

# EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

AS I SEE IT  
Bruce Barton

## RANDOM THOUGHTS ON RACE AND REASON AND PEOPLE IN GENERAL

I must have had a same point last week. I did not, as usual, receive any nasty letters no abusive phone calls, no arched incredulous brows. Just a how do you do and I agree with you and we don't talk about things like that out loud, etc. We have been taught to think and act funny, all of us - Indian, Black and white.

## THAT EVIL DISEASE OF THE MIND AND SOUL - DOUBLE VOTING

Now that the courts have outlawed double voting, I wonder if anyone of us really realize how sick double voting made all of us. Double voting created a white controlled board of education which has not ever been responsive to the Indian people living in the county school unit. This white board of education (and it will remain in power until Dec. 1976) has always hired white administrators to formulate policy for a school unit which is 80% non-white. Who are these people who have been "educating" Indian and Black children for the last seventy years?

## HERE IS WHAT THEY THINK OF YOU AND ME AND OUR CHILDREN AND WIVES AND HUSBANDS ETC

In their application for a federal grant to establish the Education Resource Center (the planetarium etc.) you can find the following illuminating passages: "Culturally, they have a second-rate version of white culture, with no vestige of an Indian culture as it is thought of among the Plains Indians or the Indians of the Southwest. Never in the reservation category, they endeavor to follow the patterns of the white culture although they had little, if any contact with the Whites for so long. They are handicapped with speech problems, poor back ground, little interest in education, some quiet resentment against the powers that be, yet they desire to reach the level of the people they resent... Today many of the Indian teachers are those who graduated from Pembroke State College in a period when its education was no more than adequate... There is still a large segment untouched by modernity, a segment totally unfit to face the challenges of the modern world. Many recognize their lack and have a resentful attitude toward the whole situation. Others are apathetic with little hope of improvement and with a defeatist attitude on life."

And here is what they think of themselves and mint julep and magnolia blossoms, etc.

So much for what these "educators" think of Indians, here is their opinion of themselves: "The whites have an upper stratum (that's a fancy word for high society) of old families with farm property and with some degree of wealth, and living for the most part in town, of which only one lies within the bounds of the Robeson County School System..."

And the clincher is that... well, I'll be damned if they didn't get the grant. You see the planetarium everyday on your way to Lumberton.

It seems that the thinking of the administrators of the county unit is rooted in the pre-Civil War South with all its attendant prejudices. They speak with a fork tongue, with a "Hey you, boy!" articulated by an 1860 Democratic Party mentality. Is it any wonder that little James Locklear's reading is not up to the North Carolina average?

Is it any wonder that any of us are up and about and well? Well, we are. We are a marvelous people, strengthened by adversity, steeled by the evils of our past. We are

## strong and resilient and, metaphorically speaking, like the Mighty Oak.

Friday afternoon, the new courthouse in Lumberton will be the setting for the swearing in of two new Indian attorneys, Sandy Dexter Brooks and Earl Strickland. For eons and ages, Indians (nor Blacks) could attend law school. As soon as the barriers were lowered, and soon as the racists were pushed from the door, Indian lawyers became part of the landscape. We now have at least 10 Indian lawyers from Robeson County that I know of. They are becoming so common place that I probably over looked one or two.

Pembroke State University is the Lumberton Indian's gift to the world at large. The school was created for and by Indians initially. Indians have given more to the Robeson County society than they have received. PSU is a thriving school, a school that is a vibrant part of Southeastern North Carolina and beyond. PSU is a show piece of Robeson County. Dr. English E. Jones, the Indian chancellor, is a man of vision who can talk from a book as good as any man I know.

What was their gift to us? DOUBLE VOTING! And the vestiges of double voting remain. What other rhyme or reason could explain the fact that Shirley Britt and Rev. Bob Mangum (2 whites) finished third and fourth in the recent voting. I can understand Bob Mangum's election but Shirley Britt's leaves me in the double vote quandary. Mrs. Britt has consistently voted against just about every Indian candidate before the Robeson County Board of Education. How do you explain her election? Did the school teachers put her in? Did some of our Indian and Black heroes engineer her election? Were we psychologically taken in by the name Britt? Did the Indian, magnanimous and forgiving, assuage his or her collective guilt? God only knows. But it should be pointed out that the top five vote getters in the November election will receive four year terms. The next four high vote getters will receive two year terms.

As it now stands, whites will have two of the five four year terms up for grabs. Is that what we broke double voting for? Is that what the struggle is all about? No, my friend, that is the vestige of double voting. That is the result of a mind set created by and nurtured by double voting. We are products of what they have taught us. We are creatures of double voting still to a great extent.

Other Indians are talking about voting just for the nine people on the Democratic side. That includes Shirley Britt. Some of the Indian candidates are looking for a way to protect their own political hides. They don't want to take a chance on getting bumped themselves. But Carnell Locklear, an Indian, is also running for election to the Robeson County Board of Education. He is listed as a Republican.

CARNELL LOCKLEAR IS AN INDIAN IS AN INDIAN  
Carnell Locklear is an Indian. I am sure of that. Carnell who played the popular "Boss Stron" in the successful outdoor drama Strike at the Wind is an Indian to his bootstraps.

His activism is one of the reasons double voting is now broken. He is a good man who spends a great deal of time just helping people, with food stamping, medical attention, getting jobs, just helping people.

We need a bare-knuckled Indian on the board of education. Not a politician but a pure-bred Indian who will look out for the best interest of children period.

Put it before them briefly so they will read it, clearly so they will appreciate it, picturesquely so they will remember it, and, above all, accurately so they will be guided by its lights.

-Joseph Pulitzer

## REMINISCING by Lew Barton

### EDUCATORS WHO CAN'T DO SIMPLY ARITHMETIC? NOT HARDLY!

Some people in Robeson County, including principal's organization and those determining the editorial policies of a century-old newspaper, seem to be having serious difficulties with even simple, elementary arithmetic this election year, especially where the enumeration of Indians is concerned. Both recently made a strong political plea for 3 Whites, 3 Blacks and 3 Indians on the 9-member make-up of the so-called Robeson County Board of Education, disregarding the fact that this school district is comprised of 65% Indians with the other two ethnic groups making up the rest.

Now I was taught in my youth, in this same misnamed school district, that 65% of a whole equals two-thirds, instead of one. How, then, do these learned educators and dispensers of the truth, the Gospel truth and nothing else but the truth, figure that it takes 65 Indians to equal 33 and 33 Whites or 33 and a third Blacks?

I'll tell you how they figure it. They don't. They figure, instead, that even one-third civic representation for Indians is a lot more than they deserve. And if they had their way, we Indians wouldn't even get that.

Yes, I can tell you how they figure it, along with their Indian cohorts. The same way they figured it decades that they were entitled to two votes on school matters in this county while the Indians were entitled to only one.

And I can tell you some thing else they figured. They figured that they could palm off on us this masterpiece of deception, and that we Indian parents and grandparents were just dumb to know the difference. Or that we were just too meek and sheep-like to

I am deeply ashamed of them, and thank God most fervently that there are as few of them as there are. If all of our educated people were of this stripe, Indians in Robeson County would become extinct within a matter of a very few short years. There must be a special place reserved for such people in the Miserable Land Below, and their attitudes and activities must often be a stench in the nostrils of the Almighty, even as they walk the earth.

Your commitment to the well being of the Staff and to keeping it intact is greatly appreciated. They have been simply greater the past four years and deserve to be treated with the same respect and dignity that you have treated the trust that has been

QUESTION: What is heat stroke and how can it be avoided?  
ANSWER: Heat stroke, or sunstroke, occurs when the body can no longer rid itself of excess heat. It is caused as a result of excessive sweating and a consequent loss of body fluids and potassium with a resulting salt and chloride imbalance in the blood.

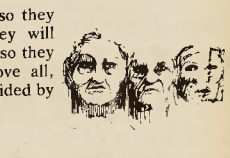
To avoid heatstroke work gradually into heavy exercise such as football practice and steer clear of continuous potassium-depleting perspiration. Eat fresh fruits for potassium, take salt tablets only with a doctor's okay, drink 6-8 glasses of liquids daily, and refuse "quick energy" sugary snacks which may lower blood sugar.

I know many who will berate me for speaking forcefully in Carnell Locklear's behalf. He might even lose a few votes in the process, but it is one of those times to speak up and be counted.

I know the power boys, the Ben Floyd Raiders, are going to be talking up a straight Democratic ticket. I want to cut them off at the political pass if I can.

You can vote for who you want to on the board of education. You can vote for eight Democrats and Carnell Locklear, if you want to. The world will not come to an end. We will not fall into the sea. My personal choice is to vote for eight Democrats and Carnell Locklear. I honestly believe that we need a Carnell Locklear on the Robeson County Board of Education.

Until Indians can vote freely and clearly, we are still victims of double voting.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Barton:

Out of our concern for the welfare of all Senior Citizens of Robeson County, we are interested in coordinating and expanding services to Senior Citizens by bringing together representatives from public as well as voluntary sectors of our county.

We need to create community awareness and support for the elderly.

We are providing an opportunity to do this by organizing a County Council on Aging. As a prelude to organizing this council, we are bringing together people from all over the County to discover some of the things other counties are doing and to stimulate our thinking concerning some of the things we might be able to do for the elderly.

On Thursday, September 9

James R. Suggs Resigns as Chairman of State Democratic Ex. Comm.

The Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr. Lt. Gov. of NC Raleigh, NC

Dear Jim:

I appreciate your seeing me yesterday. This will confirm our conversation at which time I requested to be relieved of the Chairmanship of the State Democratic Executive Committee. It is difficult to spend four years in such a position, devoting all time and energy that this job requires without having a strong feeling in departing; however, as of August 24 I have served two full terms as chairman and feel that the time is now to make way for new direction.

Jim, it was a great victory for you in the primary I hope the new chairman will continue with the effort for Unity among all factions of our party. Time is of the essence. The election is upon us and we should move to make the transition without the slightest sign of hesitation or division. The staff and headquarters await a new chairman. The records are in excellent condition. Hopefully, the State Democratic Executive Committee will move to schedule a meeting no later than September 18 for the purpose of accepting his resignation and for whatever other action it deems desirable.

Your commitment to the well being of the Staff and to keeping it intact is greatly appreciated. They have been simply greater the past four years and deserve to be treated with the same respect and dignity that you have treated the trust that has been

Warmest personal regards,  
James R. Sugg

## Educational Views By Dr. Dalton Brooks

What is true with success is that students should be willing to make a few mistakes to suffer a little pain in order to get what they want out of education. Don't sell yourself short, or allow other people to. The actual truth of the matter is that students don't know how brave they really are. In fact, many students live out their lives in self doubt. It is true that they have resources; however, one never knows until he acts.

Many of the students that I knew in high school had success in education. They will tell you that you have to act. Dr. Gerald Maynor, back in 1960, would travel from Pembroke to Appalachian State Teachers College on a Saturday to get four hours credit on a Master's Degree. Appalachian State is 250 miles away, requiring an early morning start to get up there to attend an 8:00 a.m. class. Dr.

To obtain this tool of education you have to act. It does not come by chance, but rather by design and much action.



## ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE

Romans 2:1 "Therefore, thou art inexcusable, o man." God said we are without excuse when we sin and claim we don't know if it is right or wrong. You know and I know if it is right or not, whether we are Christians or sinners. When you do something good, you tell everyone and when you do something bad, you try to hide it.

God created man in his own image. And he gave man a mind. In doing so, he would have understanding and discernment so that in his life now he can acknowledge his sins and be forgiven through the blood of Jesus. If man did not know, how would he know what to confess? Paul said in Romans 1:19 "Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them." Then why is sin so strong today in people's lives? Because God has given them up to vice affections of their own desire or lust of their heart.

I was at a store the other night. I have been there several times, making a purchase and leaving. But this time as I was standing at the counter, I saw some young people gather at the book stand in this store. As I looked at such filthy, rotten trash, I was shocked at the books on display. I even asked the other person with me had I seen what I thought I had seen. Before I would go into a place like that again, or let one of my children, I would perish. You people who sell such filth to these young people, you are going to stand before God Almighty. Before I would sell such trash as that for a living, I would dig ditches. I heard the old saying, if I don't tell you some place else and someone else would sell to them. Well, let someone else be the one to answer to God. If we get enough of these someone else, we'll soon have this trash off the book shelves. You older people, it is never the young who sell this mess, beer liquor, it is always the older people. Then when you see these young people drunk, or locked up in a crime, you turn your head. You should take a good look and see what you are doing.

I use to wonder when a young person got killed in a wreck and it was reported he was under the influence of alcohol, if it ever bothered the people who sold it. But it doesn't. Because it is greed, the love for money. You say, one day I'll change. Have you ever thought that you could be reprobated? Because of your unbelief. In Romans 1:24 "Wherefore God gave them up." I believe we have people today who God have given up because the word here says so. The word tells me one day we will all come before God and all the things we did here on earth wrong will have to be accounted for. It will be bad enough when you leave here for your own sins, but having done something to cause someone else to go before God unprepared. You better check now, are you sure if you have enticed or sold things to cause someone to go to hell. The Bible says that children are his heritage and to offend one of his little ones it is better if a mill stone were tied to your neck and you were dropped in the sea. (Luke 17:2)

These young people don't enjoy sin. They are caught in Satan's ring. They were born in sin, but they are looking for a way out, and they won't find it as long as you add fuel to the fire. We, who are Christians, can help by living a Christian life, not by joining them. Some of you ministers would do well to preach some of this in your church. Some of you can't fear of losing what few you have and fear the people will quit nothing. Well, they should. If my children were out there in sin and lost on their way to hell and you showed no more interest than I have seen, I wouldn't pay you either. Nor would I listen to your sermon.

We have many today who are as Amos said in 6:1. "Who to them who are east of Zion." There are many who are east of Zion. Everything is alright, see nother, hear nothing, say nothing. You sit in your sofa recliner which is self adjusted, you get relaxed, two cars in the garage, the church paying all the bills and people dying and going to hell. And you can't see for the air conditioner is wide open and the whole house is clouded. If in your church, the young people are not your concern, then you have not cared a war on sin. Then ye rejoice in nothing, A thing of nothing. Sing all the songs you want, preach all you want, except the Lord build the house, it is in vain. Psalms 127:1.

Yours in Christ  
Evanglist Ted Brooks

## an exception to the rule

-AN EDITORIAL OPINION-

There will be three interesting runs off September 14 in Robeson County.

Two of the races concern the voters of the Rowland and Fairmont Commissioner Districts only.

In the Rowland Commissioner District, Thomas McCallum, a Black, is challenging top vote getter, J.W. Hunt, an Indian.

The incumbent, George Reed Pate, was toppled in the August 17 primary. The Carolina Indian Voice would be remiss if we did not say, editorially, GOOD RIDDANCE! Mr. Pate, for his own reasons, according to our observations, did not reflect the thinking of the minorities in the Rowland Commissioner District.

The Rowland Commissioner District will elect a commissioner of their choice, one that they feel will reflect their thinking. That is as it should be.

The incumbent, although losing in the primary, garnered enough votes in the Fairmont Commissioner District to challenge the front runner, Thomas Jones. That race will pit Jones against the incumbent, Carl Britt.

## Minorities Can Make A Forceful Statement In The Race For Register of Deeds

J. Earl Musselwhite has called for a run off against long time Robeson County Register of Deeds, D.G. Kinlaw. Minorities hold the key to victory and can choose the man of their choice, if they want to.

J. Earl Musselwhite finished second to Kinlaw in the recent primary. An Indian, James B. Locklear, finished out of the money although he secured a sizable number of votes. Now it is between two Whites, D.G. Kinlaw and J. Earl Musselwhite.

Musselwhite, a veterans affairs officer, served as mayor of Lumberton for eight years. He was a mayor for all the people, not just for one segment of the citizenry.

Musselwhite is popularly referred to as "the housing mayor." He brought, with help from many quarters, low rent housing to Lumberton. Low income Indians and Blacks, mostly in Precinct 6 (predominately Black) and Precinct 7 (predominately Indian) benefitted tremendously from his years in office. They became part of city government. Precinct 6 & 7 became integral parts of Lumberton proper under Musselwhite's administration.

Musselwhite appointed Indians and Blacks to Lumberton city boards, organizations, and commissions. Indian and Black policemen were added. He made Lumberton a city for all the people.

I sincerely believe that J. Earl Musselwhite is an exception to the general rule. He is a White who has attempted to make Indians and Blacks a part of democratic government in Lumberton. I believe he would do the same county-wide. One indication of his commitment to government for all the people is the fact that he was front runner in precincts 6&7 in the recent primary and lost to Kinlaw in his own Lumberton precinct. That is interesting and worth noting.

It seems that Indians and Blacks can make a statement in this particular race. If they support Musselwhite, the statement will be that a White who treats Indians and Blacks decently can be elected to public office. If he loses, the exceptions to the general rule will be wary of involving minorities in county democracy. Musselwhite's loss would say, quite clearly, that it does not pay to be fair and honorable to minorities.

Let us state, unequivocally, in the run off September 14, that it is good politics to treat minorities with respect and consideration.

Whites will watch the race for register of deeds closely. They will find out whether or not the votes of Indians and Blacks are necessary to achieve victory in this or any election.