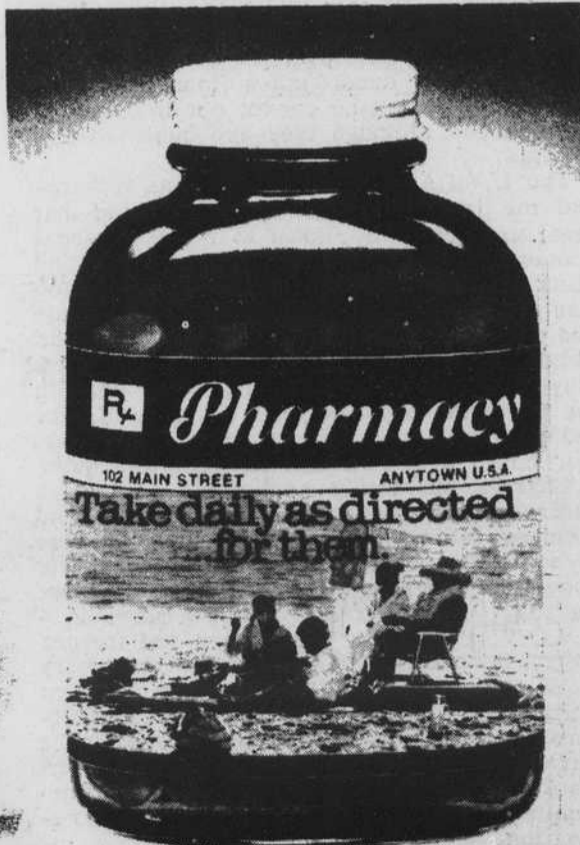


**V*A FACTS

- 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 a service-connected disability.
- Q -- If I convert my WWII National Service Life Insurance term policy to a permanent plan of insurance, will I lose my dividends?
- A -- No. You will continue to receive dividends.
- Q -- My 18 year old son is receiving VA pension benefits. He is enrolled in college. Will his pension benefits be continued?
- A -- An eligible child may receive pension benefits until his or her 23rd birthday if he or she remains single and enrolled in an approved school. Obtain VA Form 21-674 from the nearest VA office, fill it out and submit it.

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VOICE EDITORIALS



Education Is Power

By
Thomas E. Wilson

For the past several weeks we have been concerned with how to develop effective readers. We will now concentrate on ways to produce persons who not only can read, but who will read.

According to Marjorie Rowe Heyman in a book called ENRICHING YOUR READING PROGRAM, one effective way to promote this is to set aside time each day for free reading. During this time, the persons are free to read any book of their choice without being tested or evaluated in any way on the material read. If the persons who are reading are in a classroom, then everybody, including the teacher, reads. By spending his/her free time reading, the teacher serves as a good example and shows his/her students that he/she values reading. The quiet time during which everyone is occupied in the same manner encourages even the most reluctant reader to read.

The time should be regularly scheduled (at the same time each day if possible) to stress that reading is a worthwhile activity. Either the time directly after lunch or the time immediately before dismissal in the afternoon can be used effectively for free reading. At first ten or fifteen minutes can be allowed for this activity. The time can gradually be extended to about half an hour. The time spent in free reading should prove to be quite worthwhile, since a student or person who reads is continually strengthening his skills.

We are often concerned about the fact that some people read only one type of book (e.g., horse stories) to the exclusion of all others. Wide reading, although it should be encouraged, should not be forced. Children and adults alike pass through certain reading stages that are probably related to their basic needs. The reading habit should be firmly established before the persons are encouraged to vary their interests. Initially, any book selected should be satisfactory. Once a person has begun to develop the reading habit, there are several ways that wide reading can be promoted. Some of them are: (1) If you are a teacher, read aloud to the class from a book that the students are not likely to select on their own. Once the teacher is well into the book, discontinue reading it and place in the class library. (2) Have student readers finish reading the book to the class. (3) Sponsor some supplementary recreational reading units that would not involve group or committee reporting or curriculum-related units. They would be studied just for fun, and each student would need to read only one book related to the unit. (4) Have a "Hobby-in." Each student would read a book about a hobby that is new to him.

What does all of this mean to the person who is learning to read better? It means that reading is a communicative skill and must be worked on diligently in order to be learned thoroughly. However, the ability to read pays great dividends. Without this ability, one is handicapped in his endeavors to lead a full life. There is so much information available in reading form that it is almost an absolute necessity that one learns to read well.

One final word about the total reading process. We must practice reading if we are to become successful readers. The musician must practice his art in order to be successful, the artist must practice his art works in order to be a sought after artist, the medical doctor must "practice" his profession

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5 COLUMN 3

The Hughes Report

By
Thomas F. Hughes



In 1972 Louise Robertson came to Las Vegas as a result of a call to work in Alcoholism Rehabilitation. She came to Reality House, 522 W. Washington, where she is now director of the program, which is funded by the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism through E.O.B. (Economic Opportunity Board). After a time she realized the need for live-in quarters and Reality House became home for 18 persons; where they live, eat, and are counseled in a therapeutic effort to rehabilitate them. The maximum term of residency is 90 days. The plan is to separate the alcoholic from his present environment which includes family, friends and alcohol involved recreation and subject them to a short, medium or long term comprehensive rehabilitation program, provide residents and intensive full time schedule of individual counseling, group therapy, utilization of referral services, remedial education (where needed), and maintenance and operation of the facility.

Residents who are able are encouraged to seek outside employment while living at the facility and use all referral services available to assist the residents to obtain employment, which will permit them to be self-supporting by the time they complete the rehabilitation program. Family meetings are encouraged so that the family will be able to help the resident achieve expected results. Follow up services to all clients are provided to counsel and assist them when their sobriety is being threatened.

What kind of results have been achieved? 35% of the residents have become total abstainers. Another 35% returned to or stayed on their jobs making a total of 70% who have been rehabilitated.

199 people have been through Reality House in the last 2 years with the average resident staying 43 days. They come from self-referrals, mental health agencies, jails and other institutions. On application they are interviewed by Ms. Robertson or 2 full time counselors. There are four attendants, a secretary and a cook employed along with the counselors, etc. There is a waiting list of some 40 people and it has been necessary to turn down some 30 applicants in the last 2 months.

Ms. Robertson has been in the field of alcoholism for 14 years. She did volunteer work in Terminal Island, Calif., worked in Metropolitan Hospital, Norwalk, Calif. She studied at Rutgers School on alcoholism in Brunswick, N.J., University of Nevada, Reno and University of Utah and has a state certificate for counseling and administration.

Rev. Charles Wyatt has resigned as pastor of First A.M.C. Church, a move necessary since he now will be conducting full time services on Sundays at Jean Prison and his other chaplain duties will not allow him to continue at First A.M.C.

The first known competition for Lonnie Chaney, Lee Winston (Channel 10), has moved into Vegas Heights so as to be eligible to run for Assemblyman in Chaney's 7th District. Reverend Albert Dunn has advised me he will run again this year for the 6th Assembly District which he lost in 1976 by only 76 votes.