

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 \$10.00 Per Year
Elsewhere \$12.00 Per Year
\$6.00 Six Months \$7.00 Six Months

A Criminal Action

It is a sad state of affairs indeed that in a land of plenty, people go hungry.

Even more tragic is the fact that these hungry people, accustomed for some time now to the distribution of free food commodities, face an end to worthwhile practice.

One only had to view the long lines of traffic snaking to the National Guard Armory, site of the food giveaway, to see the need for the program.

Now the end is in sight, and there are many who are lamenting the fact. A loud voice was raised by editor of The Pilot, a Southern Pines newspaper, over the anticipated end of the surplus food distribution. He wrote as follows:

"There's something very wrong here and it should not be allowed to happen.

"What we are talking about is the end of the distribution of surplus food for the poor, and a lot of people in Moore County, North Carolina and the nation will go hungry because the Reagan administration has cut off all funds for the distribution of those foods.

"There will be one more food distribution for the poor in Moore County—on Feb. 27—but Melinda Hamrick, director of the Department of Social Services, said it will be the last because funds to pay the cost of distribution have been eliminated by the Reagan administration.

"The foods to be distributed on Feb. 27 will be cheese, butter, flour and rice. These are surplus foods which the federal government acquired through its price support program. But they will do nobody any good if they are piled up to rot in a warehouse.

"To our way of thinking, that is criminal conduct on the part of the federal government, to allow people to

go hungry while food rots away.

"This is the same government which is paying \$450 for a hammer, and billions and billions of dollars for planes that will not fly, war threatening and unnecessary MX missiles and a Star Wars fantasy. All in all, this administration has tripled the so-called defense budget to more than \$300 billion a year, and that in itself threatens peace while draining funds away from people in need.

"This is outrageous and the people of America should not put up with it. Appeals to the White House will do no good, but the offices of their congressmen should be flooded with protests and with demands that funds be appropriated to see that the poor do not go hungry while surplus food fills the warehouses of the nations.

"Farm support prices are necessary, and indeed more needs to be done to save the family farms of America. But surplus foods serve no one unless they are distributed in places such as Moore County to feed the poor and needy.

"It is time to sound the alarm."



Looking Back Into The Record

February 14, 1947

A small airplane crashed Wednesday night on the farm of Ernest Harris of Inez. The pilot, who was flying alone, bailed out and was not injured. The plane was practically destroyed.

Gravely concerned over the acute teacher shortage, the chairman of the Warrenton district board this week sounded a call for teachers. He asked that any teacher interested in becoming a member of the John Graham faculty notify the principal.

Residents of Warren County bought approximately \$50,000 worth of E, F and G Bonds during the month of January, according to a report received by the Citizens Bank from the Treasury Department.

February 16, 1962

Trustees of the Duke Endowment have appropriated a sum of \$1,304,173.32 to North Carolina and South Carolina hospitals and child care institutions. Of this amount, \$1,413 was allocated to Warren General Hospital compared to \$1,057 for 1960.

The State Bureau of Investigation has been asked to assist in the investigation of a robbery at the Norlina ABC store on Monday night in which thieves stole 10 cases of bonded whiskey.

The Warrenton Lions Club celebrated its 26th anniversary with a Ladies Night banquet and dance at the Country Club on Saturday night.

February 17, 1977

Albert Seaman won fourth place in the statewide soybean contest with a yield of 58.85 bushels of soybeans per acre.

The Warrenton Board of Commissioners Monday night voted to strictly enforce the law requiring all residents to purchase and display on their motor vehicles town tags and to adopt a \$5 service charge for all bad checks issued to the town.

Kermit C. Copley has successfully completed the statutory requirements to become a certified public accountant in the State of North Carolina.

The Warren County Scene



Striking a pose in this atypical Warren County scene is this member of the crane family which was seen recently surveying the territory along Highway 401 between Warrenton and Norlina.
(Staff Photo by Dianne T. Rodwell)

Carolina Commentary Jay Jenkins

Some Statistical Nuggets

Sixteen blacks are serving in North Carolina's 1987 General Assembly and that is a record for this century, eclipsing by one the number who served in the 1985-86 session.

Three of the blacks are in the 50-member State Senate, and 13 are in the 150-member House of Representatives. State Rep. Henry Frye (D-Guilford) was the trailblazer in 1969. He now is an associate justice of the State Supreme Court.

There are 24 women members (four in the Senate, 20 in the House) and that ties a record shared by three previous sessions. The first woman to serve was State Rep. Lillian Exum Clement, elected from Buncombe County to the 1921 session.

These statistical nuggets and others to follow come from a fact sheet prepared by the office of Secretary of State Thad Eure, who called to order the House of Representatives for the 26th time. After the formality of his election, Speaker Liston Ramsey took the gavel.

Ramsey (D-Madison), serving his 13th term, became the senior member in terms of service in the House. He inherited that honor because Rep. Dwight Quinn (D-Cabarrus) didn't seek reelection in 1986 after an all-time record of 18 terms.

The oldest member of the Senate is R. L. Martin, 74 (D-Pitt), the youngest is Austin M. Allran, 35 (R-Catawba). Oldest member of the House is Gordon H. Greenwood, 77 (D-Buncombe), youngest is Larry E. Etheridge, 27 (R-Wilson).

The Senator with the longest tenure is the president pro tem of that body, J. J. (Monk) Harrington (D-Bertie), serving his 13th term. Rep. Jo Graham Foster (D-Mecklenburg) and Sen. Lura Tally (D-Cumberland) are in their eighth terms, and have tied the late Rep. Nancy Chase (D-Wayne) for the most lengthy tenure among women members.

Twenty years ago, members of the General Assembly received base pay of \$15 per day, for a maximum of 120 days (after that, they paid their own way). Current members get a base salary of \$10,140 per year, a monthly expense allowance of \$252 per month for the entire year and \$79 per day subsistence allowance during the session. Members also get 25 cents per mile for one roundtrip per week to their home districts.

During a two-year term, a member will receive nearly \$41,000.

In addition to subsistence and mileage, House Speaker Liston Ramsey gets an annual salary of \$28,452 and a monthly expense allowance of \$929. Lieutenant Governor Bob Jordan, who presides over the Senate, is a fulltime employee of the executive branch and doesn't receive the monthly allowance and subsistence pay. He collects the same salary as his colleagues on the Council of State, \$61,044 per year.

Legislators dressed for the chill of February will be in their summer finery before the 1987 session adjourns. Whether they'll break the record for the longest session—195 calendar days in 1971—remains to be seen.

Before the one-man-one-vote court decision, each of the state's 100 counties had at least one representative in the 120-member House. Thirty-four counties have representation in the House only, six counties in the Senate only. Mecklenburg has the largest delegation on the basis of population with 11, eight in the House and three in the Senate.

The most homicidal session of the legislatures was in 1985-86, when only 32 per cent of the 3,458 bills and resolutions which were introduced were ratified. The previous fatality record was in 1973-74, when 45.1 per cent of 3,701 pieces of legislation bit the dust.

Wreck

(Continued from page 1)

the right side of the highway and driving with a revoked license. He was held in the Warren County jail on \$10,000 bond pending a hearing set for Mar. 11.

William McKinley Bullock, 32, of Norlina, owner of the vehicle, was charged with aiding and abetting for allowing Levister to drive. He was riding with Levister when the accident occurred and was held in the Warren County jail on \$1,000 bond.

The truck driver was not charged.

On Dean's List

Warren County students named to the fall semester Dean's List at A&T State University in Greensboro were James Alston, Renae L. Alston, Bobby Andrews, Jr., Kenneth Edwards, and Christina L. Pryor.



Thurletta Brown

Searching For Roots

Alex Haley's "Roots" did much to spark an interest in the past. Genealogical pursuits, once popular only among the elite, became an obsession of blacks, who went in droves to pour through state archives, county records and family Bibles.

Like so many others, I was bitten by the bug, too. I searched through birth certificates and marriage licenses in Jim Hundley's office. I rummaged through wills in the office of the clerk of court. I spent a couple of days (and a small fortune for copies) at the Archives in Raleigh. I spent hours in conversation with my parents, uncles and grandmother. Although I was able to learn a great deal about three generations of relatives on our side, that was not enough. There had to be more and I had to find it.

It had always struck me as odd that my great-grandfather and his brothers all had English literary and religious names: Byron, Shelly Tennyson, Milton, George Herbert, Peter Pender and Tom Moore. It also struck me as odd that certain names, Faulcon, Ridley, Cornelia and Lafayette, seemed to recur in various generations.

My grandmother had always talked about Dr. Ridley Browne, his brother, Jacob Faulcon Browne, and their father, Dr. LaFayette Browne, supposedly of Vaughan. So, off I drove through Macon into Vaughan with Polaroid and notebook in hand.

The reaction to my questions was mixed. Two sisters refused to talk with me, but two others, Ann and Cornelia, were open and warm. They shared the Browne family Bible and family photographs. They took me to their family cemetery. They also took me to their grandfather's old home. It stands today—just barely—but, it's there.

Cornelia and I corresponded until her death a couple of years later. Ann died soon after. Although we never quite said out loud what we thought to be true, we knew that something special had taken place and that the relationship established was miraculous, at best.

As recently as August of last year, some 2,500 individuals attended a sort of "homecoming" at the Somerset Place plantation in Washington County. Among them was 78 year old Josiah Collins VI of Seattle, Wash.—a direct descendent of the founder of Somerset. The event drew over 100 reporters, including representatives from USA Today, Time magazine and the major television networks. Governor Jim Martin proclaimed Aug. 30 "Somerset Homecoming Day."

There are aspects of black history that we don't care to remember. I don't like to think about that part of our heritage, but I feel better for having found out more about my roots.

CALENDAR

Commissioners Meet Axed

The mid-monthly meeting of the Warren County Commissioners scheduled for this evening (Wednesday) has been cancelled. All business has been deferred until the regular monthly meeting to be held Monday, Mar. 2.

Smith To Deliver Sermon

James W. Smith, evangelist, will return to The Soul City First Baptist Church on Sunday, Feb. 22. He will deliver the morning sermon at 11:30 a.m. All are invited to attend.

Republicans To Gather

The Warren County Republican Convention will be held Saturday, Mar. 7, at 11 a.m. at the Warren County Courthouse. Major business includes the election of officers and selection of delegates to the district and state conventions. Precinct meetings will be held prior to the Convention.

Stew Sale Plans Outlined

The Norlina Woman's Club will sponsor a Stew Sale Saturday, Feb. 28. Stew will be ready at 10 a.m. at a cost of \$3.50 per quart. The sale is sponsored by the Norlina Masonic Lodge.

Macon Supper Postponed

The annual George Washington Buffet Supper planned for Saturday night by members of the Macon Ladies Fire Auxiliary has been postponed until Saturday, Feb. 28, from 5 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Will Settlement Is Sought

(Continued from page 1)

Complaints were raised by dissatisfied citizens and these were aired in a hearing held Jan. 5 before Judge Hobgood. The original approval was rescinded. Hobgood will hold a hearing with the clerk of court and trustees of the will on an undetermined date to authorize Clerk of Court Hunter to appoint the Hugh J. White Memorial Fund Board to select a recipient of the bequest.

According to Clerk of Court Richard Hunter, various clerks of court had deemed the will's stipulations unmanageable.

Dr. Tom Holt, one of the co-executors of the will, requested in 1985 that the State Attorney General petition the court for release of the funds to Emmanuel Episcopal Church to be distributed in the following manner: two-thirds to the Church of the Good Shepherd, a primarily white congregation in Ridgeway, primarily black congregation in Warrenton. The request was approved by Judge Robert Hobgood.

For a complete line of writing needs— for home or office— 123 South Main Warrenton

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