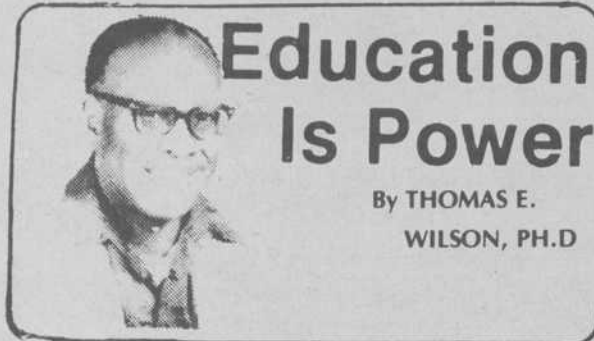


Education



Education Is Power

By THOMAS E. WILSON, PH.D.

Nothing is more valuable to our sanity than to keep looking ahead to the future and thinking of what contributions we can make to society. The inclusion of more educational experiences should be included in this forward look.

This writer, who teaches classes at our local university, decided to ask his students about their perceptions of education in the year "2000." The results were astounding, forward looking, and well thought out.

Here are some of these perceptions as stated by the students in one class: Education by the year "2000" should include teaching children and adults not only academic materials, but also human qualities. People of all ages need to be taught skills and qualities which will help them become better human beings. I feel people, especially child-

ren, need to be taught how to learn so that the educational process does not stop at three in the afternoon. We need to teach children "how" to learn so that they will become autonomous learners, and will continue learning throughout their lives.

Another student stated: By the year "2000" classes will be held at home, with the television as the major teacher. The children's intelligence level will be a lot higher than it is now because of all of the new technology. Everything will be computerized.

Still another student wrote: Education in the future should concentrate on the skills that are needed for whatever particular field one chooses. Education will become more specialized for the more specialized job market. This, however, will not necessarily be good, because one will find

people not being quite so well rounded in several different areas.

A more mature student wrote: I think education will be more voluntary. Students will learn what they need for what they are doing or planning to do in life. They will learn because they want to and need to. Children need to want to learn before they can really make any learning a part of themselves. I think television, computers, tape recorders and the like will play an importantly increasing role in all teaching areas.

A student who teaches special education wrote: I feel that by the year "2000," education should be concerned with the computer (programs, research, etc.). It has been said that in the future there will be the button pushers and the button programmers. I would hope that in the year "2000" there should be some gains made in the area of people becoming multilingual. Possibly a common universal language that might be a numbers' language might be developed.

Dec. 1, a student feel education should continue on the "back to the basics" trend with emphasis on the humanistic approach. I feel that the high technology approach to education should be avoided. I feel that a student needs that special interaction with a teacher which computerized individualized instruction cannot provide. This is not to say that I believe that all technology should be avoided in the classroom. As our society becomes more industrialized, an increased

Students to Perform Mexican "Posada"

On Dec. 1, 35 Sunrise Acres Elementary School students will perform a traditional Mexican "Posada" at Las Vegas High School Auditorium at 10 a.m.

The program, coordinated and sponsored by the Hispanic Heritage Association, will feature the "Posada" play, dances and songs of Mexico, and the breaking of a traditional pinata. Costumes for the students were provided

amount of computers are used in jobs. We need to prepare our students for the jobs of the future. Perhaps, what I am trying to say is that we need a healthy balance between the "back to the basics" approach and the "high technology" approach.

The above quoted materials represent a cross-section of students' reaction to the question: What should education be like in the year "2000"? They are unedited for several reasons. The writer wanted to present the ideas of students who are juniors and/or seniors at our local university.

We believe in youth. We believe that our youth must prepare themselves for the future. Black youths have a much greater need to prepare themselves educationally than ever before. Without a proper education, where will our youths be in the overall scheme of things in the year "2000" which is only 15 years away? Parents, we must see that our youths are properly prepared to face the rigors of the 21st century.

by the association.

Association member Maria Smith has volunteered 75 hours to work with the Sunrise Acres youngsters after school and on Saturday afternoons in order to pre-

pare them for the performance.

More than 600 children from Sunrise Acres, Bracken, Park, Williams, Hewetson and Lincoln Elementary Schools will attend the free program.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS FOR INSTRUCTION INCREASES

An estimated 18.5 million elementary and secondary school students received some classroom instruction from television in 1982-83. And 580,000 teachers used computers in the classroom, according to a study commissioned by CPB and the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES).

"The use of electronic communications for instruction in elementary and secondary classrooms has grown tremendously in the past seven years," said Douglas F. Bodwell, executive assistant to the president and director of education, CPB. "And public television continues to be the nation's primary provider of television for classroom instruction."

The only one of its kind, the study entitled *Availability, Use and Support of Instructional Media, 1982-83* found that television for instruction was most commonly used in science, social science, language arts and reading

classes. Teachers reported the areas of greatest need for program development were mathematics, computer science and career/vocational education.

The 1983 study found that computers were serving multiple instructional purposes in all schools, with computer literacy estimated to be the most frequently occurring use. Elementary and junior high schools used computers for remedial or advanced instruction for special students and for regular instruction in specific areas for all students. At senior high schools computer programming, word processing or advanced problem solving — and regular instruction in specific subject areas were the most common uses.

Use of audio/radio appears to have stabilized for almost 60 percent of all teachers, with elementary school teachers slightly increasing their use.

WATCH FOR THE OPENING!

LOCAL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN VOICE OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAM

Local Clark County School District high school students participating in the Voice of Democracy Broadcast Scriptwriting Scholarship Program will have their scripts on "My Pledge to America" judged on Dec. 6 at the Charleston Heights Community School. The winning voice recording will be judged among the state finalists in

Hawthorne, Nev. From among the state winners, six national winners will be chosen to receive a total of \$32,500 in scholarships.

According to Joseph H. Benneman, chairman of the program, the Voice of Democracy is in its 38th year. More than 5 million high school students have participated over the years.

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