

NAOMI'S VIEW

Lionel Hampton: Master Builder

There seems to be a fairly common belief among young secretaries today that graduation from high school, business school, or college means that school days are at an end. Once they receive their diplomas, they breathe sighs of relief and bid adieu to classrooms, teachers and books.



Naomi C. McLean

This should not be the case. Education should be a continuing process - if you want to be a success, that is. There's always much to learn, and you can have fun while learning.

Naturally, if you're a working girl, your job should be your primary interest. It isn't wise to go overboard and rush out to classes five nights a week. However, there are probably one or two evenings a week when you have some free time. Why not spend them in school? You may enjoy it - and it's bound to prove worthwhile.

There are a number of things you could study. If you're starting out on your first job, for example, you may find that some of your skills are not so good as you would like them to be. Perhaps you're working for a man who dictates like a "ball of fire," and you just can't keep up. Or you may discover that your punctuation and spelling are not up to par (even though you did get good grades in English). Don't be complacent and simply correct your mistakes after your boss returns your work. You expect increases in your pay check, your boss, in turn, expects you to become a better secretary each day. Therefore, it is your responsibility to learn to do things the right way. And one of the best ways to improve yourself and your skills is by a program of concentrated study.

Before you proceed to take courses at random, it's a wise idea to have a talk with your executive. He may have some good suggestions about schools and programs. And whether or not he can help you, he's sure to be impressed by your ambition.

Many large companies recognize the value of this type of study, and they've set up tuition-refund plans for their employees, in many cases, the company foots half the bill, in others they pay the full amount. Some firms even offer courses within the organization. If your company has any sort of education program, you should investigate its possibilities. You may be very glad you did.

If you're one of those lucky secretaries whose skills are in tiptop shape, you should still be able to find courses that can help you be a more valuable employee. Your job - as secretary to a banker, lawyer, or what have you - will determine what you study, of course. Your company will benefit from your move and so will you. You'll be a more intelligent worker, and you'll find yourself getting much more out of your job when you've learned something about the field in general. Rewards, in the form of fatter pay checks and promotions, will start coming your way.

Even if you're that rare person who is completely happy with his job and sees little reason for career courses, you may find a return to school worthwhile. There are many interesting subjects you can take up for the sheer pleasure of learning something new. Cultural, creative, how-to-do-it, or sports classes can't help but make your life fuller and more enjoyable. You may start one of them as an avocation and find that it opens a new vocation to you.

Education of any kind is stimulating, broadening, and fun. It keeps you alert, keeps you growing mentally, helps you to become a more attractive person in the eyes of your friends, your fellow workers, and your boss. Once you start learning anew, you'll find no place for boredom in your working or leisure hours. Regardless, Education is Valuable.

You & the Law

by Reggie Warren
Legal Aid Society
of Northwest N.C., Inc.

New Landlord/Tenant Rights

North Carolina has two new Landlord/Tenant Laws. One of the new laws gives tenants the right to have fit and safe housing. If your place needs repairs, you need to know how to use this new law!

Who Is Covered By This Law

All housing that people pay to live in is covered by this law - houses, apartments, trailers, public housing. If you pay for your place by giving your landlord part of your crop, or if you pay by working for your landlord, this law is for you, too. You do not have to have a written lease to use this law. This law does not cover motel and hotel rooms.

What Does The Law Say

The new law says that your landlord must keep your housing fit and safe. It also says that you, the tenant, must pay your rent, keep your place clean, and not damage your place. To make the new law work, both the tenant and the landlord must do their part.

What Does The Landlord Have To Do

Obey the local Housing Code. Many towns have passed laws that say what a fit and safe place should have - like window screens, hot and cold water, door locks and more. These laws are called "The Housing Code." To find out if your town or county has a Housing Code and

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Lionel Hampton is known to the world as one of the greatest musicians ever to live. And although his list of credits and accomplishments are endless, there is still another triumph this great American has achieved: urban rehabilitation.

In 1974, Lionel Hampton completed a 355-apartment housing project in Harlem. Not named by him, it was called the Lionel Hampton House. This past summer, hundreds gathered in Harlem along with New York City politicians, community leaders and government officials including the future vice president, to honor the opening of Lionel Hampton's latest humanitarian effort: the Gladys Hampton Houses, a 205-unit complex named after his late wife Gladys.

Gladys Hampton was the cornerstone in Lionel Hampton's career and life. When they met in California in 1932, Gladys was a designer to such great celebrities as Joan Crawford and Rosalind Russell. She helped organize some of Hampton's first bands and stood as the main source of his encouragement throughout their years together.

Later when he was invited to join Benny Goodman and his band in 1936, she dropped her career and dedicated her entire life to managing his. Entertainers and musicians from around the world gathered at her funeral in 1971 to pay last respects.

Hampton likes to be quoted as saying "God gave me the talent, but Gladys gave the inspiration." That statement along with his wife were so dear to him that the inscription is engraved on the cornerstone of the building.

In an interview I taped with Hampton last fall, I became aware of the great compassion this musical giant had for his late wife, his career and the welfare of others.

"She was a wonderful lady," says Hampton. "Outside of being a great wife and a great inspiration to me and a



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great guidance, she also was a great businesswoman."

Among the things, he was talking about the large amount of land Gladys had purchased in Las Vegas some years ago where the band frequently played. Recently, Hampton has received seven-figure offers for that same land. But money is not "Hamp's" main concern.

Hampton is a man who is as politically active as he is musically. He has numbered among his closest associates President Ronald Reagan and Richard Nixon. Even his career as a developer started with the help of the late Nelson Rockefeller, before he became the governor of New York.

Once while playing in Chicago he received word that Rockefeller wanted him to play at his home for a family dinner. This was to be the beginning of a relationship that would include Hampton's support for Rockefeller in his campaign for Governor.

"The people down in Harlem were having a hard time getting money to rehabilitate their homes and Governor Rockefeller was putting together a UDC - Urban Development Corporation - for the State of New York. And so the community told me, why don't you ask Governor Rockefeller could he sponsor some of these apartments and new homes down here in our community. So I did. I asked him and he said he would do it. But he said I want you to be the sponsor."

Letter To The Editor From page 4

leave me with the belief that there are no mistakes in the Bible, even if they are in the background as Rev. Durnell and Curry say. Second Timothy 3:16 tells us that all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. Can we dare say that God inspired man to write something that was wrong or incorrect? Selah!

I have often heard people give what appears to be contradictions from the Scriptures. A very real error and problem with that is that we are attempting to analyze or explain God! Isaiah 55:8 tells us that God's thoughts are not our thoughts, neither his ways our ways. Therefore, it is impossible for us to decide that his word contradicts itself if we do not fully understand it. The only way for us to understand God's Word is to deeply study it, and above all, ask God for divine revelations of his written word.

Dividing the background of the Gospel from its major directions and commands is another way of making drastic misconceptions about the Bible. How can one divide the miracle of the Virgin Mary from the crucifixion? How can one divide the separation of the Red Sea from its actual existence? Are not these divisions just as detrimental to the understanding of the Bible as the one's Rev. background and actual commandments and direction of the Bible?

I do realize that I am neither able to explain the reasons for the "apparent" contradictions of the Bible. But before we decide that there are indeed mistakes in God's Word, I think we would better profit from the belief that God is indeed infallible and just accept it as that. Are there mistakes in the Bible? In my opinion, no, there are not, but that opinion is based on pure faith and belief that indeed God is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, and that all wisdom does come from God. Let us heed to the advice of Solomon as he tells us in Proverbs 4:7, "above all thy getting, get understanding." (Philippians 1:3).

Sincerely,

Beverly McCarthy

To Whom It May Concern:

Please write this write up in your paper: For the last two years, I have been the coordinator of having a fellowship dinner for all handicap individuals, giving them a free meal, washcloths and toothbrushes, which came from donations from money of groups and individuals, that 75 to 100 handicap persons have really enjoyed. By being a member of the Northwest Epilepsy Association, our group has broken up. We are connected with the I.Y.D.P. I don't feel as welcome in this group because it is racism that seems to be stirring up there and much discord since Mrs. Foster left us and on the Mayor's Handicapped Group also.

As the fellowship dinner will be cancelled, I have written many groups, clubs and our biggest corporations in this city and I was turned down by them, and requested they send the donations to Wachovia Bank on Patterson Ave. so, it is too late to have programs printed.

Senator East has called from Washington and he was unable to be our speaker of the evening.

In closing, I want to thank everyone, including our State Legislature, Congressmen, Stephen Neal, Mrs. Louise Wilson and her group, Winston Urban League Guild, Negro Council of Women. I want to take my hat off to the Kiwanis Club who paid the whole amount of feeding the handicapped in our first fellowship dinner. May God bless every one of you, so I am stepping down from the program, but not still being my brother's keeper. I am giving time to the Samaritan Soup Kitchen, Trans Aid, and my senior citizens club, where God can be found and no racism can enter in, where all is on one accord.

Thanks,

Mrs. Mary Sloan Jones

Let the work I have done speak for me.

To the Editor,

I send you this letter to express great sympathy for my beloved Baxter Holman Jr. I was so tight with the family and with

because they are ahead of life at the time. I haven't been hurt this bad since my mother passed, so express my sympathy for the last moments of someone who was more than a man of nothing but honorable deeds. Would you please pass my sympathy to the Holman family and try keeping them together for it will be hard because his daughters, Gaye, Faye, Cheryl and son, Tyrone, loved him so much. I feel as bad as they do, but they must keep going

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Love Always,

Joel D. Stevenson

Among the many talents that this master of music has conquered, his role when not bringing the house down in a wild chorus of "Coming Home" is that of a hugely successful businessman. Aside from running two music publishing companies, Lionel Hampton Enterprises has as part of its other ventures two record labels and, of course, the Lionel Hampton Development Corporation.

He has even composed a major symphonic work, "King David's Suite," which he was invited to conduct before a symphony orchestra. And to add scholarly excellence to musical excellence, Hampton possesses honorary Doctor of Music degrees from Allen, Xavier, Pepperdine and Howard Universities. Obviously, his heart belongs to music.

Hampton likes to tell the story of how he met Louie Armstrong while playing at Sabastian's Cotton Club in Harlem: "While we were there, Louis Armstrong came out to headline the show. And Louis' manager heard us and he liked us so well that he left Louis' band in New York City and used us."

"Louis came out and he liked us so well that he took us on a recording session to record for him. And the first number we recorded was a tune that the famous Eubie Blake, had sent him called 'Memories of You.'"

Once at the studio, Armstrong asked Lionel if he knew anything about an instrument that was lying in the middle of the floor. Hampton, who had never played the instrument before, gave it a try -- and with instant success. That instrument was a vibraharp, which would become the musical monogram for Hampton's music.

Lionel Hampton will always be remembered as a great musician. However, his long existence in the music world is secondary to his dedication to the welfare of others. He is a house filled with love and music.

Tony Brown's Journal, the television series, is shown every Sunday, on Channel WGHP - TV (8) at 11:30 p.m.

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