

**V*A FACTS

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

Q -- Are there any advantages to converting National Service Life Insurance to permanent insurance?

A -- There are advantages if the insured plans to keep the insurance protection in later life. Premium rates for permanent plans are more expensive than for term insurance initially. However, term rates increase every five years while permanent rates remain the same. At older ages, term rates increase sharply and the insurance becomes extremely expensive.

Q -- My husband was rated 100 per cent service-connected disabled at the time of his death, but died of nonservice-connected conditions. Is my daughter eligible for dependents' educational assistance?

A -- Educational assistance is payable to dependents of veterans who die of nonservice-connected causes while totally and permanently disabled due to service-connected disability.

Q -- How long may a "helpless child" receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)?

A -- Children receiving DIC who become permanently incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical defect before reaching age 18 may receive the compensation as long as the condition exists or until they marry.

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Island Department of Commerce in attending the sessions for the third straight year to bid for the next open convention. However, cities selected for the next four conventions are Portland, 1978; Miami, 1979; Denver, 1980 and Boston, 1982.

This Thursday past I met with "Fred Hasty" of the Las Vegas Convention Authority to acquire some material and general briefing to be used in the Vegas S.C.L.C. Chapter's bid to bring the S.C.L.C. convention to Las Vegas in 1979. We hope to bring them back so we can promote "Soul Places" in our black community where black delegates could visit. Our area could certainly use the financial fall out of such a convention.

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VOICE EDITORIALS

Education is Power



By Thomas E. Wilson

It appears that there are times in our lives when we tend to feel unsure of ourselves. We sometimes tend to feel that we are not worth much or that we are bound to fail at any activity. Failing in the educational process is not exception. As young people we seem to see school as a great weight hanging about our necks. Remember that a stomach-ache is only a symptom. It must have a cause. Until the cause is found, not much can be done to make us feel better. Lack of self-confidence has a cause too. The first step in making ourselves feel better and more sure of ourselves is to find out the reasons we feel the way we do.

With some people, lack of self-confidence is a serious handicap. They may need special help in discovering the cause of their unsureness and in dealing with their problems. For the most of us lack of confidence isn't quite so much a handicap, and its causes are not so serious.

Most teenagers who are not sure of themselves are not sure for one or more of these reasons: (1) Their lack of confidence may be caused by the fact that they are in the "in-between" period between childhood and full adulthood, and they must face and try many new things without knowing for certain how great their abilities are, what in life is most important, or what kind of people they really want to be. (2) They may lack confidence because they have one or two faults which bother them so that they forget to look for their good points. (3) They may feel worthless because they are judging themselves by impossibly high standards and can't help feeling depressed when they don't measure up. (4) Some of their important emotional needs may be unsatisfied - they may not get enough feelings of being independent and making progress, of being liked by parents, friends, and members of the other sex. As a result, they may feel something's missing and be unable to feel confident.

Many adults also lack self-confidence. Their of selfconfidence specially in their working environment may be detrimental to their productivity, therefore creating problems for themselves and for their families.

There is another reason why many of us lack self-confidence. All human beings have certain needs which must be met if they are to live healthily and happily. Some of these needs are obvious, and some may not be so obvious. For instance, it is pretty obvious to most of us that one must have food every so often if one is to stay physically healthy. However, there are other needs which are also very important. Some of these needs are the need to be independent, the need to have a feeling of personal achievement and progress, the need to have security and affection, the need to be accepted by people of your own age, and the need to get along well with the opposite sex.

Unless these needs are met, at least in part, it is very difficult for a person to feel truly self-confident. Even though we may not be certain as to what is causing the trouble, we are likely to sense a lack in our lives - to feel that our lives and ourselves are not quite complete. As a result of this lack, we may feel very unsure of ourselves.

It is important for us - the average person who needs only first aid in self-confidence - to understand that our friends and acquaintances may also have real difficulties establishing a positive feeling of self-confidence, and that some of these difficulties reach back

into their childhood and family life. As we may already know, people who have a great and overwhelming lack of self-confidence act in ways which are sometimes baffling and irritating to others. It is up to us to try to understand and accept his behavior and not merely criticize it.



The Hughes Report

By Thomas F. Hughes

WESTSIDE LIBRARY

Wednesday, August 3rd saw another outpouring of concerned citizens of the Westside Branch Library. Over 50 people (half white - half black) made highly emotional statements after chief Librarian Charles Huntsberger and Bill Ludwig outlined a program devised by both that would leave Ludwig as a Librarian for the Westside (an aftermath of S.C.L.C.'s Mama Sue's drive a month ago) but would change the hours to 1 P.M. to 9 P.M. - Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and 9 to 5 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday due to a short personnel allowance for the "D" St. Branch. Kathryn Joseph pointedly asked why could they not place a C.E.T.A. worker or two at "D" St. so as to continue the present hours. It was noted that many Black organizations including the S.C.-L.C., Black Business Men's Association, Westside Comprehensive Community Economic Development's, Maudra Jones' Cultural Program and others used the library facilities almost nightly and perhaps the library acts more as a community center than a book circulation depository. Kathryn also asked that the dirty condition of the building needed regular thorough cleanings and the unit was in bad need of repairs and renovation. Senator Neal questioned the book budget amount and what was used to determine what "D" St. received. Bob Bailey questioned the motivation for the changes and asked why there were no blacks on the book selection committee "mind control could be involved" he said. Leonard Mason denounced what he envisioned as an attempt to reduce the library's effectiveness or possibly close it. Mary Wesley lambasted the Library Board Chairman and Head Librarian for sinister actions which might wreck the library. I questioned what would happen to other groups who meet on Thursday, Friday and Saturday (our S.C.L.C. meets on Tuesday) and asked that we all make a determined effort to support and promote the library. "A Friends of the Library" organization was launched and the hours change was postponed until later.

N.A.A.C.P. Meet - St. Louis

The precinct reporter (San Bernardino based) recorded the following report to wit! Some 12,000 delegates, members and supporters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People spent \$1,000,000 plus during the five-day historic convention in the gateway city to the west, June 27-July 1.

Over 100 busses were used to transport travelers to and from the convention sites and brochures were passed out listing "soul" places in the black community which delegates could visit if they wished.

There were an estimated 60 newsmen from daily and weekly newspapers, radio and television covering the convention which received more coverage than ever before in NAACP history according to Mrs. Wilson. Over 90 percent of the newsmen were black "and most of you owe your jobs to NAACP efforts to maintain affirmative action plans which are in danger now," Attorneys Herbert Reid and Nathaniel Jones, NAACP general counsel, told the reporters during one of the many news conferences and briefings.

The Las Vegas Convention Authority joined the Jamaican Tourist Board and the Virgin
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