

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

by Bruce Barton

### J.R. HUNT ANOTHER HERO OF MINE FALLS PREY TO DEATH

A lot of us act cocky about it, and resist the notion that we are going to die too. All of us. And we have to lose a family member, or a hero, or truly come to grips with the Grim Reaper. Death is sure, and each of us must prepare to die as well as we can. Death, in a sense, has prepared me to die. I have lost a brother and a sister, and a host of heroes to the Evil One. And I know now that I can go gently into that Dark Night where death awaits her prey. I am not afraid anymore.

J.R. Hunt, 52, was funeralized Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. at Deep Branch Baptist Church where he was a vibrant member. Burial followed in the Hunt Cemetery. He will be sorely missed. I counted him my friend, my Christian mentor, and, yes, my hero. I hope I can live as fully and as well as he did. He was a God fearing man, who loved his God, his family, his church and his community (Deep Branch) probably in that order.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife, Annie T. Hunt; two daughters, Mrs. Taniel Hunt Noble of Fayetteville, and Mrs. Trina Hunt Bennett of Greensboro; one grandchild, Matthew Bennett of Greensboro; four sisters, Mrs. Eva H. Eastworth, Mrs. Charlene H. Meehan, and Mrs. Betty H. Hunt, all of Lumberton, and Mrs. Adaliah H. Kring of Fraser, Mich.; two brothers, Rudolph and Stafford Hunt, both of Lumberton.

He was the son of the late Leonard and Annah Hunt of the Deep Branch Community and a career serviceman with 21 years of active duty in the United States Army and Air Force. Since retirement, Mr. Hunt participated in many community activities. He was an ordained deacon and served as treasurer for Deep Branch Baptist Church. He served as secretary of Deep Branch Fire Department. He also was a volunteer at Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton and was recognized as one of five North Carolina Volunteers of the Year from Robeson County in 1983.

He was known, far and wide, as a good man who gave more than he received.

Brother J.R. is at peace now, and we offer sincere condolences to his family and friends.

## WORDS OF HOPE

By Charles W. Godfrey, Pastor  
Pembroke Seventh Day Adventist Church

Someone is quoted as having once said that you should only believe half of what you see and nothing of what you hear. That's not a bad idea. Too often we are quick to jump to a conclusion based on what someone has said, without taking the time to check it out for ourselves. Gossip and rumors can be a terrible thing.

Some people have as their motto, "If you can't say anything good about a person, let's hear it." But the wise man will say to the gossip, "You are lord of your tongue, but I am also master of my ears."

In 1753 a group of men, including John Wesley, who were nicknamed Methodist signed a covenant which every man might hang on his study wall. The six articles of the solemn agreement follow:

1. That we will not listen or willingly inquire after ill concerning one another
2. That, if we do hear any ill of each other, we will not be forward to believe it.
3. That as soon as possible we will communicate what we hear by speaking or writing to the person concerned.
4. That until we have done this, we will not write or speak a syllable of it to any other person.
5. That neither will we mention it, after we have done this, to any other person.
6. That we will not make any exception to any of these rules unless we think ourselves absolutely obliged in conference.

Interesting articles by which to abide, aren't they? I can imagine that if every person would sign an agreement like that and abide by it, this world would be a far happier place to live.

Then there are those accusers who accuse without first hand knowledge, and usually for selfish purposes. II Timothy 3:2,3 tells us that in the last days there will be false accusers. Accusers are a curse to mankind. Benjamin Franklin said, "I will speak ill of no man, not even in the matter of truth, but rather excuse the faults I hear, and, upon proper occasions, speak all the good I know of everybody."

They were a happy little family, living in a small town in North Dakota, even though the young mother had not been entirely well since the birth of her second baby.

But each evening the neighbors were aware of a warmth in their hearts when they would see the husband and father being met at the gate by his wife and two small children. There was laughter in the evening too, and when the weather permitted, Father and children would romp together in the back lawn while Mother looked on with happy smiles.

Then one day a village gossip started a story, saying that the father was being unfaithful to

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## EXTENSION SCENE

BY EVERETT DAVIS

A good record-keeping system is essential for the efficient operation of any business. This has been evident for many years by both large and small non-agricultural businesses, but has just now become obvious to many of those involved in agricultural production. These agricultural producers are beginning to find that a good record keeping system is a necessity for the continuation of their operations.

Keeping records for tax purposes by agricultural producers has become a standard procedure over the years. This often consist of simply an accounting of all income and only the expenses that can be used as deductions. This often sheds no light at all on the financial condition of the farm operation or the profitability of the commodities being produced.

Agricultural production requires rather large amounts of money. It is not uncommon for a producer to invest as much as \$150 to \$200 per acre for row crops and over \$3,000 per acre for tobacco just to bring that crop to the point it can be taken to the market and sold. This represents only the actual production and harvest cost and does not take into consideration the many other costs associated with operating a farm.

When this is considered, it is easy to see that few producers would have enough

cash available without securing operating loans.

Many Robeson County producers have recently completed the unpleasant task of securing operating loans for the coming year. Many others are still trying to complete this task while even others have yet to begin.

In the past a producer relied on his equity in land and machinery as collateral for a loan. Since land prices have fallen rather drastically in recent years, in many cases there is little or no equity there. What is becoming obvious to many borrowers now is that in order to secure a loan, one must be able to show that his farm operation has the ability to repay that loan.

To show the ability to repay is not possible without good farm records. This could include not only cash flow statements but also balance sheets, financial statements, and even budget analysis for every commodity being produced.

Nobody likes to do paper work and many of us put it off as long as possible. I would like to remind you that the time for preparing paperwork for next year's loans is right now—as you begin this year's production.

I would not even attempt to address in this column the question of how to prepare adequate farm records, since space does not allow for such a detailed subject. I would

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**FAMILY INDEPENDENT PHARMACY**  
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**Howard Says:**  
**PEMBROKE DRUG CENTER**

Howard Brooks, r.ph.

**New study extols pharmacists**  
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**STUDIES FROM THE BOOK OF JOHN**  
14:7) If you had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and henceforth, ye know him and have seen him.

Dr. Sherwood Hinson, Jr.

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