, Mrs. Aycock cradled my niece in her arms and Mr. Riggan and other members of his and the Aycock family worked swiftly, and successfully, to keep me alive, and at the same time to free me from the wrecked automobile.

The Warren County Ambulance Service was called and the people (the Aycocks and Riggans) assisted in whatever way they could in getting me aboard the emergency vehicle.

Also, I wish to thank the personnel at Warren General Hospital who cared for me and prepared me for transportation to Duke Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina.

Further, amid all that happened that Sunday morning when my wife arrived at Warren General, all of my cash money, and other personal valuables were handed to her intact.

The humane, honest and decent spirit expressed by these people is to be commended, and I feel that I owe them an unpayable debt.

If there were any who became involved at the scene of the accident whose name I do not have, my thanks are to you also.

I am forever grateful,
JOSEPH E. KEARNEY
Baltimore, Md.

Look At Republican

To The Editor:

Although a resident of Georgia for more than two years and no longer a registered voter in North Carolina, I have been following with great interest the Helms/Hunt Campaign race, or "mud-slinging" as it has been called.

I urge the citizens of Warren County to stop and reconsider their vote if they feel Jim Hunt is the best choice for the U. S. Senate seat. It seems inconceivable that anyone can forget the way that we were treated when Hunt decided that PCBs should come to rest in our county. Where was he then to listen to the objections and arguments of the people whose families and later generations would have to contend with the effects of this chemical? I remember the anger and despair that the citizens of this county felt and I hope many of you will remember it also.

Hunt appears to be an extremely ambitious politician and after the PCB episode I cannot see that he has the best interests of N. C. residents in mind, especially if his record in Warren County is any indication. If elected Senator, he must be able to act on behalf of all N. C. citizens and not just himself.

It is true that Warren County is predominately Democratic, but I encourage all of you to strongly look at the Republican candidate and not just his party. I only wish that I were still registered to vote in N. C. at this time because I would take great delight in campaigning and voting against Jim Hunt.

CATHERINE BLANKENSHIP WESSINGER
Savannah, Ga.

Think Carefully

To The Editor:

Many Warren County voters appear poised to cast their vote for U. S. Senator based primarily on bitterness over the handling of the dumping of PCB in our county. All who are so inclined need to think carefully before casting such a vote.

Your concern about PCB grew out of caring about the future we will give our children. You were outraged that this dump was apparently being put in Warren County because we are predominately black, economically poor and politically weak. Can people who care deeply about the future of our land and nation, who have compassion for the poor and the powerless seriously consider casting a vote for Senator Jesse Helms?

Senator Helms has made a career of supporting efforts which shut out minorities from opportunity, cut off from the poor the helping hand needed to free them from the cycle of poverty, and encourage wholesale exploitation of our resources for short term economic gain. His policies appeal to the fears of our people and represent a dangerous turning back of the clock of legislative progress.

At a time when our nation desperately needs leadership to give us a sense of our common destiny and inspire us to work for a common purpose Senator Helms has provided leadership which divides our people and weakens our common resolve. He exhibits an unappealing arrogance as he defends his own position and often ridicules those who differ with him.

The senator even uses religion to divide us. He projects an image of a man with a deep Christian faith while ignoring scriptural calls for humility and compassion. Despite all the rhetoric to the contrary, his actions show his faith to be more in nuclear arsenals and economic power than in an almighty God.

Yes, the PCB placed in our county was an insult and a threat to us. The politics of Senator Helms, however, represent a far greater threat to our future. He has shown himself to be no friend of our environment but even worse, his words and actions pollute the mind and the spirit of our nation.

DENNIS RETZLAFF
Warrenton

Reagan And The Presidency

From Time Magazine

For the most part, Americans have been willing to forgive Reagan his minor gaffes, his seemingly un-taxing work schedule, even his occasional brief naps in cabinet meetings. His strength as a leader made his other failings seem picayune. Reagan has skipped over the minutiae of governing to articulate a clear vision for America. It can be argued that that is precisely what a president should do....

Reagan continues to show little intellectual curiosity about the great dilemmas he must confront. He rarely seeks to convene experts in the Oval Office to toss around ideas on thorny subjects like the Mideast or arms control. Instead, he prefers to follow the consensus recommendation of his staff. If his advisers are capable — and most are — Reagan can afford to trust their judgment. But his staff is not elected, and some, most notably White House Chief of Staff James A. Baker, may not stay on through a second term. In sum, the issue Americans should debate is not Reagan's age but his effectiveness and the validity of his approach to governing.