

EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

"We cannot know where we are going if we do not know where we have been."



As I See It

by Bruce Barton

JUSTICE AIN'T GOT HERE YET...

Ol' Reasonable Locklear, a good and upright man, was fond of saying "Justice!...it ain't got here yet," meaning Robeson County, of course.

Robeson County suffers from racial madness. Everyone sees color in every nuance and every subtlety, whether it be social, political or economic. Color reigns supreme. We suffer for racism, not a lack of justice. Justice has never been a reality in Robeson County; those of us who have pulled time know that justice does not live here. And the balanced animal (justice) never has lived in Robeson County. The poor people pull time and kill and main one another. The well to do stand back and pull our psychological strings and make us whoop and holler at their whim. It's called sociological madness.

Senator Robert Morgan is another one of those who knows little about justice: he runs them at us-jurists or would be jurists like Charles Winberry, W. Earl Britt and Gerald Arnold. Credentials? Credentials has little or nothing to do with it although a law degree most of the time is required if one wishes to be appointed a judge. Morgan has now nominated Gerald Arnold as a federal judge.

Winberry was turned down; Britt was approved as a federal judge in the Eastern District of Federal Court. Earl's brother, David, sits on the N.C. Supreme Court. Winberry, Britt and Arnold all have something in common: politics and Robert Morgan. They either cultivated close friendships in court and or have developed political ties. Britt and Morgan, as we understand it, went to law school together. Arnold is Morgan's former law partner; Winberry, who was turned down by the senate judicial committee, is close to Morgan politically.

Governor Jim Hunt does it too; having appointed his roommate at N.C. State (Phil Carlton) to the N.C. Supreme Court.

And every time a vacancy occurs it seems as if the Robesonian writes a teaser saying, in part, "I Murchison Biggs" and or "Osborne Lee, Jr." is being considered for this or that...I believe the Robesonian reacts out of conservative habit.

Enough is enough. Mediocrity rules the judicial roost, chanting a freedom song that no one can comprehend. It is little wonder that the people look at the judicial system with such a jaundiced eye.

Now Judge Henry A. McKinnon has announced he is retiring as the resident superior court judge in Robeson County. The headknockers have already appointed Sam Britt to take his place; Britt was formerly chief district court judge and is now a special superior court judge.

Who will take Britt's place? For one will speak loud and clear against the appointment of either Osborne Lee, Jr. and or I. Murchison Biggs. They are lawyers; neither has, as I see it, the temperament to be a superior court judge. I would like to see them meeting out justice (sic).

Give us a Black or Indian someone who understands the nuances and subtleties of Robeson Co. Justice And preferably let him be a Black or Indian who can look back and remember picking cotton and being discriminated against.

And, God yes, pray that he has overcome discrimination and her crippling children, resentment and racism.

Why not pool all the Indian and Black lawyers in the judicial district served by McKinnon? There is talent enough there to be a judge. Give us the best one. I know many of them (Black and Indian lawyers) who can measure up to and, in some instances, as I see it, surpass Lee or Biggs or any other member of the Robeson County Bar Association in ability and temperament and integrity.

Enough is enough. Give us some dark skinned justice. Let one judge me who has been judged by the racial standards of our time.

And, when the headknockers have done the above...well then we can begin a dialogue about justice and how to achieve it in our life times. And, of course, we must throw condensation out with the judicial waters.

I am proud to be an ex-con. I am able to recognize justice when I see it and recognize a lack of it when it is not present.

BELLY DANCING IN RALEIGH...

I love it...Belly dancing! Even though my wife was present and kept a protective eye on me. I did not wonder too far from her, but I watched the undulations and gyrations with the critic's eye. Coldly analyzing the artistic meaning as I watched with the clinical eye of the professional reviewer.

And, of course, I have some land in Florida (presently under water...just temporary, you know.) that I would like to interest you in...

Really! It was a very pleasant evening for my wife, Barbara, and I. We were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Shehdan. They rented Charlie's Steak House in Raleigh, and threw an old fashioned "middle east" bash. Belly dancing.

Betty Shehdan is the former Betty Clark, daughter of Mrs. Sally Clark and the late Timothy Clark of Prospect. Betty and her husband, Fred, operate Shehdan's Hair Styling in Raleigh. Betty and her daughters recently became interested in belly dancing, deciding in the beginning to produce a routine for their father and husband and billing themselves "The Fred Shehdan Harem." They have be-

come quite good at belly dancing, pleasing Fred Shehdan, a Lebanese native. He encourages his wife and daughters to develop the art form of belly dancing, taking a great deal of pleasure in "my harem." They only dance when he is present.

So, they decided to celebrate a night of Middle Eastern Music and Belly Dancing, featuring, of course, "Fred Shehdan's Harem."

The gala event was held August 15 at Charlie's Steak House in Raleigh. My wife and I were special guests of the Shehdans.

Besides Betty, the Harem is made up of daughters Serina (Amira), 16, and Sawnika (Kateri), 10. Their son and brother Tony, 13, was supportive too, helping with the "hundred and one details" of putting the evening on.

They were especially proud to have George Abdo share the evening with them. He is considered sort of the Elvis Presley of Middle Eastern Music. He is famous in middle eastern circles, performing all over the world as the king of belly dancing. Abdo is the son of a Lebanese actor; his mother was a Syrian vocalist. Mr. Abdo respects middle eastern music. He and his band were superb; the music has a sensual sound to it, bringing to mind the mystery of the middle east. Although he many times sang in languages we did not understand (he sings seven languages) the meaning and artistry came through. He is an accomplished artist; we were honored to hear him perform. It is always an honor to be in the presence of an true artist. George Abdo is an artist, make no mistake about it.

Other belly dancers performed, including Charleen Massey who introduced the Shehdans to the joy of belly dancing as their instructor.

The cuisine was Middle Eastern, too, with a Lebanese flavor. In charge of the food was Serina Shehdan, Fred Shehdan's mother. Delicious.

Another guest was Mrs. Sally Clark from Robeson County; and other brothers and sisters, relatives and friends from "down home." Fred had many relatives, including his mother and sisters in attendance too.

Dancers came from Washington, D.C., Virginia and Tennessee.

Belly dancing...It's fun to watch and do.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks to Aunts and Uncles

Dear Sir:

We would like to thank all of our aunts and uncles for letting us stay at their homes and for making us feel welcome and comfortable in their homes. They are: Walter and Vency Scott, Russell and Betty Jane Walker, Hanford and Martha Faye Locklear, and especially our grandfather, Richard Locklear.

Wind." It was real learning experience of our ancestors.

We would also like to thank all our cousins for making our trip really great and for the fun, especially for introducing us to all their great friends.

Thank you all for making our trip to North Carolina really wonderful.

Karen and Carol Britt 5219 Schuyler Drive Carmichael, Ca. 95608

We want to thank our Aunt Carletter Locklear for taking us to see "Strike at the

...Likes "Strike at the Wind!"

To the Editor:

"This is the best one yet!" That is what I said upon going to see "Strike at the Wind!" the other night.

And the same man is at the head of it who was there five years ago. They told him he'd never get it off the ground. And his dream lives on. Rock Kershaw's dream lives on and on and on. If it gets any better, it should be made into a movie.

Once again with an excellent lighting (Steve Kerns), costume, production and technical staff, Hope St. Pierre and Melton Lowry make Henry and Rhoda live in this year's "Strike at the Wind!"

Last year when I wrote you I found many faults in the show. But this year I can honestly say it's wonderful. And the people who don't go and see it are really missing something because a show this good may never pass your way again.

The cast is excellent. The choreographer has done a wonderful job on the wedding dance. The vocal director has also done an excellent job with the music. The chore-

ographer is Juliana Morgan and the vocal director is Ruby Hammonds. Ms. Morgan plays Dolly King and Ms. Hammonds plays Polly Oxendine.

The costumes fit the period of time (1872), courtesy of Ms. Barbara Hannah who worked with "The Lost Colony." And there are more props than ever. The church has door mirrors. The office turns into a hall in a matter of minutes. It is incredible. You have to see it to believe it.

But props, lights, costumes and music do not make a show. It is the people in it. And all of them deserve a round of applause. Some have had hardships this summer, but the show goes on.

If anyone reading this letter hasn't gone to see the drama, you can only blame yourself for missing something great.

If Henry could see it, he'd be proud. Remember Henry? Remember when? Then you'll remember "Strike at the Wind."

Sincerely, Cookie Maynor Pembroke, NC

WEBBER GIVES UP CLAIM AS LUMBEE

Dear Bruce:

This letter is to inform Lumbee readers that the United Lumbee Nation of N.C. and America, Inc. has changed its name to Kaweah Indian Nation. Kaweah means Lake here in our native land pronounced KA-WE-AH. There's a small group in our nation who don't want the name changed. The Wolf Clan, Inc. is giving us trouble. We hope to have our new roll cards, etc. by Oct. 1980. The Lumbee Nation Times will be known as

Times will be known as Kaweah Nation Times next issue. We have already written to LRDA about our name change. We are a Western nation and feel that we should use our native name but not the Lumbee any longer. It was good to hear that you are part or members of National Congress of American Indians. You may print this letter.

Sincerely, Chief Thunderbird Webber Grand Council Head Chief Kaweah Indian Nation P.O. Box 69 Farmersville, Ca. 93223

TUSCARORAS JOIN NCAI

Dear Sir:

The National Congress of American Indians adopted and accepted the Tuscarora Tribe of Indians of Maxton, NC given by hand seal on the 12th day of November 1979.

The National Congress of American Indians had a part and recognized the Tribe, and all of the Tuscarora members, to the Federal acknowledgement for federal recognition. We are historical, and constitutional, we can prove our ancestors back over two hundred years. We give our thanks highly to the historian Wes White and the other historians who gave their help

toward the Tuscarora Tribe in helping getting Federal recognition.

We, the Tribe have been organizing since 1969. We have enrolled 2,000 and some few hundred members. The floor rug is almost ready to be spread in North Carolina on the banks of Lumbee River. The Tuscaroras are proud to say that we can stand up for our American heritage. The enrolled members are just before getting their hunting, fishing rights. They are also getting ready to stop paying taxes. The secretary of the tribe, Ruth Helen Locklear is proud that the Tribe is on their way toward reaching their goal which our back parents have always worked for, and something we hope that will be successful for our children that are behind us. Hello, I, Leola Locklear am proud to say that I know, and can prove that my great-grandfather, Henry Berry Lowry had the blood of the Tuscarora, and was not a Lumbee. This is what makes me angry when I look at the history. This is why I want to stand up, and fight for what I believe in: that Henry Berry's ancestor's was indeed the Tuscarora blood. This is why I want the truth to come out for one time for our people in Robeson County and adjoining counties. We highly appreciate each of our members who have helped us through this struggle. For any information concerning the Tribe, contact the Tribal Counseling Board of the Tribe at 521-2679. Or contact Ruth Helen Locklear, Secretary, Rt. 1, Box 323-A, Maxton, N.C.

Under the leadership of

Youth Revival at Prospect United Methodist Church

On August 29, 30 and 31, 1980, the youth of Prospect UMC will sponsor a weekend Youth Revival which is to be highlighted with a Christian Vocation Conference (His Call, My Choice) on Sunday, August 31st at 5 p.m. We invite you and your youth to attend the conference and if possible, to plan to stay for the evening revival service. The evangelist and keynote speaker for the conference will be the Rev. Sam Wynn, a native of Robeson County. Mr. Wynn is presently serving as Associate Pastor for the Four Corners Native American Ministries in Shiprock, New Mexico. He is a '76 graduate of Pembroke State University (PSU) and Asbury Theological Seminary (TS) where he received his Masters of Divinity Degree. Sam is serving a second year under special appointment from the N.C. Conference on the Navajo Indian Reservation in Shiprock. He will share some of his experience of cross culture during the conference.

American to be certified in these areas. He will be sharing with the group in the Church Music and Christian Education degree and the first Native American to be certified in these areas. He will be sharing with the group in the Church Music and Christian Education Ministries as a "Call" and "Choice."

Speaking on the field of Church and Community will be Ms. Dora Pierce, Director of Programs for the Robeson County Church and Community Center. Ms. Pierce holds her B.A. from Wesleyan and her Master of Arts Degree in Church and Community from Scarritt College. She directs the Job Program for senior citizens, the Housing Program Work Camps and many others. Dora and the other vocation speakers will be relating "His Call, My Choice" in regards to their Christian Vocation and will share experiences of their present ministry.

Plan now to attend the Christian Vocation Conference (His Call, My Choice) on Sunday August 31, 1980 - 5 p.m. at Prospect UMC. We feel that these series of events (Revival Services and Christian Vocation Conference) will provide inspiration and guidance to those who are interested in the Christian Ministries and will create an interest for all who attend. In Christ, Robert L. Mangum, Pastor, Prospect United Methodist Church

LABOR THE GLORY OF GOD!

Nehemiah, God's people rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem. It was almost an impossible job; but it was said of the people doing this work that "They had the will to work" and the project was in "the will of God." Today, we laborers need to realize these facts.

As a tent maker for a while, Paul earned his way during the day, and then preached the Gospel at night. Jesus was a carpenter and He gave up His job as carpenter when He spent the last three years of His life in His redemptive work for God. His disciples forsook their jobs to do His work here on earth - to bring repentant sinners to Christ, who could forgive them of their sins so that they might go to heaven.

Are you laboring to the glory of the Lord? His command was to take the gospel to all the world. His command includes everyone in this world. Many hungry souls are waiting to hear "The Story of Jesus." Take it to them so that what Jesus said can be fulfilled. Jesus said, "I am the way (to heaven), the truth (His word is truth), and the life (Forever and ever); no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." We carry the message through the Word of God which is the Bible; so we need to read it daily so that we can labor in the vineyards of the Lord. The Bible and the Holy Spirit will tell you what to do. But "...whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor. 10:31).

God took David from his work as a shepherd boy to become a King of Israel. His accomplishments in literary materials for the Bible was at its height in the 23rd Psalm, which is widely used at funerals. Psalms sing forth praises to the glory of God.

Under the leadership of

Marletta Fuller 1313 Sportsman Dr. Jeffersonville, Ind. 47130



Bits of teak wood more than 2,000 years old have been found in Indian caves.

Michigan Lumbee Picnic Update

Have you kept the date open? Picnic, September 13, 1980, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 a.m., Wanda Park, 13707 Clinton River, Sterling Heights, Mi. Bring a dish for your family and we'll share food, renew old friendships, and meet new friends. Bring someone with you! No alcohol, please, this is a family affair!

Some interesting things have developed in the past months that are unheard of coming from the small group that are members of our organization! Now is the time for you to put forth the effort and show your pride in who you are! Are you an Indian when you visit N.C.? Then be an Indian in Michigan!! We'll have a table where you can enroll on September 13th. Asso. Lumbee Enrollment forms will be available.

Our next scheduled meeting of Lumbees From Robeson will

be September 8, 1980, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Flora Mooney, 23817 Fenton Drive, Mt. Clemens, Mi. 48043, why not attend and learn some of the surprising events that have been happening!

Did you know that two (2) Lumbee (officials) from Robeson County, NC were in Michigan last week on Lumbee Indians in Michigan business? Michigan Lumbees were not notified!! Come to the meeting and find out the reason behind this strange event.

For more information about the picnic, call Mrs. Marie Locklear at 574-1127, Mrs. Tawana Urban at 521-8721 or Mrs. Pat Whitaker at 756-1181.

A Lumbee-Proud Mrs. Johnson Locklear 3272 Helen Detroit, MI. 48207 922-7997

Rep. Charlie Rose visits final performance

Adolph Dial, Chairman of the Robeson Historical Drama Association's Board of Directors, has announced that Congressman Charlie Rose will attend the final performance of the outdoor drama "Strike at the Wind" on Saturday, Aug. 30. Rose, Congressman of the 7th Congressional District, will arrive in Pembroke Saturday August 30th, at 5 p.m. to visit the Native American Resource Center and to tour Old Main at PSU.

"Strike at the Wind," written by Randolph UMBERGER, is a musical outdoor drama taken from the true accounts of Lumbee Indian folk hero Henry Berry Lowrie. Lowrie and his tri-racial band roamed Robeson County and South-eastern North Carolina from 1864-1874 seeking revenge for the murders of his father and brother. Called hero by some and outlaw by others, Lowrie carried a \$30,000 bounty on his head. Henry's escapades were so famous that Jesse James even adopted his name. Never brought to trial, Lowrie disappeared into the swamplands of Robeson County never to be seen again. The fact that he was never proven right or wrong only added strength to his legend. The things that happened to Henry and his band reinforces our notion that race is the least interesting aspect of a human being.

Come love, laugh and cry with us in our final performance of "Strike at the Wind," Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Showtime is 8:30 p.m. D.S.T. Follow the signs to the Riverside Country Club, 3 miles west of Pembroke, 1/2 mile on U.S. Highway 74, on state road 1354. Adults are \$4.00, children under 12, \$2.00. For more information write to "Strike at the Wind," P.O. Box 1059, Pembroke, or call 919-521-3112.

Subscription rates:

In State 1 Year \$9.36 2 Years 15.60 Out of state 1 Year \$12.00 2 Years \$16.00

LITTLE-KNOWN FACTS Many babies will refuse to drink water from the time they are a week or two old. They are usually willing again at about a year of age.

Advertisement for Rubber Stamps, The Carolina Indian Voice, P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke, NC. Includes a drawing of a person.

Subscription rates: In State 1 Year \$9.36 2 Years 15.60 Out of state 1 Year \$12.00 2 Years \$16.00

Advertisement for Mothers and Babies, featuring a drawing of a woman and child, and text about office copying machines.

Large advertisement for Jack's Furniture and Appliance Company, 305 West Third Street, Pembroke, NC. Includes contact information and a note about easy payment.



Shows left to right are Betty Clark Shehdan (Jumilla); Tony, 13; Sawnika (Kateri), 10; Serina (Kateri), 16; and Fred Shehdan. (Bruce Barton photo)