

**V*A FACTS

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

Wide interest in GI home loans continued at a record pace in March, the Veterans Administration revealed today.

VA received 71,136 appraisal requests in March, the highest monthly total in nearly 21 years. The March 1977 figure was 22 percent higher than February's and 12 per cent above the March 1976 totals. A VA appraisal of a house is a first step to applying for a VA guaranteed loan.

March's heavy volume pushed the total appraisal requests received for the first half of fiscal year 1977 to 328,608. This is 15 per cent higher than the same period a year ago.

Applications for GI home loans also reflected the surge. VA received 40,979 applications in March, 35 per cent above February and 16 per cent higher than a year ago.

Loan applications during the first half of FY 1977 totaled 205,256, 22 percent over the same six months a year ago.

VA loan guaranty officials attribute some of the new business to a 1975 law that eased GI loan eligibility.

Prior to Jan. 1, 1975, a veteran who had once used his GI loan eligibility could have it restored only under special circumstances. VA had to be relieved of liability and the property had to have been disposed of for "compelling reasons," a VA spokesman said.

Congress removed the "compelling reasons" restriction, allowing entitlement to be restored if the property has been disposed of and the loan satisfied. This means most veterans with service since Sept. 19, 1940, are potentially eligible for a GI loan.

The law also provided the original veteran's liability be removed automatically and eligibility restored if another veteran purchases the property and substitutes his VA loan eligibility for that of the seller.

Since June 22, 1944, more than 9.5 million veterans and service members have borrowed \$129 billion under the VA loan guaranty program. The VA guarantees a loan up to 60 per cent or a maximum of \$17,500.

The benefit is available to veterans and active-duty personnel with at least 181 days service. Also eligible are unmarried surviving spouses of these veterans and spouses of service members listed as missing in action for more than 90 days.

Information on VA home loan benefits can be obtained at any VA office or from veterans' organization service officers.

The Nation's population grew by only 0.7 percent in 1976, reaching an estimated 216.0 million on January 1, 1977.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Clark County Democratic Central Committee is announcing their Spring Fund Raiser and will sponsor a Western Family Bar B Q which will be held at Darwin Lamb's Los Ranchos, 7800 West Ann Road from 4 pm to 9pm May 28, 1977. Music will be provided by Buddy Streight and the Texas Oakies, square dance entertainment, music, dancing, hay rides, pony rides for the kiddies and a no host bar.

Tickets are available at Democratic Headquarters from Katie Miller Ticket Co-Chairman. For additional information call 732-8833.

The public is invited to participate, so everyone get on their casual clother or western togs and go where the west begins.

There were 1,077,000 divorces in 1976 or 5.0 divorces for every 1,000 persons. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that if recent trends continue, one in every three married persons between 25 and 35 years of age may end their first marriage in divorce.

VOICE EDITORIALS



The Hughes Report

Much has been said about black apathy in voting but thanks to many writers including this one, blacks went out and voted in the Presidential election and more recently in the North Las Vegas city election. Blacks should be proud that Rev. San Roberson came in second in that election. Reports indicate that some 300 to 400 blacks Reports indicate that some 300 to 400 black votes went to his opposition but those who voted for others thinking Rev. Sam would not make it have been greatly surprised at his strong showing. It is to be hoped that those voters will now turn their votes to Rev. Sam. Approximately 48% of North Las Vegas is black and since we have one black, tom Brown in the Council the normal reasoning would say we should have 2 of the 4 Councilmen. Much has been said about politicians who do not represent their area people, but I don't believe we will ever get such a report on Rev. Sam. Endorsements for him are rolling in. I checked his program even though I have known him for 2 years. He has promised to seek more industry in North Las Vegas, more jobs, lower utility rates, more and better recreation facilities, senior citizen programs and better police and fire protection. Mark your calendar and go out June 7th and vote for Sam Roberson.

Friday night at the Moulin Rouge the Westside Community Comprehensive Economic Development Plan held a seminar on 'Community Planning and the Community role in redevelopment. It was presented by three members of the Illinois Commission on Human Relations who came at their own expense (for no compensation from Westside) at the request of Gwen Brown who was aware of their expertise in Community Affairs. They did not stay in a hotel but bunked at Gwen's house to avoid expense and costs. This was not because they were coming anyway-they made this trip for this purpose only-no wining, dining, gaming, etc. It was one of the most striking seminars I have ever attended and this community is indebted to Gwen Brown and her Illinois friends, Marion Henley, Deputy Director; Rosie Simpson, Director of Community Services; and Edward Henderson, Program Director. I was there Friday all day Saturday and Sunday a.m. It is too bad more black business people did not come out. They could have learned a lot.

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Sweet talking, President Carter has promised to appoint more women and minorities to the judicial bench. But a Justice Department spokesman said, 'Affirmative action is not a mandate for judge-ships. We want the best qualified people.'

Attorney General Griffin Bell, was one of those Georgia back woods people picked for the highest post in the Justice Department. Black folks can be start 'trusting' President Carter when he picks a Black Ph.D.'s from the post office and Black city counselor-at-law in correlation to the racial lines of this country to fill the over 1,000 jobs with five figure pay at the President's finger tips.'

Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County 2224 Comstock Drive, Family Planning Clinic offers paps smear, pelvic exam, laboratory tests, sickle cell screening and contraceptives for women 14-44. No appointment necessary. For information call 647-2171.



Education is Power

During the first three quarters of this century, our society has witnessed remarkable scientific growth and change. We have marveled at landings on the moon and other great feats of science. We have wondered what our next move will be in the conquest of space. We have pondered political decisions made concerning conservation of fuel and other materials. We think of the many things that are possible now that were not possible one-hundred years ago.

All of the things mentioned above are marvelous, but it appears that we, that is mankind, still cannot get along with his fellow man. We may wonder why, but we still realize that accomplishments in basic human relations are lagging far behind our scientific accomplishments. Have we educated ourselves to the point where we cannot get along with our fellow-man? God forbid that this would ever happen. Do our home training prepare us for living among our fellow men? We hope so.

Wolfgang and Cohen states that social change is sluggish. If this is so, then we must wait for time to cause us to develop good human relations with our fellow man.

We cannot entirely subscribe to the comments of writers who maintain that time will cause us to relate better to our fellow man. We suggest that education provides or should provide us with the proper tools to develop qualities of good human relations. Qualities of courtesy, good manners, politeness, empathy, sympathy, forgiveness, etc., all may be developed within a good educational program.

There are those who proclaim that these qualities should be taught in the home and/or through the church, and that the school should be about the business of teaching the three 'R's'. Having been in the field of education for approximately thirty years and having had five children to rear, this writer feels that in many instances the institutions which should be working in the field of human relations are not doing an adequate job, therefore, if the job is to be done at all, then the school must begin to think about doing it.

Are the qualities of common courtesy, good manners, politeness, etc., essential for survival in modern day America? They are essential even more so today than ever. Our Black population cannot afford to be anything less than on their best behavior at all times. More than ever, the Blacks are being watched for qualities that are humane. More than ever Blacks must project a spirit of friendliness and good human relations in order to survive.

The Solicitor General of the United States, a Black man, stated in a speech last week, that Blacks must work twice as hard as before to convince the masses of the population that they are not as has been projected by the majority ethnic group in times past.

The home, school and the church must unite together to assure that our Black youth receive the training that will propel them to success in later life. Blacks have traditionally been known to overcome obstacles, sometimes through means beyond our understanding. Now let us overcome the obstacles placed in our way through education.

N.S.A.C. MEETING IN LAS VEGAS

The next meeting of the Nevada State Advisory Committee for Exceptional Pupil Education will be held on Friday, May 20, 1977 at 9:00a.m. at the Teacher Education Building, Board of Regents Room, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Major topics are: Public Law 94-142, Annual Program Plan, Review and Recommendations. Legislative Report, Presentation on Individual Education Plans and a report on vocational education for the handicapped. The public is invited.

The 1976 unemployment rate was 7.7 percent, a somewhat lower figure than the 8.5 percent recorded in 1975.