

EDITORIAL PAGE

AS I SEE IT



by
Bruce Barton

More on the Claxton, Georgia Experience....

Lumbee Indians are anthropological delights, no doubt about it. They are doers, workers, thinkers; and a cut above the norm when one examines their life struggles. I am probably prejudiced (since I am a Lumbee myself) but I think the Indians of Robeson County are probably the brightest and most interesting Indians on the North American continent.

Take the Claxton, GA experience, for example. Sometime after the Civil War, Indians from Robeson County began to drift down toward Georgia and Tennessee following the turpentine industry. The Indians were superb turpentine workers, and were known far and wide as the best in the trade. A counterpoint would be the sheetrock hangers and finishers of today. Tradesmen will tell you today that the Indians of Robeson County are the best sheetrock workers in the world. Until turpentine died out as an industry, the Naval Stores Industry (of which turpentine was its focal point) was big business, and the Indians of Robeson County were recruited to work in the trade.

When they got to Georgia, many of them settled around Claxton, GA, in a place called Adabelle, GA (about 8 miles from Claxton). Many of them worked for a company named Adabelle Trading Company, established along the lines of Pates Supply Company here in Pembroke...but bigger. When the Naval Stores industry petered out, many of the Indians stayed in Georgia and gravitated toward farming. Many of them worked, later, for Adabelle Trading Company as tenants on their farms, share cropping and

introducing tobacco to the area.

But a few of them acquired their own farms, like brothers Ashley and Willie Jacobs. Between them they wound up with almost a thousand acres of Georgia farming land. Nearby William Robert Locklear and his son, Lonnie, owned and farmed their own farm in excess of 300 acres.

I would like to know more about these two particular families, and any of the local Indians who settled there.

From the information I have been able to gather, it seems that the Indians of Robeson County migrated there from the 1890s until the early 1920s when they left the area en masse and returned home. They were a closely knit group, and had their own 1 room school which also served as a church (probably Baptist). The structure was located near the cemetery.

I just returned from a field trip there. I was accompanied by Rev. Welton Lowry and Mr. Sam Jacobs, two friends of mine. We had a good time, and met a lot of interesting people while in the Claxton, GA area.

It is a fascinating part of our heritage, and a story worth telling. I'll be sharing more of our Claxton, GA experience in the weeks to come. In the meantime, thanks to those of you who contacted me last week and shared with me. I would still like to know more. One question I have is: why did the Indians leave so suddenly in the 1920s? Were there racial incidents that prompted them to leave? Why? What happened? I can be reached at 521-2826 or you can write me c/o the Carolina Indian Voice, P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke, NC 28372. I can (and will) keep a confidence if you want me to.



In the background (note the clump of trees) is the Croatan Cemetery, located on the property of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Simmons, Jr. In the foreground, from left to right are: Mrs. Frank Simmons, Jr.; Rev. Welton Lowry; Robin Brown, a local historic preservation planner who accompanied us on our jaunt; and Sam Jacobs. [Bruce Barton photo]



In the rear is the remnant of a building that was used, evidently, to store cotton on the former property of Willie Jacobs, near Claxton, GA. Shown [l-r] are: Sam Jacobs; Rev. Welton Lowry; and George Durrence, who, for many years, was school superintendent of Evans County, GA [where Claxton is located as the county seat]. Mr. Durrence, now retired, remembers the Jacobs brothers well. He remembers, "They were good farmers, and good neighbors." The Durrence property adjoined that of Ashley Jacobs and Willie Jacobs, and was across the road from the Locklears. As a boy Mr. Durrence remembers that the Jacobs brothers were known far and wide for "their fine mules, and well kept farms." Mr. Durrence also remembers that "Ashley Jacobs had the first car that I ever saw as a boy." [Bruce Barton photo]

More...in weeks to come. Next week I'll share with you those we found buried in the Croatan Cemetery.

Alert Cable Strives To Better Serve Robeson County



Shown above are two of the brand new 1985 GMC trucks Alert Cable recently purchased. The vehicles will be used by Alert Cable workmen as part of the company's effort to better serve the needs of the citizens of Robeson County.

Fun & Fitness For The Family
A sports program that encourages parents to join their children in activities that stress fun and fitness is being applauded by moms and dads of 1.5 million Cub Scouts across the nation.



A new fitness program for boys and their parents includes soccer, the most popular sport in the world.

The new fitness program, which is endorsed by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, is seen to serve as a healthy alternative to the high pressure competition evident in many young children's sports groups. Most popular among the program's 14 sports are physical fitness and baseball followed by swimming, soccer, marbles and bowling.

The new Cub Scout sports program provides sportsmanship values by introducing a variety of sports, family involvement, recognition for doing your best, physical fitness for boys and adults and limited competition within their existing neighborhood and pack programs.

To Observe National Community Health Center Week

Pembroke, North Carolina - Pembroke Health Care Center RHCC will join community health centers across the nation this week by taking part in National Community Health Center Week, October 6-12, 1985. This is the second time the National Association of Community Health Centers Inc., founded in 1970 and located in Washington, D.C., has sponsored the event. This year's national theme, "Community Health Centers: Promoting Health/Reducing Costs", focuses on some of the significant areas in which community health centers are impacting through the provision of quality care to medically underserved populations at affordable costs.

Community health centers (CHCs) like Pembroke Health Care Center-RHCC served over 6 million medically underserved and disadvantaged Americans in 1984 in over 700 centers located in urban and rural areas across the country. Locally, Pembroke Health Care Center-RHCC saw nearly 12,636 patients for a wide range of primary health and preventive health care needs last year.

"Health centers here and nationally are really making an impact in vital areas like reducing infant death rates and reducing the need for hospitalization," according to Carolyn Emanuel of Robeson

Health Care Corporation. "In fact, studies have shown that communities with CHCs have lower infant death rates than comparable areas without them."

A recent independent study found that CHCs reduce hospitalization, especially for Medicaid patients. In fact, CHCs in that study were credited with saving the Medicaid program \$580 million in a single year. It is important to note that quality care is not sacrificed in these cost savings. An overwhelming body of research also shows that CHC patients receive care of equal or better quality than patients of other providers of health care services.

To celebrate the week, the Pembroke Health Care Center RHCC will hold the following activities open to the public: Diabetes & Hypertension Screening-October 9, 1985-2:00-4:00 p.m.

Carolyn Emanuel says that "Community health centers like Pembroke Health Care Center-RHCC are a vital part of access to quality health care in this community, and we encourage citizens to become familiar with our services not only this week, but all year long. For more information on National Community Health Center Week activities in this community, call 521-8641.

The Reader's Forum

LOCAL PASTOR ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT CHURCH

Dear Editor,
According to Chase's Annual Events Calendar, Monday, September 30, was designated "Ask A 'Stupid' Question Day." The purpose of this day is to "encourage curious people to overcome their timidity and seek an answer to that 'stupid' question by asking it."

As pastor of the Pembroke Seventh-day Adventist Church, I am frequently asked questions about my church: long questions, short questions, serious questions, heart searching questions; and yes, occasionally a "stupid" question. But no matter what the question may be, I am always happy to listen and try my best to provide a satisfying answer.

So, in commemoration of Ask a "stupid" Question Day, I would like to provide a few answers to some serious--and not-so-serious questions curious people often ask me:

1. Yes, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is a Christian denomination. We are not a sect or a cult. Our Church was founded more than 100 years ago and has since grown into a worldwide organization with 4.5 million members.

2. We worship on Saturdays because we love Jesus Christ! And Jesus said that if we love

Him we should keep His commandments. One of those commandments is the fourth one which says in part: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God." (Exodus 20:8-10). We have our study time each Saturday at 3 p.m. and our Worship Service at 4 p.m. Our church is located 2 miles west of Pembroke at the junction of highways 710/711. Visitors are always welcome to attend either or both of these services.

3. No, our vegetarian diet does not lead to stunted growth. In fact, a recent study shows that Seventh-day Adventists have a much lesser risk of suffering from cardiovascular ailments, even cancer, than their meat eating counterparts. As a Church, we also avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco. Good health is an important part of our lifestyle and message!!

Now, have I answered your questions? If not, don't wait until the next Ask a "Stupid" Question Day comes along. Feel free to contact us any time with any question you might have.

In Christian Love,
Charles W. Godfrey
Pastor

REGGLE STRICKLAND NAMED PSU BOOKSTORE MANAGER

Exciting Events Planned For PSU's Centennial Celebration Continued From Page 1



Reggle Strickland

Reggle Strickland, who served as assistant bookstore manager of PSU from 1966-77, has been named manager of the bookstore, replacing Lee Neville who retired at the end of September.

Since 1977, Strickland has been employee relations representative for the N.C. Department of Transportation, which is based in Raleigh.

"It has been one of my long-term goals to come back and manage the bookstore if Mr. Neville ever retired," said Strickland. "I believe it has been my call to work with young people. Here at Pembroke State University, there are a lot of good folks to work with. To me, it has been like a homecoming."

Strickland, 48, becomes manager of an important

transitional time in the history of PSU. With the University Center being constructed and housing many student facilities, the present bookstore will be greatly enlarged, says William Mason, PSU vice chancellor for business affairs.

A native of Pembroke, Strickland earned his B.S. in sociology at PSU in 1978.

He served as mayor of the Town of Pembroke from 1975-79 and has been a member of the Pembroke Housing Authority Board, plus the Board of Directors of the Robeson County Chapter of the American Red Cross and "Strike at the Wind." He has been Pembroke Precinct chairman and chairman of the Robeson County Municipal Association. He has also been a member of the advisory board of Pembroke Junior High School.

His honors have also included being "Pembroke Kiwanian of the Year in 1984," a lifetime honorary member of the Pembroke Jaycees, and "Personalities of the South, 1978."

He has served Pembroke as a cub master for the Boy Scouts of America and been a city recreational coach in pee wee football and baseball. He also served as volunteer fireman for the Town of Pembroke for four years.

Strickland is married to the former Edith Faye Lowry of Pembroke. They are parents of four children: Delilah, Denise, Reggie, and Derwin.

morning for Robeson County high school students and in the evening at 8 p.m. for the public. A banquet will be held at 6 p.m. in the University Center. Speaker there is expected to be Eric Sevareid, nationally-known retired news caster. Plans call for separate tickets for the banquet and the evening performance of the N.C. Symphony.

Also on Saturday, March 7, PSU's annual Instrumental Music Festival will be held at the Givens Performing Arts Center with Del Borgo as the guest conductor.

A half-hour anniversary film is being produced about PSU by the N.C. Agency for Public Telecommunications. That agency started on the film in May when Gov. Jim Martin visited and commencement was held. The agency plans to make it available throughout the state and has contacts to show it nationally.

PSU has already taken steps to invite a top national speaker for the fall of 1986 as another highlight of its year long centennial observance. It was reported that special centennial commemorative china will also be on sale plus other commemorative items.

In addition to the N.C. Symphony, a big band or jazz group will be invited along with possibly a ballet.

A new history of PSU is being written by Dr. David Eliades, the co-author of the Lumbee Indian history, "The Only Land I Know," and by Linda Oxendine, director of PSU's Native American Resource Center. They will speak about PSU's history during a convocation planned for August 27, 1986.

Contact is also being made with Charles Kuralt concerning his "On The Road" TV program and Willard Scott, weatherman for NBC's "Today" show, about possibly having programs from PSU. Portraits of all the presidents chief executive officers in PSU's colorful history are also being commissioned to be painted.

An elaborate "Chancellor's Centennial Report" is also being printed. The State Legislature appropriated \$95,000 to help PSU have a real "birthday celebration" and Dr. Gerald Maynor, who is chairing the PSU Centennial Celebration Council says, "It looks like we are going to have a whale of a party."

Chairmen of the different committee for the celebration are: History of PSU--Dr. David Eliades; Portraits of University Chief Executives--Paul Van Zandt; Lecture Series--Ann Wells; Cultural Events--Dr. Robert Romine; Convocation Program--Dr. Robert Gustafson; Honors and Awards--Geneva Parnell; Publicity and Chancellor's Centennial Report--Gene Warren; Self-Liquidating Centennial Commemoratives--Welton Lowry; Founder's Day Ceremonies--Dr. James B. Chavis; and Anniversary Film--Dr. Oscar Patterson.

Next meeting of the Celebration council is set for Nov. 4.



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William Hazlitt

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