

**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 remarried since the death of my veteran husband. My child is receiving benefits as a result of his father's death. If my present husband adopts the child, will the VA benefits be terminated?

A -- No. Adoption does not affect the benefits payable to the child as the result of the natural parent's service.

Q -- Is burial in a national cemetery permitted for all veterans or just those who are destitute?

A -- Burial in a national cemetery is available to any veteran who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. There are no income considerations.

Q -- I have a \$10,000 Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance policy. When will I get my first dividend?

A -- Present laws do not provide for dividends on this insurance.

Q -- What is the maximum amount of work-study hours available to a GI Bill student for one year?

A -- Veteran-students enrolled full time may complete a maximum 250 hours under the work-study program per semester or 750 hours in each calendar year.

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NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The Las Vegas Numismatic Society will hold its monthly meeting September 3, Saturday, 1977, at 7:30 P.M. in Room 203 in the Education Building at the University of Nevada.

We will have our regular coin auction and gold coin raffle.

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VOICE EDITORIALS

Education is Power



By Thomas E. Wilson

Reading improvement is possible for all of us who need to read a lot. People who have attempted to improve their reading find that, after a period of intensive work, they are actually reading twice as much as before. They are also experiencing greater enjoyment in reading. Such improvement is possible for you, the elementary and high school student too. By doubling our rate of reading, we will save valuable time which can be spent on more extensive reading and on other activities. At the end of a reading improvement program, we will discover that besides our assignments we can read magazine articles and other materials with greater speed and understanding.

There are certain necessary steps to take if your effort to improve your reading is to be successful: First you must find your present level of reading and those areas in which you need improvement. Second, you must start a systematic program designed to correct old habits and build more effective new ones. Third, continue the program long enough to be sure you have developed and maintained new habits. Fourth, periodically, about every six months, check to see if you are reading as effectively as you can, or whether you still need to improve. This program will not take a long time, but it will require patience and effort. At the beginning, the work may seem easy, and you may make rapid progress. Then you may reach a level or plateau in learning - a period during which you will make very little progress. If you continue to practice during this period, you will perfect your skills and then be able to make rapid progress again.

This sort of learning process applies to almost any new skill which you try to acquire. For example, when you learn a new tennis stroke, at first you make rapid progress. Then you are able to go no further for a while. Suddenly, you find yourself really able to proceed and master the stroke successfully. In learning to improve your reading, you may go through the same process. At the end of the reading program you will find that you can read more rapidly, and with greater appreciation and pleasure.

Several factors are important to the development of desirable habits, attitudes and skills. They are physical factors, speed of reading, oral reading, vocabulary, reading comprehension, ability to use study aids, and pattern of reading (the type of materials you read). You should make certain that your vision and hearing are satisfactory before you attempt to improve your reading. You should have the proper physical conditions for studying. Form the habit of reading regularly in a quiet place that is free from distracting noises and frequent interruptions.

A good reader is able to read silently with speed, and is also able to read passages aloud with fluency and correct interpretation. These abilities are closely associated with vocabulary development, which some educators believe is the most important single phase of reading improvement. How rapidly do you read? How well do you read orally? Do you express yourself effectively?

Reading comprehension is a complex ability to acquire. Comprehension is improved by learning to give close attention to materials, by reading in terms of well-defined purposes, and by developing a critical attitude toward what you read.

A good reader also makes effective use of dictionaries, guides, and other aids which are found in the library. Do you know how to make the best use of these aids?

A superior student develops a pattern of reading that reflects wide interests, good habits, and desirable attitudes.

There are several good reading tests to help a reader pinpoint his problems in reading. One need only ask his counselor or teacher. If your reading problems are serious enough to require outside help, please secure it before it is too late. Don't go through life missing out on all of the beautiful information that is written in books. Learn to read well and with speed.



The Hughes Report

By Thomas F. Hughes

Bob Bailey, prominent businessman and head of NEDCO was made Chairman Pro-Temp at the August 24th meeting of an originating group to be known as "Friends of the Library" -- Westside Branch. Purpose of the group is to create greater use of the Library, work for improvements of all kinds, hours, manpower, refurbishing the building, and help provide some services not in the current budget. The next meeting will be on September 8th, at which time participants are asked to come back and check the bylaws, etc, and determine any desired changes and formulate the chapter and become members by paying \$5.00 or more for and annual fee. This is an outgrowth of Oleatha "Mama" Sue's efforts in behalf of the S.C.L.C. to preserve our library in the last 2 months. All community minded people should come and join in this effort to keep our greatest cultural activity on this Westside, as a part of the overall renaissance taking place in our community. Bishop Webb's Church that was burned out is now rebuilt and I can hardly wait to see the new structure as it is certainly beautiful on the exterior. The Westside School at Washington and "D" Streets has been beautifully refurbished and now will house a Westside Development Commission headed by H.P. Fitzgerald and other E.O.B. activities as well as others. But the most outstanding development that borders on the fantastic is the new building of "Bethel Baptist Church" pastored by the Reverend Jesse Wesley. Some few months ago they decided to remodel their building, but when they started to dismantle, they found that the construction was so poor they decided to tear it all down and rebuild it. What makes it fantastic is that they have now built a beautiful structure from the ground to the roof without financing and have now raised the balance needed (with a very small loan) and are well on the way to completion of a grand edifice. Much of the labor has been done by the people of the Church (carpenters, masons, etc) basically on their days off. This is certainly indicative of the kind of Black Leadership that can and will revive and build-up the Black Community. I have long preached that Blacks can do their own thing if they band together and it is most pleasing to see them doing it. Twice this year I have been in Alabama and Georgia and have seen first hand what Blacks can and have done. In Montgomery, a concerned group who did not want the Government to rebuild some housing units in back of their remodeled and improved homes called a meeting and although it poured down rain, some 65 people turned out and at last report seemed to gain their point. Southern Blacks have a greater togetherness than we in the West or East and we could learn a great deal by following their footsteps. But we are doing better in Las Vegas as I have seen since I came over 2 years ago. I look forward to greater improvements as we see ourselves getting together. Yes, a renaissance is taking place.