



THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Dedicated to the best in all of us

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ROBESON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETS IN FIRST LEGAL SESSION

by Connee Brayboy

For the first time in its history, the Robeson County Board of Education met as a legal body on Tuesday evening, December 14, at the Board of Education Building in Lumberton.

RALPH HUNT NAMED CHAIRMAN

The first action taken by the "new" board was that of organization. Laymon P. Locklear, board member from the Union Chapel area, nominated Ralph Hunt, from Fairmont. In his nomination speech, Locklear expressed his desire for the children always to be "the number one priority of the Robeson County Board of Education." The nomination was seconded by David Green, board member from Parkton. After the second, Harbert Moore, member from the Prospect area, moved that all nominations come to a close. As there were no further nominations, Moore moved that Hunt become chairman by acclamation.

THE WAY IT USED TO BE

After the choosing of a chairman, Moore requested to say a "few words." He recalled briefly how things were before the breaking of double-voting. He expressed his appreciation to God for being allowed to be a part of the move to break double-voting. And he read from a Methodist magazine:

"There will be no peace with justice unless liberation is gained by those who've been manipulated and victimized by interests that have been willing to profit from the continued deprivation of the weak and powerless. But, the oppressor needs to be liberated as truly as the oppressed. Liberation affects the whole person. It is salvation; it is humanization. It is social, economic, political and spiritual. It calls for the structural implementation of those values announced by our Lord when he said he had come that the 'broken victims' of life might 'go free.'"

Moore read also from the notes of a "friend of mine." Never disclosing who the friend was, Moore read:

"I want to be a builder of men so the world will one day be a place where social justice prevades and God's righteousness is installed.

"I want to be a friend to all men of all race and creed. To show them a better way by example and deed. To tell them of history (ours) so that they will one day be builders of character and personality.

"I want to work as long as I can to help all people find equality. To stand and be counted while others flee. To accept responsibility and perform my duty free.

"I want to live and work and love so the world will one day be one people, united, free to be what they want to be."

For those of us who knew and loved the late Peter Brooks, it wasn't necessary for Moore to reveal the name of the author. So on a note of nostalgia, the board meeting began in earnest.

HIRING OF NEW ATTORNEY ADDED TO AGENDA

Added to the agenda was an item that came as no surprise to anyone in attendance. Moore asked that the employment of the board attorney be added to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Robert Mangum, board member from Pembroke. This was added as the last item on the agenda.

ANNUAL AUDIT

The board heard the annual audit report from Joe Lineberry of S. Preston Douglas and Associates of Lumberton who serve as auditors for the board.

OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION CENTER REVIEWED

Bob Mangum gave a report on the occupational education center that is being planned. The board authorized Mangum, Shirley Britt, member from the Orrum area, and Sim Oxendine, member from Pembroke, to continue as a committee appointed to study the feasibility of an occupational education center. David Green was appointed to replace Aileen Holmes on the committee.

ETC, ETC, ETC

Sim Oxendine, Tommy D. Swett, and Lillian Faye Locklear, all of the Pembroke area, were appointed as a committee to accept a bid on the rental of the site for the new Pembroke Elementary School. Until time for the construction of a new elementary school, the board decided to rent the site for agricultural purposes and place the money in a fund to be used for shrubbery, etc.

The attorney for the board, I. Murchison Biggs, reported to the board on the matters under litigation. During his report he told the board that he had served as attorney for twenty years. He stated that if the board did not wish to

retain him as their attorney, he would have no hard feelings. He stressed that he had charged the board a lower price than another attorney might have. He offered to do whatever he could for the new board whether he remained as their attorney or not.

In other matters, Albert Hunt gave a report on the Indian Education meetings. He reported that the certificates from the student survey were coming in steadily. There was some discussion of the need for a policy relative to the police questioning students. This will be dealt with further at a later meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON INDIAN ATTORNEY IN CONCLUSION

That brought the board to the last item on their agenda. Harbert Moore began by returning the board to the days when there were no Indian attorneys in the county. He stated that he felt that since he had Indian attorneys presently, he would like to see an Indian act as attorney for the board. Said he, "...nothing we have against Mr. Biggs...through the years I've learned to admire him." And Moore continued by saying, "I think I'd like to put that in the form of a motion..." At which time Bob Mangum said that since it was a personnel matter he thought they should go into executive session. After some discussion the "new" board decided to go into executive session. And go into executive session they did. After more than an hour in executive session, they opened the meeting once again to the public. As soon as they came out of executive session, someone moved that the meeting be adjourned. And they adjourned with no one requesting that the matter of the attorney be placed on the agenda for the January meeting. They adjourned, with no comment, no nothing concerning the matter of possibly hiring a minority attorney for the now Indian-dominated Robeson County Board of Education.

Of her 19 children, 12 were born at home, six at the hospital and one in a doctor's office. Mrs. Hunt said she delivered her own children many times when the doctor "couldn't get here in time," adding, "I learned how from my mother."

The most children she had living at home at one time were 18. To feed them

breakfast, Mrs. Hunt said, "I fixed 2 1/2 dozen or three dozen of eggs. We raised hogs (12 head) and always had meat. When I fixed chicken, I fried four chickens at a time. As for fish, I bought 10 pounds of fish at a time."

How about helping in the kitchen? "I always did my own cooking. I didn't want anyone else in my own kitchen and still don't. Even now, I can cook enough in two days to feed everyone at our church (Ashpole Methodist Church)," she claimed. "I also like to do all of my housework."

At Christmas time, she says the man for whom they farmed at the time "would give us \$200 and a box of fruit. We always had gifts for the children, like a baby doll, etc. And people in our community and church were good to us."

Mrs. Hunt, who has worked in a plant, says she now receives food stamps and medical stamps, but it was not always the case when her husband was living and working on the farm. "I've seen the time when I had only one dime to my name," she says.

Dental bills? "The school had the children's teeth fixed when they started to school." Doctor bills? "We didn't have much sickness. If we did, we paid the doctor in the fall of the year. Many were the times our children had to pick cotton on Saturdays to get medicine."

Mrs. Hunt is a robust person. She says, except for the few times she was in the hospital having children, she has been to the hospital only once in her

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Mother of 19 says she would do it again

by Gene Warren

Pembroke—"And God blessed them and said unto them, 'Be fruitful and multiply...'"—Genesis 1:28.

Mrs. Lora Mae Hunt, 59, a Lumbee Indian mother of 19 children—15 girls and four boys—has obeyed these instructions to the letter. A widow (her husband was the victim of a hit-and-run accident in 1968), Mrs. Hunt not only had 19 children, ranging in ages from 14 to 41, but 36 grandchildren.

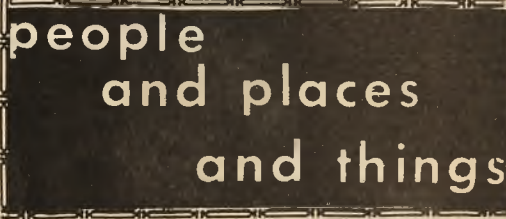
Most of her children are grown and gone—but she still has four daughters and a son living at their home located approximately 2 1/2 miles from Rowland. Her four-bedroom home is located next to Ashpole School.

"I married my husband to be a wife—and I just had them," she remarked in answering questions about why she had so many children. "I didn't try to stop. The Lord let me have them and kept me in good health. If I were young, I would go through the same thing again."

Of her 19 children, 12 were born at home, six at the hospital and one in a doctor's office. Mrs. Hunt said she delivered her own children many times when the doctor "couldn't get here in time," adding, "I learned how from my mother."

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IEA AUDIT CONFIRMED

HEW is indeed conducting an audit of the Indian Education Act program in the Robeson County Administrative School Unit, according to Joseph Safadi, who is in charge of the audit. Safadi is an auditor from HEW (Health, Education and Welfare), Region 4 in Atlanta, Georgia. Safadi said that the audit should be considered "normal" and that no report was available at this time.

It is true that some parents from the Magnolia School area requested the audit but they are not, as some inferred from last week's article, the majority of the parents in the Magnolia School area.

We did not intentionally infer that a majority of parents requested the audit. Our only intention was to say that some parents (certainly not all of them or even necessarily a majority) requested the audit.

The audit is not confined to any particular school and is an audit of the whole 25 school Robeson County Administrative School Unit.

No reflection was inferred or intended toward parents of the Magnolia School area. We apologize for any misrepresentations cast—none were intended.

9 More Shopping Days 'til X-mas

BICENTENNIAL COIN AS A CHRISTMAS GIFT

As a bicentennial project, Pembroke's Bicentennial Committee had minted a Bicentennial coin commemorating the history of Pembroke and the Lumbee Indians.

The limited edition of coins has been minted in both a silver and bronze edition. The silver coin (almost sold out) is \$20; the bronze coin sells for \$2. They may be purchased from Lumbee Bank, First Union National Bank (both in Pembroke) or from Southern National Bank in Lumberton.

Only 200 silver coins and 2500 bronze coins were minted. The edition is limited and no more coins will be minted after these are sold.

MAGNOLIA WHIPS PROSPECT

With Tonya Kerns leading the way in both games, the Magnolia Trojans whipped the Prospect Cats Friday night in a conference tiff then edged learning for the Indians of Robeson County. Both Lowry and Old Main are revered by the Indians of Robeson County.

A nice Christmas gift? You bet. And only a few are left. Mayor Reggle Strickland encourages all those interested in the history of the Lumbee Indians to purchase one today for a keep sake and something to pass from father to son.

PEMBROKE JR. HIGH ATTENDS CONVENTION

On Saturday, Dec. 4, 1976, the Pembroke Junior High Beta Club traveled to Harrells, NC to attend the Southeastern District Beta Club Convention held at Harrells Christian Academy. The morning session consisted of old and new business, campaign rally and election of new officers for the Southeastern District. New officers for the incoming year are as follows: President, Denise McLenore, Lakewood High School; Vice-president, Tim Lewis, Orrum High School; Secretary, Janet Powell, Harrells Christian Academy; Treasurer, Michael Wayne-Strickland, Cape Fear High School.

The guest speaker in the afternoon was Dr. Roland Morgan, NC State Director of the Beta Club, who stressed the importance of being a Beta member. Mrs. Roland Heath was elected state sponsor elect. Cindy Locklear, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jydor Locklear of Pembroke, and Kelly Oxendine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Oxendine represented the Pembroke Junior High Club in the talent contest. Cindy Locklear won honorable mention in the talent division. Cindy's talent was a toe dance ballet and Kelly rendered a vocal solo of the popular song "If."

KIWANIS CLUB CHRISTMAS SCENES OF THE HOLY LAND

Program Chairman Theodore Maynor introduced the Rev. Welton Lowry, guest speaker at the Tuesday evening meeting of Pembroke Kiwanis.

Rev. Lowry recently returned from a visit to the Holy Land. His trip took him from Charlotte, NC to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem where he spent 8 days, returning home via Greece to New York and then to Charlotte.

His talk was illustrated with slides he had taken of the places he visited—the Mount of Olives, Gethsemane, the tomb of King David, the Walling Wall, King Solomon's Temple, Saint Stephen's gate, and many other interesting sites and buildings of Biblical interest.

Following the meeting, Theodore Maynor described the work of the citizens of Pembroke in restoring the Boy Scout cabin. Funds are still needed to purchase a gas heater, to pay the electric bill and other expenses in connection with the maintenance of the building. Pembroke Kiwanis donated \$95 to assist with this project.

President-elect James Sampson presided at the meeting.

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In the game Friday night, Kerns scored 28 points then came back Tuesday night and added another 20 points as the Trojans edged Pembroke.

Thomas Canady added 12 points to the Trojans totals Tuesday night against the Pembroke Warriors to help his team to a 6-1 mark in season play.



FAMILY PORTRAITS: Mrs. Lora Mae Hunt has a gallery of them at her home near Rowland.

Attention!

In order to meet our printing schedule, it is necessary for The Carolina Indian Voice to adhere to a deadline of Wednesday noon for advertising and Wednesday 10 a.m. for most news items. (Weddings should be in hand not later than Tuesday 5 p.m. - and preferably earlier - for publication the same week.

There will be some exceptions to our general news deadlines, such as deaths and other late-happening events of major importance, which we will continue to accept on Wednesdays.

We welcome all kinds of news items, but urge contributors to get their news to us as early as possible, as we sometimes run out of time and space when a lot of news reaches us at the last minute. In such cases, items submitted earliest and which require only minor editing will receive preference; and late arrivals as well as hard-to-decipher copy will be held over until the following week.

Thank you, again, for sharing your news and ideas with us.



Kelvin Sampson-A special Young Man See feature story on page 8



The sides of the Pembroke Bicentennial Coin: silver coin on left and bronze on the right.



Letters to Santa

The Carolina Indian Voice will publish in its Dec. 23 edition letters to Santa Claus from area children.

To have a letter with their children's requests to St. Nick printed in The Carolina Indian Voice, parents should address the letters to: Santa, c/o The Carolina Indian Voice, P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke. Pictures of the children which accompany the letters, will be printed.

Pictures may be picked up after they have been printed. We will not be responsible for pictures after Jan. 1, 1977.

Letters must be in our office not later than Dec. 22.