SINCE YOU ASKED ME

By LONNIE PRUITT

DEAR LONNIE: I just love to dance. If I could, I would dance every hour of every day. I know all the latest steps. I could teach dancing if I wanted to. My problem is that my parents don't understand me.

They don't think I should dance at all. They say that too much of anything is a sin. My mother has persuaded my dad to let me go to a dance every Saturday night, but the rest of the week I can't go dancing. I have to stay home.

Don't you think this will interfere with my career if I decide to dance for a living? Don't you think I should be allowed to dance as much as I want to?

High Stepper

YOU CAN dance as much as you want to, as long as it is in your room or in your home. You just can't go out dancing as much as you want.

It is too bad that your parents don't see eye to eye with you about this problem, but I think you probably enjoy the Saturday nights much more this way.

Suppose you went out every night, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday? Would you be able to do everything else you have to do, and still be a high stepper on Saturday? Maybe not.

Anyway, when you get old enough to be your own boss, you will have plenty of time to find out.

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DEAR LONNIE: I asked my teacher to make a program out for me so that I could take typing next semester. Do you know that teacher didn't do it?

My mother even came up to school to see about it, and the teacher still wouldn't change it. My mother said she is going to speak to the principal, and if that doesn't work, she is going to speak to the school board.

It is a shame the way they don't want to let you take what you want to take in this town. I think some teachers think they are superhuman or something.

Teachers don't know everything.

Would-Be Typist

YOU ARE absolutely right. Nobody knows everything. I can't understand why that teacher is behaving that way. She must be confused.

Your mother is right to keep on trying. Maybe you can take it in summer school, or even at a private school. Maybe you could get someone to teach you at home. Anybody who wants to type as badly as you do should get a chance to learn.

I don't see what harm it could do for you to take typing. Are the classes over crowded? Do you have to have a certain average? Do you have to be in a certain grade?

Find out just why the teacher is acting that way, and you will know what you should do.

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DEAR LONNIE: I'm from Houston, Texas, but since I'm in the Air Force, I am stationed in Grand Forks, N.D. My mother sends me a copy of our hometown paper, the FORWARD TIMES, every week.

In the last issue I read your article about some guy being bored. I wish I could trade places with him. I don't think there's any place worse than this in the world.

Man, this place is really hurting. I haven't seen so much boredom in my life, and there he is in big beautiful Houston, and doesn't know what to do with himself.

I won't see Houston for five or six months. I'm getting out of the service soon, and have to tell the people who get bored is they've never had it so good!

Bored Kenneth

THE GUYS in service all say the same thing. They miss being away from home and would trade place with almost anybody, bored or not.

Servicemen would probably get some letters if they would write to their old schools. They could ask a particular teacher to get some of her students to become pen pals.

Maybe their minister would help them get some mail if they would write him. We don't print real names or addresses in this column, so we can't help him.

Readers who want to help might try finding out who they know that is in the service. Everybody likes to get mail, including me.

STACEY ANSWERS

'I don't have anyplace to go'

Let Stacey help you with problems, if you are 21 or over or if you have an adult problem. Drop a card or a short letter to Stacey Answers, AFRO Magazine, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203. All names will be kept confidential.

Dear Stacey:

I am 20 years old, my husband is 26. We have been married six months. We are expecting a baby now.

My husband and I are having difficulties. He feels as if we should separate because he is irresponsible and is not ready to take on responsibilities.

He would like to be by himself to find out just what he wants. I love my husband and I don't want to separate. If we should separate I don't have any place to go. I would like for us to work our problem out together. Please tell me what I should do — Help.

Sit him down and tell him what you have told me. If this fails, ask him to go with you to a minister friend.

Dear Stacey:

I have been in love with a very important girl for quite a while. And now she seems to give up on our love. Could you please give me some information. I love this girl very much. — Lover

Ask her why she has become so cool. Maybe you haven't been shining your shoes lately. Real love transcends petty problems. Get her to be frank and tell you what's wrong.

Dear Stacey:

I am crying for help. I am depressed and confused. Please give me advice. I am 23 years old, and work as a janitress in a public school. The job is not what I want but it could not be helped. Pregnancy and separation from my husband forced me to work.

I have a boyfriend who does not really know my true position. I don't want him to know. I'll never tell him. I would like to have a sufficient and good job.

I am a reliable worker, plus a good typist. If, I am lucky enough to find what I am looking for then I won't have to tell him my position.

He thinks highly of me and it makes me feel good. We really love each other. So you can see my situation. I don't want to lose him.

This job is really holding an ax over my head. It is such a burden.

I have been keeping him in the dark and want to keep him there until I get what I want. (clerk typist)

Please let me know your true opinion. Maybe my situation is not that difficult, but I still would like your opinion. — Troubled

A janitress job has dignity too, nothing to be ashamed of if you are earning an honest living. Keep working at it until you get placed in your field. Meantime, tell your friend what you do. It is no disgrace, if he really loves you, he won't care.

LONESOME HEARTS

I'm a woman of high principles'

● BY ALBERTINE ASHE ●

I am 40, employed, divorced with one married daughter away and a 12-year-old at home. I'm a woman of high principles and gainfully employed. If you are 37-41, self supporting, clean cut, excellent character and not conceded write me now. MRS. TORMAE

Lonesome hearts, write a short letter to me giving full particulars about yourself and the person you'd like to meet. Sign your correct name and address to all mail. Enclose $1.00 in currency and stamped self-addressed envelop for each address wanted and general handling. —ALBERTINE ASHE, AFRO-AMERICAN, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

Widower

Widower 43, home lover and good house keeper wishes to meet a gentleman 50-60. I love children, clean living and I'd like marriage if the right one answers. Mrs. WINNETH

Employed

I'm 27, employed, recently arrived in this area. Would like meeting a nice lady 20-30, living in the Md., D.C. area. CLYDE

Habits

I am 63, 5 feet 3, brown-skinned and I don't smoke and drink. I want to meet a nice man 60-68, dependable with clean habits. Mrs. VINE

Together

Elderly retired American seeking the acquaintance of a desirable lady around 65. I live alone, I'm honest and sincere. Write soon, we can enjoy what we have left together. Mr. KARO

Dependable

I'm looking for a neat, sincere, truthful dependable man 50 - 55. I'm an honest church woman who loves music, clean living and intelligent surroundings. Mrs. CARBON

Marriage

I'm seeking marriage and lifetime partner. Prefer her light brown, 25-35, intelligent, who knows how to meet and greet people. I want a Christian, one man woman. Mr. BEE F.

Affectionate

Tall man 45, good health and reputation, living in D.C. Would like to meet older understanding, very affectionate lady 50-65 living in D.C. or near. Mr. WASHINGTON

Pleasant

I'm 39, pleasant, honest, understanding, sincere and most of all a Christian. I would like to meet a nice man who wants a companion my age. Mrs. SUMMITT

Medium

An honest middle-aged woman, medium size, who enjoys church life wants a true companion. He must be an understanding, employed gentleman 58-62 who likes my type. — MRS. BOND

Philly

I'm 38, never married. Would love to meet a young lady for companionship. I like sports, reading and things uplifting and I recently moved here from Philly—JOHN

TELL IT TO JAN

'I am miserable without her...'

Dear Jan:

I am 14 and deeply in love with a girl 13. We broke up a year ago but I still love her and want her back.

What can I do to prove my love to her? I am miserable without her. What should I do? HEARTBROKEN

Grow up some more. Yours is probably puppy love now. Next year, you'll look back and wonder how you could be so foolish.

Dear Jan:

I am 15 years old and used to go steady with a boy 16 years old. We broke up and now he goes with this other girl. He constantly keeps on hugging and kissing on me. He always says "I love you." I really love him too. I would do anything to get him back. You will probably say I am too young for love, but I never loved anyone like I love this boy. How can I win my love back? REALLY IN LOVE

Yes, you are too young for serious involvement. Take your time. You have plenty of it.

Dear Jan.

I have just recently come to this city from out of town. I loved my hometown very much. I was in love very deeply with a boy. The only reason I had to move here was because I got into trouble. Well I think I am pregnant again. The boy says he will take care of it. He was very hurt about the last time. So was I. Of course, I still have feelings for this boy. What do you think? TROUBLED

If he's so hurt, he should do right. Get married and make a decent life for the children you bring in this world!

If you are under 21 and have a teen-age problem, Jan might lend you a helping hand. All letters will be answered in this column ONLY. Write Jan, AFRO Magazine, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. Write all letters clearly and briefly.

Dear Jan:

I am 14 and a freshman in high school. I know that you will agree that I am too young to be dating. But I am supposed to be going with this senior who seems to be very nice.

We have been going together ever since January, but over the summer while I was away, I heard a lot of talk about him. He talks to this girl when I am not around.

He does not seem to care about her whenever I am around and whenever she speaks to me. Do you think there is really something going on between them? He is very nice to me. I love him too much to let him go. — E. A. W.

You seem to be reading serious intentions on his part. At 14, you have a lot of nerve expecting him to see only you. Cut it out.

CLOTHES Make Your Man

By Harry Juster

No Peacock -- But Color Preferred to Drab Look

Dear Mr. Juster:

Since you contend that women are a great influence in getting men out of dull clothes, I'm curious as to how you can justify this with the results of a survey made in England. Ten thousand women were interviewed and get this — 2 of every 3 did not want their men to wear more colorful suits; 3 out of 4 disapproved bolder patterns; and less than half favored more fashionable suits! M.W.

I can't speak for English women. Perhaps the conservative look in their men's attire is too ingrained to be broken. Not that American women want men to take on a peacock look. But I believe the majority like to see their men smartly dressed. And to check this, let's conduct a little survey. Ladies, do you approve more colorful suits for men? Bolder patterns? More fashionable models?

C'mon Try It on.

Send your comments and we'll print the results.

Dear Mr. Juster:

Will you please tell me if it is correct to wear pocket handkerchiefs which are made out of cardboard with the material attached? My husband doesn't agree, but they just don't look right to me. Mrs. H. F. M.

Nor to me. Sure, a fellow can get by with this cardboard job, but it's a poor substitute for the real thing. A full size handkerchief has a much better look. It fills out the pocket and lends itself to any arrangement the wearer likes.

Dear Mr. Juster:

Please advise on the proper buttoning of three-button suits. I'm aware of the traditional buttoning of the top two buttons. However, I'm confused since I see well-dressed men with simply the middle button fastened. And they don't need to do this because of a large waistline. Also, what is the rule on two-button coats? G. B.

Don't let this buttoning-up question confuse you. while it's customary to wear a three-button coat with the two top buttons fastened, is perfectly proper to button just the middle button, if so desired. And the rule on two-button coats is simple. Only the top button is buttoned, never the botom one.

Dear Mr. Juster:

I enjoy your advice on how to dress, but disagree with your contention that sport clothes are correct after 6 p.m. Even though my blazer and slack outfit is considered conservative, I wouldn't think of wearing it evenings. I was brought up with the idea that sport attire is only proper during the day — and never on Sunday. D. R. O.

Let's examine this belief. Suppose you're invited to an informal barbecue dinner. Are sport clothes arbitrarily banned because the affair is after 6 p.m. or on Sunday? All I can say is that you'll probably be the only man in a suit. Contrary to your belief, sport outfits are proper anytime for any occasion where sportswear is in order.

HISTORY QUIZ

Know-it-all gets highest score here

Today's quiz will be a multiple choice one. At the end is a bonus question to help you if you didn't do too well. The questions are based on recent NPI releases.

Get 8 to 10 right, and you're a current events whiz. Six or seven makes you adequate; anything less--well, we won't mention that.

Here's the quiz:

1. National CORE Chairman Floyd B. McKissick has asserted that ——— per cent of the colored people live in poverty and can't be helped by civil rights integration efforts.

A—17-¾; B. 50; C. 90.

2. Which of these statements is INCORRECT

— A. Rep. Adam Clayton Powell is taking it easy in Bimini where it's warm, but not as hot as it could be for him back home.

—B. Rep. Powell has been arrested in Bimini, where he has been staying, for threatening a policeman with a gun.

—C. Rep. Powell may be in trouble with the law, but he is winning increasing support among his congregants, constituents, and followers who sympathize with him in his troubles.

3. Rep. John Conyers, Jr. has blamed inadequate enforcement of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 for perpetuating Southern voting patterns which kept black candidates from winning Dixie elections. Rep. Conyers is from:

— A. Michigan B. Illinois; C. California.

4. The U.S. Supreme Court is to rule on the constitutionality of the Rumford Act, which does which of these things?

— A. Bans the sale of rum and hard liquor.

— B. Forbids discrimination in the sale or rental of much of the state's housing.

—C. Provides for the busing of colored students to Mexican-American area.

5. NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins has noted that the black worker, on the average, makes only about ——— per cent of the annual income of white workers.

—A. 10; B. 1; C. 55.

6. SNCC's headquarters in Chicago were hit by a dope raid, while —— SNCC leader Stokely Carmichael was convicted in Selma, Ala., on charges of inciting to riot. SNCC is noted for which of these:

— A. Interracial cooperation: B. "Black power" advocacy; C. Its moderate stand on rights.

7. Pennsylvania legislator Herbert Arlene has survived a near-fatal auto crash. He is the state's first ———.

— A. Negro lawyer; B. Housing Director; C. Negro Senator.

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BONUS QUESTION (Worth two points): One of the people mentioned in the quiz has said he has three strikes against him for being a black Jew and blind in one eye. He is ———.

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ANSWERS: 1. C; 2. B; 3. A; 4. B; 5. C; 6. B; 7. C.

ANSWER TO BONUS QUESTION: Sammy Davis, Jr.

HEALTH

Lead Poisoning – it claims children as chief victims

By SAMUEL L. ANDELMAN, M.D., M.P.H.
Chicago Commissioner of Health

Lead poisoning can have serious consequences, especially among young children who are its most frequent victims.

In most cases, it is caused by a child's eating materials that contain lead such as paint and plaster, face powders toys, crayons, chalks and some fruits and vegetables from which certain insecticides have not been thoroughly rinsed.

Toddler

It is a natural part of a toddler's learning about the world surrounding him to put into his mouth anything he can reach.

Lead poisoning may also result from drinking water that has passed through lead pipes or pipes soldered with lead and from inhaling fumes from the burning of old batteries.

VERONICA TYLER — Winner of the Peabody Artist Diploma, the International Moscow Competition and star of the New York Center Opera's 'The Magic Flute' is a native of Baltimore.

The most frequent cause, however, is the eating of paint scales that have fallen from walls or ceilings and chewing the paint on window ledges or cribs.

Lead tends to accumulate in the body. As the amount stored increases, it may produce symptoms ranging from a mild weakness with vomiting and loss of appetite to brain damage and death.

Prevention

The most effective means of preventing this disease is to use only paints without lead for interiors and furniture and to remove other sources of lead from a child's environment.

Most paint cans now carry a statement of their lead content if there is any doubt, don't use it.

If there is a question about previously painted furniture, walls or woodwork, the paint should be removed and the surface recovered with a non-lead paint.

If lead poisoning is suspected, the victim should be seen promptly by a doctor so that appropriate treatment can be given before severe

STUDENTS NEED AID

Because many colored students come from families with incomes of less than $4,000 a year, the Negro College Fund provides scholarships and other financial assistance to 18,878 young men and women.

A great many more need such aid, and are obliged to quit school temporarily so that they can earn enough to continue their studies at a later date. Some, unfortunately are never able to return.

Because most entering freshmen come from environments of academic and cultural deprivation, the colleges provide special counseling to reveal and develop latent talents. They also offer remedial training to compensate for inadequate educational preparation.

YES WE ALI TALK

By
By MARCUS H. BOULWARE

Get Rid of Stage Fright

There are many people who nearly "pass out" when they rise to make a speech. They are so nervous that their legs tremble and shake. Well, from a physical point of view, stage fright develops from these factors:

1. Failure to know your material;
2. Failure to control yourself; and
3. Failure to control your audience.

To know one's material, the speaker has to read, take notes, and outline the main points. Then he should memorize the outline and compose the speech extemporaneously by daily practice prior to the delivery of the speech. To develop into a good speaker requires hundreds of hours of practice.

In this way, the speaker can refrain from using a manuscript which makes a lively talk dull and insipid. Pratice a ten-minute speech two times a day for two weeks at least.

PATTERNS

Three hats come in this pattern, all easy for anyone to make. Why not match a blouse, scarf or dress? No. 3454 comes in one size, easily adjustable in back. Yardage varies from 1 to 1¼ yards of 35-inch fabric.

Send 40 cents plus 5 cents postage for this pattern to IRIS LANE (care of AFRO AMERICAN), Morris Plains, N.J. 07950. Add 15 cents for first class mail and special handling.

Free pattern is waiting for you. Send 50 cents for our new Spring-Summer Pattern Book which contains coupon for pattern of your choice.

WEEK'S TOP 10 RECORDS

Number one for this week is Respect — Aretha Franklin. In the number two spot we have Nothing Takes the Place Of You — Toussaint McCall. Here is how the others rank.

3. Sweet Soul Music — Arthur Conley
4. Close Your Eyes — Peaches and Herb
5. Dead End Street —Lou Rawls
6. Hip-Hug-Her — Booker T and The MG's
7. Jimmy Mack — Martha and Vandellas
8. I Never Loved A Man (The Way I Love You) — Aretha Franklin
9. Shake A Tail Feather — James and Bobby Purify
10. I Found Love — Wilson Pickett

MOVING UP

1. Alfie — Dionne Warwick
2. When Love Slips Away — Dee Dee Warwick
3. I Love You More Than I Can Say — Otis Redding
4. It's So Hard To Be A Loser — Contours
5. Speak Her Name — Walter Jackson

TOP ALBUMS

1. Just For Now — Nancy Wilson
2. Too Much — Lou Rawls
3. Revenge — Bill Cosby
4. The Wicked Pickett — Wilson Pickett
5. That's Life — Frank Sinatra