

Writers Forum

By GEORGE RUSS



MR. AND MRS. GEO. RUSS AND MRS. STEWART

Writers Forum has taken on the aspects of a deserted recreation center. All the noise has gone; all that is left is nostalgia for more good times with good friends. "The bite in the bar-be-cue sauce has lost its teeth." Nothing is left of the robust fun of fighting against losing odds and the rising tide of despair - the volcanic explosion of joy that comes with the announcement that a major victory has been won - "we've done it again!"

This awful emptiness is only a lull. Soon, perhaps too soon, the walls will shudder from the impact of voices trying to drive home a point-shake the group out of its indifference. Speaking of being shaken out of one's nonchalance toward what is going on at a Forum meeting brings to mind the tonal quality of our July session:

Out of the clear blue, members were summoned to a meeting at Forum headquarters; on a sultry Sunday morning at 7:30. The announcement spread like wild-fire; "the V.I.P. is in town. And she has called a 'fore day meeting Sunday morning. Business of importance. What business?" Everyone asked. However, previous plans were scuttled without knowing the nature of the call meeting. A total of seven members and three visitors made the deadline, sleepy eyed, disconcerted and inquisitive: What is this meeting all about? When did Mrs. Nannie Stewart arrive in Durham? Is she staying at headquarters? Why all the mystery?

Mrs. N. L. Stewart, Personal Relations Person of Writers Forum, arrived at 7:25, bright and shining as a morning star; the planet Venus rising in the east shortly before the sun.

Whatever misgivings prevailed prior to the lady's sensuous "good morning, my friends," underwent a sudden change. Everyone scrambled to his feet and hurried to where the radiant lady stood. The announcement of breakfast was delayed ten minutes in order to give everyone a chance to properly express his or her best wishes.

While the group sipped tangy cranberry juice, Mrs. Stewart gave an outline of her plans for the day. "My family doesn't know I am in Durham. I am stopping at the Downtown because I need lots of privacy. The work I am doing demands my undivided attention. My daddy would have a fit if he knew I was this close to home without his knowing."

Over a breakfast of country-scrambled eggs, grits Canadian bacon, cream gravy, hot biscuits butter, orange marmalade hot coffee, the P. R. P. gave a progress report of the Rose Bulter Brown Foundation. "I have been dividing a huge map of the U.S.A. into regions. I am counting on Writers Forum to head up one of these regions. This is a must."

While the lady of the hour spread a biscuit with orange marmalade, got a refill of coffee, Mrs. S. H. Russ, general secretary, read a recent finance report; and Paul Harrison passed out several free hand drawings of stock certificates for the group to make a selection. After much deliberation, the dollar size certificate was se-

lected. Hence, the billfold size coupons will replace the 12 x 12 notes.

Mrs. N. L. S. looked on attentively as the officers exchanged notes, transferred figures, leafed through pages of ledgers for missing data. Finally she spoke out, I want all Forum cash transferred from the checking account to a savings account. Beginning tomorrow, Writer Forum's cash will begin earning money. We have done well, all things considered-but, that is not good enough. We must concentrate on how to make money. We are far away from making our first million dollars." The lady was storming the fort; "part of my business here at this time is to stir some action into this organization."

Several Salisbury visitors were seated opposite the V.I.P. Dewey Randall, Mrs. Willie Mae Randall (mother) and Mrs. Annie V. Clark. They sat spell-bound watching the flaying hands of the pretty speaker as they belted the air. Just as she was making the point concerning the Forum's first million dollars, a giggle escaped some member seated around the long table. At this point, our spokesman's mental dandruff began flaking, plus, her dark eyes flashed angrily for a moment, however, in a matter of seconds, she was in full control of her flurried emotions; "there is nothing wrong or funny about wanting to make money. We as a race need more money. Even the ancients realized the importance of money-moo-la-dough- 'money answereth all things.'" Taking a bite of icy water, she gulped, then picked up her thread of thought; "money is important to everyone. Blacks have had such small amounts of money, they don't have any idea of the wonderful things money can do. 'money is like a sixth sense without which you cannot make complete use of the other five.' Who said that?" She asked, and took another bite of the icy water in the glass her fingers clutched.

"Sumerset Mangham," a male voice meekly answered. "Thank you, Paul-and folk, don't forget, ever, if writers forum can't make money, we need to close shop. Listen, and listen good, as Rousseau wrote, 'money is the seed of money, and the first guinea is sometimes more difficult to acquire than the second million.'"

Dear Writer: Writers Forum will give you a comprehensive report on Richmond S. Stewart's book- "Tomorrow, I Will Dye My Hair-" next week.

Writers Forum will celebrate its first anniversary on or before August 15, 1971.

WORKING TO CLEAN

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Wisdom
Wisdom is knowing what to do next, skill knowing how to do it, virtue is not doing it.

Former Hillside Graduate is in Demand in Washington as Model

The vivacious Judith L. Hall (known as Judi to her many friends) has made it big in more ways than one. Judi is combining careers in modeling and teaching and is having a lot of fun working with both of them.

A 1965 honor graduate of Hillside High School, Judi is in great demand to model in many fashionable stores in and around the Washington, D. C. area. Stores in which Miss Hall has modeled high fashions include Woodward and Lothrop, Garfinkel's, Jellef's, Casual Corners, The Bootery, Joe's Other Place, Gartenhouse Furs, Sak's 5th Avenue and Shirleys. Judi has also had several Television appearances as a fashion model as well as a TV Commercial to her credit.

Miss Hall is having fun modeling, but she has prepared herself for the time when the short-lived career of modeling will no longer be lucrative for her. She holds the B. A. Degree from Howard University, Washington, D. C. and in 1970 earned her Master's Degree in Education from the Catholic University with a concentration in Secondary

Education. Judi is also a 1971 graduate of the Barbizon School of Modeling, located in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

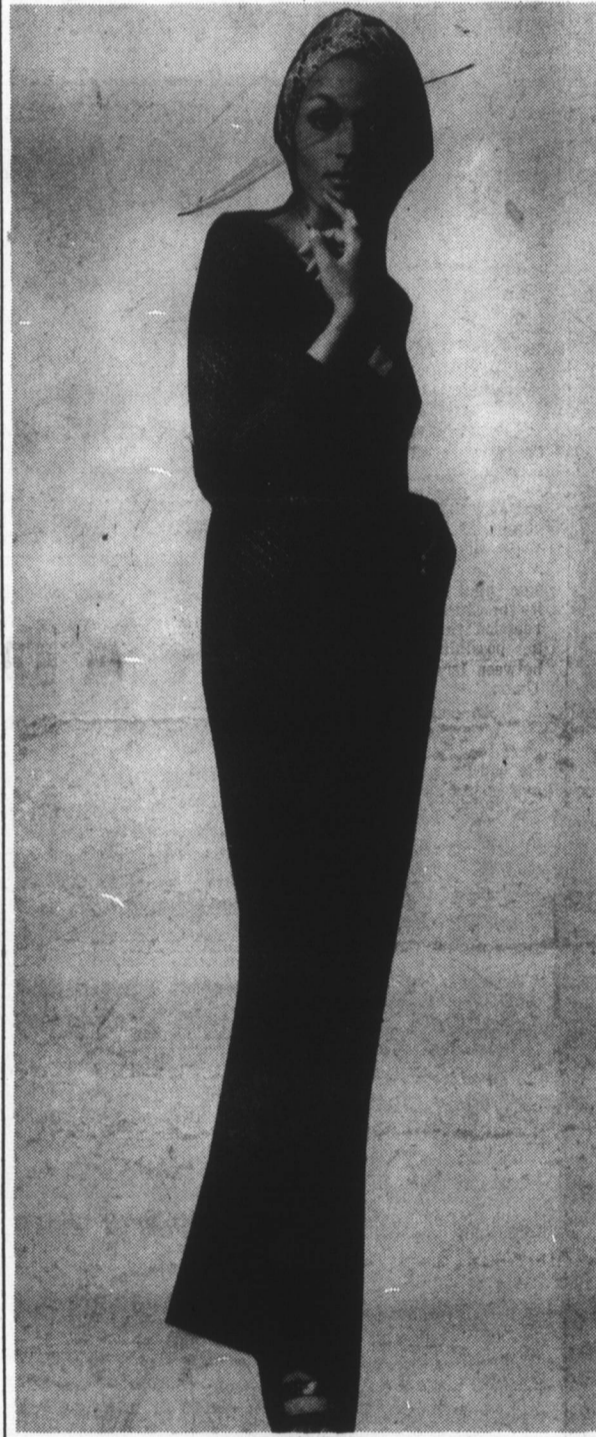
A most active young lady, Miss Hall serves as an English Instructor as the Anacostia High School as well as Co-Chairman of the Department this past year. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. An accomplished seamstress, Miss Hall makes and designs a lot of the clothes she wears. Her hobbies include horseback riding, swimming and reading. Judi plans to do more travel in the near future, and says she has gained so much from travel experiences while living with her family in Okinawa and Alaska.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Percy L. (Theresa) Hall and her brothers, Lonnie, Larry and Percy reside at 402 Dunstan Street.

Likely

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JUDITH HALL

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