

# Getting more out of your life everyday

By Naomi McLean  
Chronicle Columnist

How can we get more out of life? This is a very important question which calls for honest thinking.

Every experience in life holds within it a lesson to be learned, a problem to be solved or a challenge to be met. By seeking good through every experience, we learn the lessons that add to our growth, increasing our

Naomi's View

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understanding and carrying us on toward our goal.

Our lives are determined by the thoughts we dwell on. If we think only thoughts that are healthy, strong, trusting and worthy, our lives of course will be overflow-

ing with the health, strength and calmness that comes with trust.

To get more out of life, and to enjoy the fullness of life, quiet times themselves are important -- times when we withdraw from our daily chores to commune

with the deeper impulses of our being. Such helps us every day to broaden our lives in some way. We refuse to close ourselves in, to narrow down the confines of our lives, to surround ourselves with a wall of self-centeredness.

We grow along with life; we flow with life, realizing that Divine order is the perfection that makes us unsatisfied with the imperfect. It is the harmony that will not let us be content with confusion; it is the knowledge that will not let us rest in ignorance; it is the light that will not let us abide in darkness and one step at a time will lead us through, helping us to meet every challenge with courage and encouragement, seeking the good in every experience, coming forth to bless our lives.

This realization lifts us to a new and positive frame of mind and we find boundless strength and inspiration, a fresh impetus for every undertaking.

## Jackson sets new agenda

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what level of involvement I will have, but it will not just be focused on the top of the ticket. There is a challenge for the party to expand and make room for those locked out, but there is a tremendous resistance in the Democratic Party to include new people. But, at this point, I'm optimistic that expansion will take place."

"Will your supporters and members of the Rainbow Coalition support the Democratic ticket enthusiastically?"

"I can't determine the level of enthusiasm. There is significant contrast between Reagan and Bush and Mondale and Ferraro. The Democratic Party is a live option for the people in November."

"What kind of signal are you looking for to show that the Democratic Party is making room to accept the 'locked-out'?"

"Integrated slates. Blacks, whites and women vote together and they should be slated together. No longer should women vote for an all-male slate or blacks vote for an all-white slate. We must be slated together. Let's play the game fair and by one set of rules."

"Now that the convention is over, what's next for you?"

"I have moved back to South Carolina legally, and I will be putting much more focus on the South. There must be a new South agenda. I think the new focus of our struggle has to be from the South."

"Why the South?"

"I'm impressed with the possibilities in the

South. The South has paid the most dues to change socially and to make adjustments. In some ways it is more prepared emotionally for the new era we must move into. In addition, the South is the poorest region with the greatest possibility of change."

"What will that agenda contain?"

"Blacks and whites have common economic needs. We must move from racial battleground to economic commonground. We must change that. Toxic wastes are being dumped in sites all across the South. We must get rid of that. ... We must lift the standards of human need for people. We must move to issues where blacks, whites, women and men come together."

"The speech you made at the Democratic Convention has been tagged one of the greatest speeches ever. How did you feel about your speech?"

"The greatest thing about that speech was that it was uncut. We earned the right to be independent. Nobody told me what I could say. That's why I want the people to help me pay our campaign debt (\$500,000) so we can remain independent. I don't want Mondale or the DNC (Democratic National Committee) to pay our debt."

"Was your campaign one that would allow you personally to gain clout and political prestige?"

My campaign was about demanding equity and parity for the locked-out. It was about 10,000 running for their self-respect. And we made it."

## Court attacks equity

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President Reagan, who presently has the ball and possibly will continue to have the ball for the next four years, has totally different ideas about the problem of bringing racial equity into the workplace and has William Bradford Reynolds playing the tunes that make the conservative court dance every time Reagan snaps his fingers.

Admittedly the decision left a number of unanswered questions which will unquestionably be asked again when the Detroit police case, now before the Federal District Court, reaches the Supreme Court. As in the Cincinnati case, the Reagan administration, if still in office, will put its view of the scope of the recent decision to the test. It is clear that when the President talks about discrimination he includes everyone and tends to make reverse discrimination, as seen through the eyes of the white male who sees the invasion of his domain threatened, a major issue.

The President, himself a master at making things seem correct, has the effrontery to announce in a nationally televised press conference that the law is "to prevent discrimination against the individuals and that is what the Supreme Court has said in that case."

Several weeks ago, Detroiters heard Clarence Pendleton, chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and one of the President's black voices, make the same statement. There was no indication that there is any concern on the part of any member of the present administration that the word "equity" has been totally eliminated from the minds and hearts of those who are currently running our government.

Coleman Young and Ben Hooks might as well be whistling "Dixie" as to question the prevailing attitude in middle-class white America that blacks are being treated fairly and should not be given any advantage over present-day whites "who can't be made to suffer for the sins of their bigoted grandparents."

The challenge is now being flaunted at black America: "You won't be discriminated against in the workplace but you can't expect to be given any advantage over others who are competing for the same jobs."

There is no question that

blacks must now be prepared to meet stiffer opposition in personnel offices across the land. One corporation has already announced that it will not interview any college graduate who has less than a 3.5 grade average. Rigid standards are going to be initiated and minorities will have to

meet them.

This is a responsibility that must be faced up to by our public education systems. Blacks who are victimized by deficient elementary, secondary and college training can no longer expect solace that they can make it into the workplace simply because they are a member of a "protected class."

The decision of Byron White and his five colleagues in face of Justice Blackmun's damning minority opinion signals a new day in the consideration of blacks for employment either in the civil service system or in the business and industrial communities.

The responsibility now rests on the shoulders of those among us who have assumed positions of leadership, particularly in our educational systems. Young people must be adequately prepared and motivated to compete in the open market. They can no longer be allowed to enter the world of work with inadequate preparation.

Unfortunately, there are many in charge of our public and private institutions who continue to feel that rhetoric will help build those bridges to span the chasms that are being reopened. It is too bad that the message that is being sent so clearly from Washington isn't being heard.

## Open line

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asked to let his office know where they thought stop signs could be replaced by yield signs. He says it was suggested that the intersection in question be considered. A field investigation was done and it was agreed that the intersection's stop sign could be replaced by a yield sign. It's been that way for three years now and Polanis says it has yet to show up on the accident chart.

Do black people get sunburned?

Q: Is it possible that blacks, both light and dark-skinned ones, get sunburn?

T.R.

Send your questions to Open Line, P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102 or call 723-8428 and ask for Albert Nickerson.

A: The amount of sunburn a person receives

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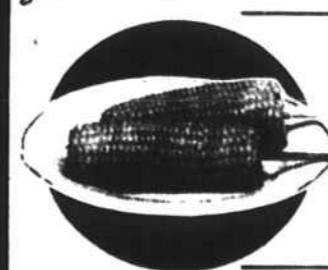
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