Letters to the Editor

DAWN Magazine welcomes letters expressing all viewpoints. Letters must include signature and mailing address. Names may be withheld for adequate reason. The editor reserves the right to condense letters. Address all correspondence to DAWN Magazine, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21203.

EXOTIC RECIPES

Indianapolis, Ind. — In future issues of DAWN Magazine will you have recipes from world-wide readers? I am 22-years-old and have been collecting various recipes for five years to make my own personal recipe book.

I know this would be a welcome addition to DAWN as there are many people who would be proud to share their favorite recipes as I would.

MS. AMELIA A. WATSON

It is tradition that the December issue of DAWN Magazine be dedicated to foods, and especially holiday foods from various lands. This year is no exception, and we welcome personal recipes from our readers.

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NO RHYMES

Windsor, Ont. — How come you print such stuff as contained on the Poetrie Gallerie page. The people who submit such trash aren't the least bit talented, for they don't even realize that poetry has to rhyme.

Anybody, even a young kid, can send in the kind of thing you publish; they semmingly don't have to possess any knowledge of meter or rhyme. It's really laughable to anyone with an ounce of intelligence.

JERRY THOMPSON

One of the dictionary definitions of poem is: "any composition written in elevated and imaginiative language." This includes blank verse, as well as the traditional iambic pentameter.

Music was once limited to standardized time signatures and chord patterns, until relief came in the form of Third Stream, and so-called avant garde expression.

Besides, the Gallerie is for those people interested in poetry in all of its forms — sorry you don't like it — says a lot for your intelligence, which could be measured in grams (to use poetic licnese).

WORLDLY MAN

Harrisburg, Pa. — In reference to the question in Celebenti in your August 1980 issue, "What will happen to Sugar Ray Leonard now that he has lost the big fight?"

The answer inferred that Leonard was "too wholesome" to portray the worldly Sugar Ray Robinson in the movies.

First, Sugar Ray Robinson's mother is and always has been a very religious woman, evangelist and churchgoer. Edna Mae Robinson, the wife of Sugar Ray is the great-granddaughter of the first black bishop of the Episcopal church.

I feel very sad as I read his being portrayed only as the "worldly Robinson."

REV. WILLIAM M. GRAY

The religious intensity of the Robinson family is and has not been in question, but calling Sugar Ray Robinson "worldly" is a euphemism — and a kind one at that.

——

BLACK PILOTS

Indianapolis, Ind. — I would like to praise DAWN Magazine for the article concerning black pilots. Being the wife of a struggling black pilot, I know some of the problems.

I pray that the organization mentioned in the article can give my husband some insight as to the right people to contact for help, encouragement and information.

You may ask why he isn't writing. Well, I love my husband and I am willing to help him. He has searched high and low, prayed, fasted and has been checking out leads — your article may be our blessing.

Anytime a man goes out to the airport just to sit and watch the planes go over his head for hours at a time, you know that he would not be happy with anything else. I am writing to show him that I do care.

MRS. BLYDINA GAMBLE

The Editor's Desk

On the cover this month is Edward Leroy Watson, Master of the S.S. African Star, one of the few black ship captains sailing the seas in 1980.

The scene pictured should be familiar to anyone who has sailed aboard a sea-going vessel — Capt. Watson is taking a compass sighting preparatory to plotting the ship's position.

The story of Capt. Watson is a success story in the true tradition. Born in the Cayman Islands, he is now a citizen of the U.S. and an army veteran.

——

Singer Oscar Brown Jr. immortalized the expression: "40 acres and a mule," in song, and it expresses the method by which a lot of black people acquired land in the Southeastern states following the Civil War.

Two professors at Alabama A. and M. University in Normal, Ala., started researching what has happened to the vast tracts of land once owned by blacks in the South.

They discovered a pattern of systematic takeover by whites, corporations and other outside interests. In many cases, knowledge about what was going on would have been sufficient to arrest and forestall the loss of lands.

The professors spell out what is going on, and hopefully, help keep the lands in black hands. If you have relatives or friends who have all or part ownership in Southern lands — the peruse this article carefully. You might be able to help.

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Each month, we receive a lot of letters from people wishing to subscribe to DAWN magazine separately. Thus far, this is not possible, for DAWN Magazine is a supplement contained in those black newspapers listed on the front cover.

If there is no outlet for getting a copy of DAWN Magazine in your area, we will try to steer you to your nearest newspaper which carries the supplement.

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In answer to the many queries from would be contributors across the country, DAWN Magazine is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts.

Freelance material is used, but query first, and a SASE must be enclosed with each submission.

For our regular readers, SASE is writers' shorthand for "self-addressed stamped envelope."

Inside:

- Page four is once again the location of the Celebenit page.
- The saga of a black man who became master of a seagoing vessel. Story begins on page 6.
- Land owned by blacks in the Southeastern part of the country is rapidly disappearing. This is must reading for all who might have property in Southern states. Page 9.
- Poetrie Gallerie is on page 18.
- In the Stars — your horoscope by Amali, will be found on page 20.
- National Roundup delineates what you might expect to see during the campaign for the presidency. Page 23.

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JOHN MURPHY III
Board Chairman

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BOB MATTHEWS
Executive Editor

BONNIE BUTLER
Assistant to VP-Advertising and Production Coordinator

NEW YORK OFFICE:
Resident Agents:
Percell L. Johnson Jr.
Lewis Barnes

DAWN Magazine Offices:
628 N. Eutaw St.
Baltimore, Md. 21203
[301] 728 - 8200

N.Y. Offices:
295 Madison Ave., Suite 623
New York, N.Y. 10017
[212] 679 - 5152

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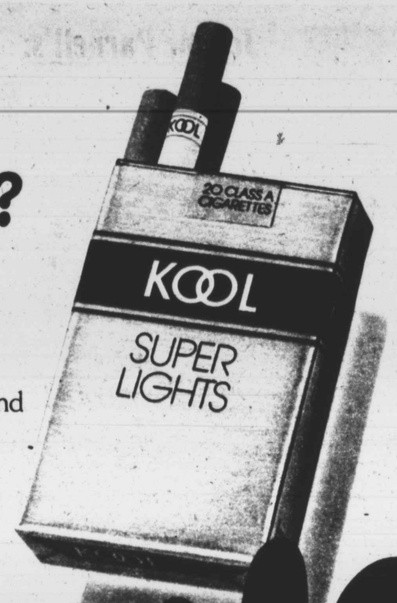

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