

EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

...the voice of the drum is an offering to the Spirit of the World. It's sound arouses the mind and makes men feel the mystery and power of things.
-BLACK ELK

As I See It Bruce Barton



MUCH ADO ABOUT HOUSE BILL 1515

It was done quietly...too quietly. House Bill 1515 was passed last year in the North Carolina General Assembly. House Bill 1515 transfers the N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs from a quasi-independent status to the North Carolina Department of Administration. As I understand it, the purpose of the transfer was to "keep a closer eye on them Indians."

They needed legislation to change the status of the Indian Commission. The result is House Bill 1515. Mistakenly, many Indians blame Representative Horace Locklear (D), Robeson, for the bill. It ain't so. Representative Horace Locklear is not the author of the bill. As we understand it, Rep. David Diamond, from Surrey County, sponsored the bill and convinced more than thirty other legislators to co-sponsor the legislation with him. Interestingly enough, Rep. Horace Locklear is not on this list.

If Rep. Locklear is guilty of anything, it is negligence. Since he is the only Indian legislator in the general assembly, he is rightfully expected to monitor any and all legislation affecting Indian people. That just makes sense. He also should have sounded a Red Alert to the Indian Community as soon as he got wind of it.

But there was no evil intent, as I see it. Lots of mediocrity, lots of negligence, but no evil intent.

House Bill 1515 inadvertently repealed Chapter 71, the all encompassing legislation in the general assembly dealing with Indians. Right now, Indians are technically in a never never land.

House Bill 1515 is mostly shoddily written. As it now stands, an Indian from anywhere in America (as long as he is a Lumbee or Haliwa, etc.) can serve on the N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs. The bill needs to define the Indian tribes and groups and generally locate them geographically.

Well, they roasted Rep. Horace Locklear at the North Carolina Indian Unity (sic) Conference recently. They accused him of everything but stealing syllables out of the English Language.

But, as I said earlier, Rep. Locklear ain't an evil guy. He is guilty of mere negligence and of not alerting the Indian Community. It's really our fault--yours and mine. We ought to keep a closer check on what's going on in Raleigh and/or send someone to Raleigh who will.

Now, suddenly, it's political time. It would be interesting to debate the issue some say. Maybe so. Most lawyers affirm that the House Bill 1515 is so shoddily written that it will be straightened out as soon as enough legislators get together to undo what they have done. I agree.

State officials, including the governor, have assured the Indian Community that the matter is not damaging or effecting any present funding in the Indian Community. Even the Lumbee Indian's most virulent critics know that the bill is shoddy and poorly written. Some feeble attempts have been made to tamper with funding, but they were half hearted and attempted with a smile because the critics know that any and every court in the land will rewrite the intent of the bill if the legislature does not do so in the upcoming session.

Besides, the Federal recognition, even with that debilitating last clause, is still in effect. We're still Indians, in spite of House Bill 1515. If not, we have been discriminated against for the wrong reason.

So, don't despair. House Bill 1515, shoddy and ill bred, is expected to be straightened out soon. In the meantime, if you were an Indian yesterday...well you are an Indian today. You can depend on it. We are what we are, and the deletion and/or addition of legislation (including House Bill 1515) will not change that unalterable fact.

House Bill 1515 needs to be straightened out so that the bureaucrats can put us in the proper pigeon hole. We need to be counted and tabulated and computerized. That's all.

Chris's Restaurant
Beverages On Sunday, No Limit
NEXT TO FAMILY INN MOTEL
I-95
"We Thank You"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



DISTURBED BY REACTION AT LOCAL RESTAURANT

Dear Sir:
I am a nurse for senior citizens of Robeson County. I was working in the Pembroke

area recently. I had heard many comments on the food at Town and Country. When I entered the door I was met with a cold and unfriendly

Without Emotions

Am I to believe
That you
No longer feel
Emotions?
Are you
Able to live
Without...feelings
And other such things
That make us
Laugh and cry?
Is your heart
No longer
Your own?

David Malcolm
November 8, 1977

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Mrs. Macie Ruth Oxendine was honored Saturday night with a birthday dinner by her husband, Bradford, and her five children.

Approximately 75 friends and relatives joined them at Farmers Superette Restaurant (adjoining Randy's Food Market) in the Burnt Swamp Community to note the festive occasion.

Mrs. Macie Ruth Oxendine, shown preparing to cut her birthday cake, in honor of her 50th birthday. Her husband, Bradford, looks on.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Ambrose Locklear, Sr.

Mr. Ambrose Locklear, Sr. of Lumberton, celebrated his 94th birthday Sunday, April 2nd at the Saddletree Jaycee Building, sponsored by the children. Mr. Locklear was born April 1, 1884 near Lumberton, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Willis Locklear. He was honored with a big dinner. The invocation was given by his former pastor, the Rev. Tommy Swett.

He has 11 children; 4 boys and 7 girls, all of whom were present for the event, except one. Mr. Locklear is a deacon at Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

Among those in attendance were Mr. Welton Locklear of Pembroke, Mrs. Eugene Tylor of Fayetteville, Mrs. Lonnie B. Lowery of Lumberton, Mr. Judson Locklear of Lumberton, Mr. Billy Locklear of Lumberton, Mr. Jerold Locklear of Lumberton, Mr. Ambrose Locklear, Jr. of Lumberton, Mrs. Winford Jacobs of Pembroke, Mrs. Cleveland Locklear of Pembroke, Mrs. Roscoe Bullard of Pembroke, and Mrs. David W. Strickland of Rockingham. There were approximately 150 in attendance.

Mr. Locklear has 55 grandchildren and 52 great-grandchildren. (Photo by William P. Revels)

-AN EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT-

Do District Judges Need Law Degrees?

It's an interesting question and one worthy of an answer. As we see it, the answer is no. What a district judge needs more than anything else is a liberal helping of good, old-fashioned common sense.

Much ado has been made about this upcoming race. Governor Barnes, Jr., an Indian layman, is vying for the district judgeship now held by the (as many of those who have appeared before him for justice (sic) will attest) terrible tempered Sam Britt.

Would the sky fall from the heavens if a compassionate and even tempered man were elected district judge? We think not.

Certainly the people have a choice this time. As always, the people will elect whom they think can best serve their interests. C.A. Brown, another layman, is running against District Judge Charles G. McLean in the other contest.

On May 2, the public (you and I) will decide which district judges will serve us for the next few years. The electorate does not have a law degree. Hopefully, common sense will prevail.

District judges mostly handle traffic and domestic cases. They are limited in what they can and cannot do. It's the, as many of us put it, "little court." They mostly take our money in fines in the "little court." So, as we see it, a law degree shouldn't deter one from being a good and honest and compassionate district judge but, as Ol' Reasonable might put it, "It ain't absolutely essential." Common sense is the one ingredient neither the learned or unlearned can ill afford to be without.

ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE

EVANGELIST TED BROOKS

Genesis 1:3 "And God saw everything that he had made and behold it was very good and the evening and the morning were the sixth day."

"God said that every thing he created was good. Very good. And God said in the 26th verse of Genesis, Chapter 1, that he made man in his image and God said let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

The reason most Christians live a life of sickness and pain, in other words, their life is miserable and full of woes. They have long forgotten the God given power which is in them. They no longer recognize or understand that they are heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, that no evil has power over them. They should know that they have power for good. How does this power come about? Simply by prayer. Prayer is a realization of the God-power within you. You have a right of dominion over your body, your place where you live, your business, your health, your prosperity. What ever it is that tries to bother you or bring you down. God said we have dominion over all. The reason and the cause for so much trouble in your life today is you respect man and you no longer will do as God has said, but yet you are a people of no mind who will please man. Your thoughts are no longer your thoughts. Your mind no longer creates a condition. Come on, you might as well say amen. The only thing you can follow now is a program which tells you what to say and think. The mind and spirit which God gave you to think abundance, to feel abundance, believe abundance, you can't any longer because you have been told that you don't have to pray any more. The preacher or the leader of the church will do it all and by doing so you have let fear and worry come to be your mental companions. You no longer have the thought of strength and dominion but poverty and limitations now dwell in your mind and, brother, as long as these fly by night preachers and these man made beliefs and you believe that you are to live below and only a few will live well and prosper and you send everybody else's children off to college but you own. Poverty will be your constant companion day and night for the rest of your life. Brother, God gave you the mind of Christ. Phil. 2:5. Paul said let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus. What was that mind. Jesus said he that believeth on me the works that I do shall he also do, and greater works than these shall he do. John 14:12.

Satan gets you to complain and you say I will never be well or I will never be happy, telling yourself that you are poor and lonely. The only thing you are doing is stirring up trouble. What you need to do is claim victory in Jesus' name and get up and say Lord I believe I don't care what people say or think, but I am happy and I am filled with joy. No longer will I listen to man, but I am going to believe your word. I am going to think abundance and going to have abundance. No longer will I let fear or poverty drag me down. Heaven is mine and I am claiming it all in Jesus' name. I have got dominion over Satan. I've got dominion over all. Jesus, you said in your word if ye abide in me and my word abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and I shall be done unto you. Halleluiah. Don't that make you want to shout. Jesus said you that are right, can ask anything in the name of Jesus. But you must let his word abide in you, not programs or a commentary but the word of God must abide in you.

Get doubt out of your thinking. Say I believe Lord. I believe in Jesus' word when he said believe that you have it. And as your faith is, so will it be unto you. God said the thing he created was good. God created you. But sickness and hardship, the evil we see comes by man, not God. God is love and health, peace and joy. Through the lust of man, man brought about the woes of sin. But thank God through Jesus our Lord that God appointed Jesus of Nazareth to preach the gospel to the poor. He was sent to heal the broken hearted to deliver the captive, and recover the sight of the blind, to set at liberty those that are bruised. Luke 4:18.

Isaiah 50th Chapter said that Jesus had the tongue of the learned, that Jesus should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary. If you are weary and lost or if you're a Christian and you somehow have forgotten how to praise the Lord for all his benefits or if somehow your prayers are no longer being answered, and it seems your direction is heading no where, repeat and say, Lord I'm sorry for the thoughts and for my failure to believe in your word. Not Lord I'm naked and I'm miserable. I'm poor and blind. I'm wretched and I have nothing outside of you. Now Lord I open my door to you and to your voice and only your voice will I hear. And I know and believe that one day I shall be granted to sit with you for I now believe in all thy words.

And to those of you who don't know Jesus as your personal Saviour, acknowledge your sins and confess them to Jesus. Say Jesus I believe thou art the Christ, the son of the living God. I believe in my heart that you died and I believe you rose from the dead and I believe you took the sins of the world with you on the cross. Now with my mouth I confess and with my heart I believe when you said in your word that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus Christ and shalt believe in thy heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved for with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:9-10.

Now that God has saved you and you believe in him as your Lord and saviour, now take part in this life as a Christian. Be a follower of Jesus and be a witness for him.

I read one time where a man said every time a sheep would bleat it would lose a mouth full of hav. You see, ever time

Yours in Christ.

State of North Carolina



JAMES B. HUNT, JR.
GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the historic outdoor drama, "Strike at the Wind" has proven to be an outstanding asset to the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the drama creates a meaningful episode in the history of Robeson County and the Lumbee Indians; and

WHEREAS, the drama has contributed to the economic growth of the State by attracting tourists to the traditional annual presentation; and

WHEREAS, the management of "Strike at the Wind" is seeking active financial support in order to maintain high quality performances;

THEREFORE, I, James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE MONTH

in North Carolina in support of "Strike at the Wind" '78 season.

By the Governor:

James B. Hunt, Jr.



PINE LAKE PARK

On Picturesque Lumber River 2 miles south of Pembroke-Deep Branch Rd.
OPEN DAILY 12 NOON-10:00 P.M.

The Place To Go For The Entire Family

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ELECT WYVIS OXENDINE



COUNTY COMMISSIONER
(Pembroke • Smiths • Maxton District)

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 1978

"Let Me Serve You With Action,
Not With Promises"