EDITORIAL offering to the Spirit of the World, It's sound arouses the mind and makes men feel the PAGE

mystery and power of things.



AS I SEE IT Bruce Barton



AN INDIAN SUPERINTENDENT: A LIFELONG DREAM REALIZEDI

I'm dazed! In a state of shock almost. I am not really sure that it has registered on my emotional system yet. The Robeson County Administrative. Unit now has an Indian superintendent. My evrbosity (my natural state) has been muted by the surprising developments of the last couple of days. I am happy, surfeited as if I had just climbed Mount Everest after countless failures. I am not gloadful even, I am just satisfied to know that the good guys have finally won a war instead of a needless battle.

Now comes the hard part. The Robeson County Administrative School Unit has been in turmoil for a number of years Y H. Allen, the long time nemesis of progressive education in Robeson County, was operating the schools with a mandate of 5-4 and his support had slipped even further with the advent of the new board elected without the debilitating effects of double voting. Allen resigned to go to Lenoir County for more money and less responsibility. I with him well. And I am delighted that we are finally nd of him.

Now Purnell Swett is superintendent with the unanimous support of the board of education. Even the chairman (Ralph Hunt) asked to be recorded voting in favor of Mr. Swett. The board is anxious to work with him for the beterment of the children. The children, as I see it, have never been the top priority of the Robeson County Board of Education. I think the new superintendent and the Robeson County Board of Education can now do what is best for the children. Hooray!

PURNELL SWETT. THE MAN AND HIS CREDENTIALS

Purnell Swett, above all else, as I see it, is a decent, God fearing man. His life's work has been devoted to the cause of education. And he seems iminently qualified. He has had experience at every level of education; as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, associate superintendent, and now superintendent.

I wish Purnell Swett well as superintendent. He is going to need all the luck and prayers and support he can get.

TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN

It seems like a new day in Robeson County and it's about time. The only complaints I have heard about the new superintendent concerns the method of his selection. Some folks in the community contend that there are many Indians qualified to be superintendent. They are right, of course. That's what is so wonderful about the Lumbee Indian experience. The dissidents content that the board should have waited and considered applications from the likes of Dr. Dalton Brooks, Dr. V.R. Thompson, Dr. Waltz Maynor, Dr. Dean Chavers, Helen Schierbeck (who is completing requirements for her doctorate), Assistant Superintendent Albert Hunt, Dr. English E. Jones, Dr. James B. Chavis, and others residing in the county and in other parts of America.

The irony is that few of us ever thought we would see the day when an Indian would be seriously considered for the position of superntendent of the Robeson County Administrative School Unit. Yes, times they are a changin'. When the time came, the Indians mentioned above and others were ready. They were qualified to serve. Any of them would, as I see it, make a good superintendent. The board saw fit to name Purnell Swert. They had been thinking about it for years, just in case the opportunity ever presented itself. They did not, as I see it, act with undue haste. They had been considering possible candidates for a long time. And they made their decision based on their knowledge of the climate of the times, and their familianity with all those qualified to serve as superintendent. They had a choice.

Hopefully, all those possible candidates listed above will share heir wisdom and knowledge with Purnell Swett. Hopefully we vill unite around the man and his work-the education of our

The lesson is this: an Indian youth can accomplish whatever he wants to accomplish if he (or she) is ready when opportunity presents itself. Yes, our Indian youth can be whatever they want to be-even county school superintendent-if they are willing to work hard toward the attainment of their goals. If has not always been like that in Robeson County. Yes, I can proud to say that times they are a changin! even in Robeson County.

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PEMBROKE.

The Wilmington 10 Hearing: An Emotional Experience For Robeson Residents

ond Connee Broyboy

On Monday, May 16th, Marti
Locklear, Carletter Locklear,
Connee Brayboy and Mac
Legerton traveled to Burgaw, NC
to witness the Post-Conviction
Hearing on the Wilmington Ten
Civil Rights Case. We found the
Pender County Courthouse in its
usual place, in the middle of
town. The residents of Burgaw
didn't seem very interested in the
important hearing, now in its
second week, going on in the
courthouse. TV news reported
that many of the people in
Burgaw felt like it was none of
their business. They seemed to
feel that the case had nothing to
do with them. Those of us from
Robeson County knew better.
What is happening in Burgaw,
NC today is affecting the whole
world.

world.

Last week the Defense presented its case for a new trial for the Wilmington Ten. On Monday morning, May 16th, the State opened its case against the Ten, nine Blacks and one white defendants, 1ay Stroud, the State Prosecutor in the 1972 trail, took the stand. Stroud told about the original trial in June of 1972. He testified that he became ill and was hospitalized which resulted in the state receiving a stay for a new trial. He related details of the second trail at which the Wilmington Ten were all convicted of two charges: insiting a riot and firing on emergency personnel. Both charges centered around the burning of Mike's Grocery Store in Wilmington.

Stroud continued with his testimony by telling about his relationship with all three of the State's witnesses against the Wilmington Ten, particularly with Allen Hall, the State's primary witness. Hall, a Black man was the only person who said he saw Rev. Ben Chavis and the nine others fire bombing the grocery store and shooting at firemen. Stroud told his story with no show of emotion, his face completely void of expression. He did not give any indication of Hall's character and the tribulations and tragedies of his (Hall's) life have been deeply intensified by the case.

A Charlotto Observer article A Chorlotto Observer article on May 8th revealed that Allen Hall is "a man with a reported L.Q. of 80-- a borderline mental classes of the control of the co

involved

During the Hearing on Monday, the State presented two surprising tapes that Stroud had secretly recorded during two phone calls from Allen Hall last week. Calls supposedly made during the week of Hall's testimony. Both tapes were played during the hearing. The first tape was played during the morning and revealed to us, if not to the judge, some of the tactics Stroud was using with Allen Hall, his principle witness. The tape also gave us ggitimpses of Hall, his principle witness. The tape also gave us ggitimpses of Hall, size confused personality. On the tape Stroud was doing most of the talking, although Hall called him. Stroud was pressing him and using leading questions to criticize the defense and to clear himself of allegations of tampering with witnesses. He

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much about how Jay Stroud, the State and others nearby wanted us to see things. Some of us wondered if we would have reacted differently had we not been believers in equality, tair teatment and racial justice. We decided that our feelings were nothing more than extensions of us-human beings-human beings with compassion for one another. psychologically, in our opinion, pressed Hall to admit that he was lying at the Hearing when he told the Court that he originally lied about the involvement of the Wilmington Ten in illegal activities in 1971. He was successful in getting Hall to say what he (Stroud) wanted him to say, but only after revealing to us some of the most devious tactics we had ever seen in operation. Stroud even lied to Hall, if we understood the recording, when Hall asked if the conversation was being taped.

On the ride home we recalled that cerie voice of Jay Stroud on the phone. We reflected over the way Stroud lold Hall that he (Stroud) was "caught between a rock and a hard place." We thought about his professed friendship with Hall and his loyalty to the state. We mulled whether Stroud's hard place was really his own fear of losing his reputation and the years he had spent trying to keep the Willimigton 10 behind bars. When Stroud made this statement to Hall there seemed a rumbling of angry, aching hearts in the courtroom saying: "Who is tho eneally between a rock and a hard place?" And at that moment, we heard Allen Hall's voice on the tape say, "You hove put me on the cross." was being taped.

The second tape was played late in the afternoon. It was even more shocking and horrifying to us than the first. Stroud did almost all the talking again. He put words into Hall's mouth and appealed to his insecurities He psychologically used the man that he was professing all during the tape to care so much about. We were stitting in the second row, directly behind the press While we listened to the very eerie, disturbingly soft voice of Jay Stroud on the tape, one member of the press scribbled "Nearly Hypnotic" next to Stroud's name. The following are excerpts from what we heard Jay Stroud say to Allen Hall during the recorded conversations:

"What you wanted to do was to

Notes On Trip

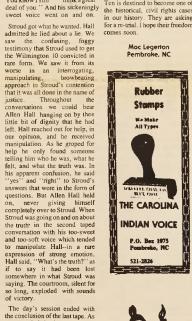
conversations:

"What you wanted to do was to tell the truth but what you knew you were saying at the Press Conference was not the truth./ You just don't want to do that, to stop it now, to say it's all a lie./ It know the position you are in./ I befieve I know you as well as anybody does./ Are you going to tell the same truth you told me was true or make up another story?/ You know they're going to be turned loose./ You know they're too dangerous to be released from prison./ Deep down inside you, whether you know it or not, you wanted me to be recording this conversation./ I have strong feelings about you./ You know it sill think a great deal of you." And his sickeningly sweet voice went on and on.

Stroud got what he wanted. Hall Dear Bruce:

It is impossible to give a complete picture of the experience four of us had this week at the Hearing about the wilmington Ten Civil Rights Case. We went to Burgaw on Monday to witness the beginning of the State's testimony against the Wilmington Ten. The article in this issue of the paper begins to tell the story, a story that will never leave me as long as I live. The struggle of the Wilmington Ten is destined to become one of the historical, civil rights case in our history. They are asking for a re-trial. I hope their freedom comes soon.

Moc Legerton Pembrake, NC





521-2826

your attitudes affect your vision?" one of us asked. We were happy to be returning to Robeson County. We thought Howard

nor Roman nor an Empire

of victory.

The day's session ended with the conclusion of the last tape. As we traveled back home from Burgaw, we from Robeson County, talked about what we had experienced. "How could one human being do that to another?" we wondered. We questioned who the real criminals were. We were puzzled over the dangerous persons involved. The ride home along the country side did not seem as pretty as it was when we went to Burgaw that morning. "Isn't if funny how your attitudes affect your

Like the Holy Roman Empire — which was neither Holy, nor Roman, nor an Empire — the so-called Health Care System in this country is neither Health nor Care nor a System. Today, 97% of the medical effort in the United States goes to Disease, not to Health. It deals with Cures, not with Care. And it is not a System, but a haphazard

conglomeration of red tape for patients, pharmacists, and decores, etc.

I's a frustrating mess, that's what it is! When will our leaders channel this nation's health expenditures into sensible disease prevention programs, greater health education and a reduction of computerized fumbling?

YOUR PHARMACIST Howard Brooks

DEMBROKE DRUG



Thursday, May 10 No More 'Cotton Pickin' In County Schools

Young H. Allen goes to Lenoir Coun

AN EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE apole the departing figure of Young H Allenic aging to Lenoir County is going to Lenoir County superintendent of that school system wish him well, and say, with a sign relief, "Praise God! There will be non corton pickin' in the Robeson Car Administrative School Unit."

Allen's mode of delivery condescension. He was able a administrator and a failure as a hum He cared more, as we see it, a buildings and facts and figures that did the human development of student

As the titular head of the county system Allen taught the students, gener speaking, to not think well of themselves Teach a child to think well of himself herself) and trigonometry will mastered in the end

To the bitter end, Allen and adherents sanctioned double voting all the evil tenets of the neto practice. Our grave yards are peop with the failure of the county system reach the youth to think well themselves. We visit the failures of school system weekly in our prix Illiteracy and economic and politiceracy and economic and politiceracy and economic and politiceracy and economic and politiceracy and the white conserva education he advocated.

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE WO Allen replaced as superintendent for same reason that we advocate a majority rule in South Africa and South Rhodesia. The people have the inf right to govern themselves.

Y.H. Alten leaves a school system unrest and confusion The people mis. one another. Suspicion is in the air A was a master psychologist He shrewd and calculating He popeople off against one another children suffered.

CAROLINA INDIAN considered it a moral affront to hos white administrator over a school w that is, at the present time, minority-60% Indian and 20% Block far back as Dr. Herbert G. Oxendine further Indians had educators emine qualified to serve as st superintendent. They never had opportunity. Many of them died broken hearts; many of them left county; many of them left psychologically destroyed by the county who supposedly raught us.

Yes, as the Robesonian said laudatory editorial Wednesday, Maj 1977, Allen presided over the affairs affairs) of the county system the turbulent times. Many of the turbu times were of his own making.

Allen had a knack for surviving of until the bitter end when he left county system for a better job in left. County. One day, when Robeson (c) joins the Twentieth Century, we will rewarding those who have done us

We wish Y.H. Allen well in his I endeavor and say, without a male glint in our eye, "good riddance!"

GOLF TOURNAMENT

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