



RUBY SAYS

By now, everyone in the community must be aware of the current attempt by George Miller, Nevada's Dictatorial Head of the Welfare Dept., to close down Operations Life's Community Health Center. It would appear that this state's high Political Administration has a personal Vendetta to "GET" Ruby Duncan.

For doing good things in this community for poor men, women and children, I am being viciously penalized and persecuted. Do you remember the days when we were in the streets screaming, marching and yelling to get real programs for poor people?

I was told, "Now wait a minute, Ruby, all this is not necessary. Why don't you stop all this and work within the system instead of always fighting it?"

So I did. We negotiated, we compromised, I smiled and entered into agreements with the powers that be in good faith for many years now.

And what has happened? I have been continuously harrassed every step of the way and good things, in spite of everything they've come down on me with.

I want you, the community, to know that I will continue to stand up for our rights and needs and will always be visible.

Last February 27th, George wrote to the Feds asking them to terminate the early periodic screening program in the State of Nevada. He found that it would cost the state too much money, as well as losing the entire title XIX Medicaid program, to completely eliminate EPSDT in this state. Since Mr. Miller could not end it completely without penalty, he chose the next best thing -- shut down Operation Life's Program which screens more children than any other clinic in the United States and has been commended by the Federal Government many times for the services provided.

In shutting down this successful program, he will incur no penalty from HEW, and that will achieve his original purpose -- his vendetta against little children receiving preventive health care.

**V*A FACTS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following are representative questions answered daily by VA counselors. Full information is available at any VA office.

Q - I have used my 36 months of educational entitlement but I would like to go to graduate school. Do I have any entitlement left?

A - Effective Oct. 1, 1976, eligible veterans who have served 18 continuous months or more on active duty after January 31, 1955, became entitled to 45 months of educational assistance if they have not been separated for more than 10 years.

Q - If I get a release of liability for a home that I purchased on a VA guaranteed loan, will I be eligible for another VA loan?

A - No. A release of liability protects a veteran if the buyer defaults on his payments. The only way to re-establish eligibility to purchase a home is to pay the loan off or have another veteran substitute his entitlement on the loan.

Q - I am enrolled in vocational rehabilitation training. I have dental problems which cause illness that interferes with my schooling. Am I eligible for treatment by the VA?

A - A veteran who is pursuing vocational rehabilitation training is entitled to a dental examination by the VA. Extent of dental treatment will be determined at that time.



Education Is Power

By Thomas E. Wilson, Ph.D.

Thanksgiving, as a special day, is now over and we have shared our bounty with friends and relatives. Tables flourished with good things to eat and laughter abounded among friends and relatives. Prayers of thanksgiving were said, children felt free from studies for two days, and we all looked at the football games to our heart's content.

Through it all, did we stop long enough to really thank God for all He has done for us in times past? Did we as Blacks consider how far we have come in gaining the rights we so justly deserve in the "the land of the free and the home of the Brave?"

Indeed, God has brought us a long way, and it would do us as Blacks well if we never forgot it. Thanksgiving should be a part of our daily routine, and not limited to the last Thursday in November. It should be considered as much a part of the Black person's tradition as eating and drinking.

What does all of this have to do with education? It is the contention of this writer that if we as Blacks, especially the young Blacks, would set aside some time each day to just be thankful and to contemplate, our lot would be easier. Education requires contemplation and concentration. Receiving an education involves use of intellectual resources inherent within each of us. Although each of us may be intellectually endowed to differing degrees, we must each be thankful for what God has given us, an use this endowment to its fullest. To not make full use of it is wrong and actually hinders progress, both of the person and of the ethnic group to which one belongs. Blacks cannot afford to waste ability. It seems such a tragedy that many of our well endowed Black students have to drop out of school for one reason or another. For too long we have been held back by injustices, prejudices, economics, lack of motivation, etc. We, as parents, have neglected to promote within our children the attitude that one way in which we may be able to improve our lot and that of their children and grandchildren is through education.

Being thankful also involves behaving in such a way that we will leave little room for unfair criticism. It involves living and creating around one's life an atmosphere of friendliness that will lead others to accept one in a positive way and promote respect. It involves reminding those who are responsible for us and those for whom we are responsible that we are doing our best to prove ourselves.

There are times when adversities make it very difficult for us to be thankful. Pressures of life such as making a living, attending school, etc., sometimes seem almost unbearable. But if we can be thankful through these times, we will find the silver linings in the proverbial clouds of life.

What are some things that we consider important enough to be thankful for? Are we thankful to our parents for just being themselves and helping us to become the men and women that we are today? Do we ever stop to give thanks for those who fought, prayed, took beatings and all other forms of punishments to gain the privileges that we have today, or do we take all of these gains for granted?

Remember that the "glory of victory is not without its deep shadows of sacrifice." Many sacrifices had to be made to arrive at where we are today.

Above all, be thankful that we live in a country where we can receive an education to prepare us for earning a livelihood and where we can worship God as we see fit.

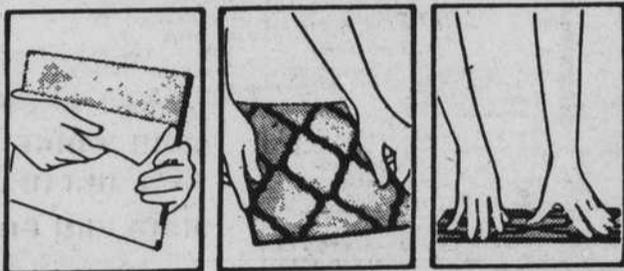
PET OF THE WEEK



TUFFY--A very rare Australian cat, one year old, belongs to Carol Virginia Touchey in the North Las Vegas area. Right now he weighs 25 pounds, but at full growth can go up to as much as 35. pounds. For fun Tuffy plays with his two brothers and loves to fish in the fish bowl. He is quite an animal. --CREED

If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.

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