

EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rhoda Strong 1976-1978 Supports 'Strike at the Wind!'

To the Editor:

In regard to the article that appeared in your July 12, 1979 edition pertaining to SATW by Ms. Cooky Maynor. It was of concern to me.

Although she was in our (meaning everyone with a love for the drama) 1977 season, she has no awareness of the difficult task the major characters have because she did not have a speaking part.

After being on the other side of the fence for three straight

years, it was very hard for me to sit and watch the drama in its entirety. I am not denying that I did shed tears at one point in the drama, but I will state that it is a beautiful drama and pray it will continue for many years to come. I will say at this point that those tears occurred because of my sincere love for the drama and a feeling of emptiness because I chose not to try out this year for the part.

Rhoda Strong
1976-78
Hope St. Pierre

I say horrah to the present cast. Just move on forward.

Thanks to Little Miss Lumbee Committee & Workers

Thanks ever so much for the party, for your love, for your help, for being so concerned, and for the numerous other things you have done to make our entry in the "Little Miss Lumbee Pageant" a happy, meaningful and very worthwhile experience. We are thankful for the friends we've made and we shall remember you hard workers for a very long time. Love Janera and Deena Revels

UP FROM DUST & DARKNESS

by Lew Barton

THE WAITING GAME

I suppose people sometimes get impatient with my impatience. And I can well understand why they should, inasmuch as they have their own thing to do too.

But it's as the lyricist of "The September Song" puts it.

"Oh, it's a long, long time From May to December But the days grow short When you reach September... The Autumn weather turns the leaves to flame. And I haven't got time for the waiting game."

I, too, have watched my "days dwindle down" to a precious few. It's November and then it's December.

So I'm a bit impatient. Frustrated and impatient. I don't have the time to waste on waiting. I want to pack the last days of my life with meaning, with something constructive, with one project after another until a few days hence when that clarion call comes. And then I don't want St. Peter asking, "Hey, man, what've you done with all that time?"

What have I done with it? Where has it all gone?

I think we waste most of our lives doing unnecessary things. Such as a person I know who sleeps 12 hours a day...and still wakes up grouchy. And another person I know who just sits around whittling all day long.

Why? "I'm just passing the time," he says.

That's what he's doing, all right. And to what advantage? And to whose advantage? Life's too precious and too fleeting for waste on frivolities. Besides, the hardest job I ever did was just doing nothing. Man was created to be a working animal. "By the sweat of your brow," the Lord told Adam. I think it was idleness that got Adam and Eve into trouble to begin with. If she'd had pretty clothes to make for herself and her husband instead of just parading around in the nude and listening to the remarks of Old Satan, who knows? Maybe we'd still be in the Garden of Eden. Though, I doubt it. If Eve hadn't bit into

that juicy fruit, some other idle fool would have done it.

I don't want to sound preachy, mind you, but that's one thing that's wrong with this country today. We played Hades when we forgot John Smith's rule to the early colonists: "He who will not work, shall not eat."

I long to see the day come when every person who wants to work can find a job. And when every person who can but won't will find himself sucking his thumb.

"An idle mind," someone has said, correctly, "is the Devil's workshop."

And we wonder why our crime rate is so high! Largely, it's because our unemployment rate is so high. Mr. Carter, just you remember that before you cut CETA funds and other programs that give people something to do again.

AS I SEE IT

by Bruce Barton



New Judges Don't Excite me...

Governor Jim Hunt has named some new superior court judges. 2 of them—Sam Britt and Donald Smith—are Lumbeon natives, although Smith, a Republican, lives in Raleigh now.

I don't know much about Smith, although some of the local attorneys tell me he is a very good judge. I know a little bit more about Sam Britt, who will be relinquishing his post as chief district judge for the 16th Judicial District (Robeson and Scotland counties).

To be frank with you, the new judges do not excite me. Britt's judicial temperament is not conducive, as I see it, to calm and rational legal deliberation. I have found him to be fiery, condescending and temperamental. It is o.k. for a ballerina to be temperamental; not a superior court judge.

Anyway, the other judges named were Arthur Lane, the black commissioner of nearby Cumberland County; State Rep. Dave DeRamus, D-Forsyth; John Jolly, a Rocky Mount attorney; Charles Lamm, a Boone attorney; and Preston Cornelius of Iredell County, district court judge in the 22nd District.

The appointments were

made from a list of 27 submitted to Hunt by the Judicial Nominating Commission under a merit selection system Hunt put into effect by executive order in 1977.

Just about everything Hunt has ever done has been politically motivated; I suspect that his new judges are not political liabilities.

Like I say, I know little about the new judges, except Sam Britt. I do not like his condescending manner in court. But Hunt likes him, so he is a new superior court judge.

I understand that jockeying is already underway to replace him as a district court judge. Henry Ward Oxendine, a Pembroke attorney now serving on the state parole commission is being talked about as a possible replacement. I hope he stays in Raleigh. He can do more good on the parole commission than as a district court judge hamstrung by plea bargaining and Robeson County's eccentric form of justice.

Maybe the new judge will be Herbert Richardson, a black on the D.A.'s staff or Donald Bullard, a young and personable Indian attorney from Pembroke. Both are competent and well liked in the area. God knows we need some dark skinned justice in Robeson and Scotland Counties.

Drama Receives State Grant

Robeson Historical Drama, Inc. has received a \$20,000 grant from the N.C. legislature to promote the outdoor drama, "Strike at the Wind!" in Pembroke, N.C. Rep. Horace Locklear introduced the special bill in the recent legislative session and the funds were distributed to the drama through the Department of Cultural Resources and N.C. Theatre Arts.

According to Bill Thompson, general manager for the drama, "These funds will be used to promote tourism in the Robeson County area. Despite the publicity concerning a fuel shortage, we are finding that people from a hundred miles or more are making trips to our area to see 'Strike at the Wind!'. There is plenty of gasoline available in this area."

The grant money will be specifically used for television, magazine, and billboard ads.

This is the fourth season for the drama. Approximately 45,000 people have attended the outdoor presentation since its opening during the Bicentennial Celebration. Thompson said, "Local support built the drama. It is a part of the community. Thus far this season; however, over 80% of our audience has been from over fifty miles away. Many of the local people say they are planning to attend but are waiting 'til later in the season."

Ken Maynor and Adolph Dial, president and chairman of the board respectively, have been involved with the drama since its inception in many ways. This year's production is much more professional. I have seen many of the other outdoor dramas around the country and I can honestly say ours is more exciting and relevant to the history it depicts."

Applauds Brenda Hunt as Rhoda

Brenda Hunt has received much criticism of late concerning her portrayal of Rhoda Strong in the outdoor drama, 'Strike at the Wind!'. In my opinion the criticism is harsh and unwarranted.

I attended 'Strike at the Wind!' last Friday. I enjoyed the entire drama and thought Brenda performed well, as did the remaining cast members, especially Carnell Locklear as Boss and Robert Bryant as Shoemaker John.

But...

I have heard that the facts in some dramas have to be altered in order to make the drama more appealing and dramatic. This is not necessarily so concerning the saga of Henry Berry Lowry, however. If the production staff or Randolph Umberger, the author of the play, would have checked the facts first they would have realized that the true story is actually more exciting and dramatic than their version.

and facts retained as possible. I noticed, for example, that James Brantley Harris' name was changed this year to Jack Harris. Would it not have been just as simple to say James instead of Jack? In my opinion, if the production staff will stick to the facts as much as possible the overall quality of 'Strike at the Wind!' will be enhanced.

Nevertheless, I thoroughly enjoyed the drama. Native Robesonians should be proud of 'Strike at the Wind!'—especially Native Americans—and support it wholeheartedly.

It's so easy to sit back, protected by obscurity, and criticize others. I feel that those criticizing Brenda were unfair and harsh. Probably, if they were out on stage with a thousand or more people glaring at them, and those big spot lights bearing down upon them, they would have been a little bit more fair and compassionate.

Sincerely,
403 Pine Street
Pembroke, N.C.

I would like to see as much truth

"It requires ages to destroy a popular opinion." Voltaire

Lumberton Agrees to Sell Water to County

The Lumberton City Council decided Monday night to sell water to the county for 40 cents per 1,000 gallons, with the county to read its own meters and maintain its own lines.

The council agreed to sell the water to the county up to 350,000 gallons a day for the county wide water system. The unanimous vote came on a motion by Indian Councilman Glenn Maynor.

Said Maynor, "This is one football I hope we can quit kicking around

tonight." Maynor said earlier estimates of one million gallons a day for the county water system had been just an estimate, and that the county could get by with 350,000 to 400,000 gallons a day. Maynor noted that it would be six months before the county would begin drawing water from the city water plant.

County voters last fall voted to approve a \$7 million bond issue to build a county wide water system which will provide water initially to densely populated areas just outside towns in the county.

Youth Revival Planned

A youth revival is planned for the weekend of July 20-22 at 7:30 p.m. at Galilee Baptist Church. Rev. Donald Bullard of Route 2, Maxton will be the speaker for Friday night. Speaking Saturday night will be Rev. Grady Chavis of Island Grove Baptist Church. Sunday night's speaker will be Rev. Truman Chavis of Mt. Elim Baptist Church of Hoke County. All youth and the public are cordially invited to attend by the pastor of Galilee, Rev. Isaiah Locklear.

TO HAWAII AND BACK

Benny and Helen Sampson of Pembroke have been leading trips for some 15 years or so. They both like to travel, especially since both of them are now officially retired. Mrs. Sampson retired two years ago as a Home Extension Agent and Mr. Sampson retired as a teacher of physics and chemistry in 1976.

They recently returned from an extended tour of the Hawaii Oahu Islands with a delegation of 24. They left on June 27 and returned July 5. Benny Sampson said, "We always leave as acquaintances or even strangers and return as friends." That seems good enough reason to travel.

The trip was planned through the auspices of the International Travel Group in Raleigh with the Sampsons as travel agents.

The trip included a tour of Pearl Harbor, a Polynesian Cultural Tour, the Circle Island Tour, a Luau at Kona Hilton, the Kona Coast and Historic Tours and the Kona to Hilo Bus Tour, plus the development of lasting friendships.

1976 LINCOLN MARK IV: Sale Price—\$5,695.00!

ELECTRA 225 AT COST: \$8,114.61

SPECIAL OF THE WEEK:
1979 CUTLASS SUPREME (Was \$8,893.48). Sale Price: \$7,600

GMC 700s (was \$14,229). Sale Price: \$11,496.00!

SEE MR. MIKE FLANAGAN.

Savings & Service Worth the Trip

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The group is shown (left to right in front) Calvin Lowry, Harveline Bullard, a boy (unidentified), Sally Dial, a girl (unidentified), Louise S. Locklear and Gladys Maynor. Shown (left to right in rear) are Mrs. Dallas Jacobs, Viler Jane Chavis, Carrie Dial, Myrtle Lowry, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Lowry, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth T. Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Dale Barton, Mr. and Mrs. Irs Pate Lowry, an unidentified couple, Geopianna Dial, another unidentified couple and Benny and Helen Sampson.

Girl's Shorts 2 For 1.00

Under-Bed Storage Chest 1.00

100% Polyester Double-Knit Fabric 99¢

Pepsi-Cola 2 For 5.00

Bath Towels 2 For 5.00

Wintuk Knitting Yarn 1.00

Embers Charcoal 1.00

Disco Shoes 4.99

Footprint Sarcial 1.00

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Most Specials Good Thru Sunday July 15th, While Quantities Last

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