Thursday, March 1, 1984 - THE CHARLOTTE POST - Page 124



Worth was paying \$45 per week; Grier \$35 per week. This did not include the

electricity bill. After the ceiling col-lapsed, Grier paid another week's rent. Bell's office took the money. Worth stayed until February 13, housing not only her operahousing not only her opera-tors, but the Northwest Beautyette's operators as well. Worth paid her rent. until she left.

Intil she left. In the case of the cos-metologists, many cus-tomers have been lost. "A lot of people saw me on Channel 9's news and they think that I am out of business," Mrs. Worth ex-plained. "They don't know that I have a shop on Graham Street - Sunshine Beauty. Therefore, I have lost a lot of customers because they think that I have closed my doors." Mrs. Whiteside added, "I Mrs. whiteside added, "I regret leaving the beauty shop after 22 years of being there. If the owner had fixed the building, I would still be there." Should the tenants have should the tenants have to pay for equipment da-mage and decline in clien-tele because of the condi-tion of the building, or should the owner of the building be liable for resti-tution? tution?

tution? According to the tenants' attorney, Linda Kleine, the owner of the building should be responsible for the losses of the tenants, because of the oral agreements to repair the structure.

"The rule of law," ac-cording to attorney Kleine, "is that oral contracts are just as good as written ones. He has wronged them. The tenants will have an uphill battle in court."

Attorney Bell did send the tenants a letter after the ceiling fell. The letter, sent some time in Decem sent some time in Decem-ber, according to Worth, stated that he wanted the building vacated. "He stated that he was waiting for the weather to get better before the contrac-tors started working on the building," attorney Kleine stated.

