

'Dear Liz'

Teenager Desperate For Date

Dear Liz:

I am 14 years of age and have not had one date in my life. It is not because boys

don't find me attractive and ask me for dates, but my parents are "old fashion" and says, I can't receive dates

until I am 15. Liz, that's a whole year and I am afraid I can't wait that long. What should I do?-- Worried Teenager



Miss Naomi C. McLean is perhaps the most awarded black woman in Winston-Salem. She was recently cited as a "Human Resource in the United States of America." Many think of her as the world's greatest teacher.

Chronicle Profile

Best Teachers Usually Hardest

Good teachers are hard to come by. They are the ones who won't let you get by with any old thing. They are always making you (the one everybody predicts will fail) do your work; no matter how well you fake a headache. The good teachers are usually the ones everybody remembers as the toughest. Later on in life they are the ones you love the most.

Miss Naomi C. McLean is thought of by many of her former students as "the best teacher I've ever had...and the strictest."

Miss McLean, owner, operator, and founder of McLean's Stenographic and Tutoring Services, is strict and dedicated. She believes in being strict and very positive with her students. "One thing that cripples students," she said in a recent interview, "is when a teacher tells them they've done something good when they haven't. I think a teacher should be dedicated to her work so she can give the best to those who are coming to her for results. She should be so concerned that she will not just let a student pass, but cause the student to learn something."

That philosophy is backed by more than 30 years of teaching and hundreds of letters from former students who have gone on to become responsible workers.

Miss McLean, a jovial person even though at times she tries to be tough, feels that a person should be really interested in his chosen field of work. She recalled a situation that illustrates that point well:

"I had a beautician once who used to always burn my hair. I wondered about that," she said grimacing. "One day she was busy and another lady had to do my hair. Her regular beautician really didn't want to do that kind of work, but the other one did. "The one who didn't want to be a beautician always burned my hair. It's the same way with teachers; If you like your work, you'll do it well." She has done well with McLean's Stenographic and Tutoring Services.

She founded the school in 1941. It was the first Business School for Negroes in Winston-Salem. She changed the name from The Star Stenographic School of Business to its present name because it was misleading. "Schools and colleges are places where you have campuses and all," she said. "Stenographic and tutoring services keeps it on a small level...I didn't want to mislead people."

Her list of accomplishments is more than a yard long. In 1953 she received a letter of inquiry from Royal Business Schools in New York City requesting her opinion concerning new methods in teaching shorthand. In 1960 she met the requirements and received certification as a Registered Certified Public Stenographer, later termed Registered Public Stenographer (RPS). She had, at that time, the distinction of being the only RPS in the city.

In 1958 a Business program by Beta Alpha Chapter, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority was given in honor of Miss McLean and a plaque was awarded to her with gold engraving as the most outstanding Business Woman of the Year.

She received the Professional Business League's Certificate as one of the outstanding woman achievers in the business world and related professional careers in 1972.

"The stenographic service is valuable to people in all walks of life," she said proudly. Her many former students are proof of that.

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but I think you should wait for your parents permission to date. Remember, "anything worth having is worth waiting for."

Dear Liz: I have a problem. My boyfriend has a body odor which is very noticeable. I don't want to hurt his feelings, so as a hint, I have given him several bottles of expensive men's cologne. He won't wear any of them. He says they make him smell. What should I do? --Nosey

Dear Nosey? Instead of accentuating the positive, try eliminating the negative by giving him a bar of soap.

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