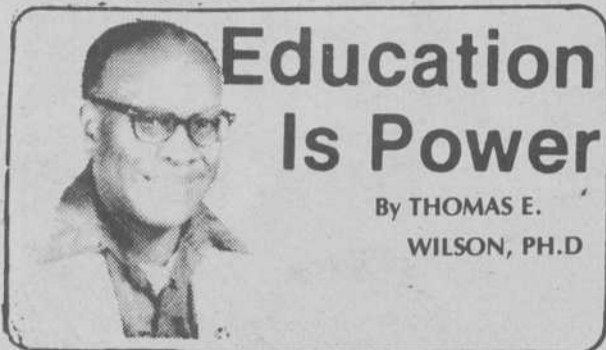


Education



Education Is Power

By THOMAS E. WILSON, PH.D

Childhood is generally assumed to be a happy time, a time of freedom from responsibility and anxiety. Yet, like adults, children have problems too — more than most parents and teachers realize. Every day, almost every hour, presents problems for the infant, the very young child, the growing boy and girl, the adolescent, and the late teenager.

Many of these are problems that time and growth will solve, for the most part — such as the problem of the two-year-old determined to tie his own shoes.

But there are also the more complicated problems

of adjusting to the demands and standards of home, school and community. A nine-year-old, for example, may struggle with the question of honesty. Older girls may worry about dates, and older boys about excelling in sports. A high school youth wonders that courses he should take, and a college student hopes to be able to graduate before he has to go to work. These are some of the problems with which boys and girls, young men and young women need help.

Children generally find it difficult to solve even the most routine problems of daily living until they have built up a background of experience in problem solving. The very young child encounters one new situation after another — drinking his milk from a cup, going up in a swing, using the toilet, learning to eat new kinds of food, etc. In each of these situations, the child must use a problem-solving approach; he has not encountered these problems often enough to permit him to react quickly and almost without thinking.

As he grows older and finds himself in the same situations over and over again, however, he will develop habitual ways of responding. At mealtime, he will lift his cup of milk and drink while his attention is

focused elsewhere — on the conversation, perhaps, or on some incident that took place at school. Similarly, tying his shoes and chewing his food will become routine situations, recurring over and over again.

As he grows he will respond to new problem situations on the basis of his past experiences with somewhat similar problems. The child will learn, for example, after an overambitious program results in a series of colds in the winter, as well as poor report cards, that a day has only 24 hours, nine of which must be devoted to sleep or rest. If he is to get grades at school, one club activity may be all he can manage.

Our job as parents and teachers is not to protect children from problems. Neither do we want to solve their problems for them. Personality develops largely through the overcoming of difficulties. When an individual's progress toward a goal is blocked by obstacles and he has no previous experience to help him out of his difficulty, then his initiative and originality are called upon. This is especially true of children. In learning to cope with problems, children and young people grow in wisdom and in ability to meet

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REGISTRATION

CONTINUES THROUGH

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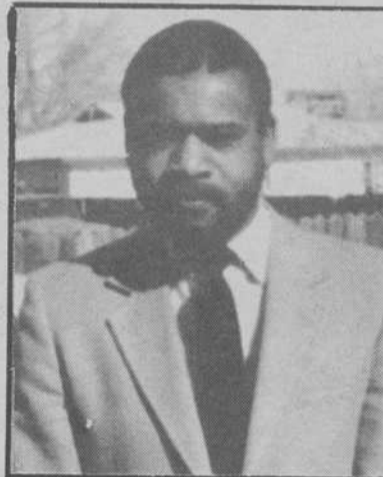
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CCCC REGISTRATION IN PROGRESS

Clark County Community College (CCCC) Cheyenne Campus, North Las Vegas, is now in the process of registration for the Spring 1984 Semester on Mondays thru Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. thru January 26, 1984. For an appointment to register or for additional information call CCCC at 643-6060, ext. 253.

Instruction for the Spring 1984 Semester will begin January 30 and will end May 11. Fees per credit are \$20.50, this fee does not include additional lab fees or textbooks.

The deadline for Mail and Telephone registration was January 6, 1984. Registration at the College will be going on until January 26, 1984. Register NOW.

Girls Scouts Having Annual Cookie Sale

The 1984 Frontier Council Girl Scout cookie sale began on Friday, Jan. 13. While the day may have signified bad luck to some, it didn't discourage the 8,000 girls and adults who started out that day in their annual campaign to raise funds for troop and Council programs. The sale will end on Jan. 30.

Seven varieties of cookies will be available.