

Hidden History

The Unsung Saga of the Black Man

as told by



John P. & C. Buck West

SPONSORED BY



PETER JACKSON

Gallant Knight of the Prize-Ring
(1861-1901)

(First of a two-part Series--From Volume II of the late J.A. Rogers' "World's Great Men of Color")

* * * * *

"PETER JACKSON, "Black Prince Peter," is, by reputation, the most graceful, most gentlemanly figure who ever stepped into the prize-ring. Six feet one and a half, weight 192 pounds, sinewy, handsome, he had a figure that would have delighted a sculptor of ancient Greece. And his manners were equally pleasing.

"Jeffrey Farnol, boxing expert, who knew him, said, 'Perhaps for his size the most finished and beautiful boxer ever seen; magnificently shaped from head to foot, his every move graceful; also, he was incredibly quick and very sure. He was both, in looks, manners, and behavior, the very best of his type, delightfully modest and thoroughly sportsmanlike.'

"Wignall says: 'Peter trod as daintily as a cat; the pristine energy of savage haunts was in his style; his eye was like a panther's. The head was carried on a powerful neck that rose like a pyramid from the broad shoulders. Every line of the figure from the jaunty head to the nimble feet was clean-cut and graceful and the whole gave an astonishing impression of lithe activity and superb strength.'

"NAT FLEISCHER, boxing authority, says, 'He was a sharpshooter, scientific, a two-fisted fighter. The most feared of his time, he is rated among the ring Immortals because he possessed every asset of a great champion even though he never gained the world crown.'

"Peter was born in the Danish West Indies, not in Australia, as is generally believed. He went to Australia at the age of six with his parents, had his early training there, and was so beloved by the Australians that they claimed him as their own.

"An excellent swimmer with a magnificent style, he gave swimming exhibitions and attracted the attention of Jem Mace, former champion of England, who trained him as a boxer. He had some reverses at first being knocked out by Bill Farnon in 1884 in three rounds but finally he defeated the Australian champion, Tom Lees, and was given the title.

"WITH NO opponents worthy of him there, he yearned for America where there were plenty of fighters and arrived in California in 1888 bringing with him the massive gold belt of the Australian championship. At San Francisco, the sportsmen, marvelled at him and were eager to match him with other fighters but one look at him and the white fighters scurried like rabbits to cover behind the color-line. They knew that Peter's fists had the driving force of a trip-hammer. His favorite blow was the one-two--a right to the stomach and a left between the eyes.

"There was but one Negro fighter in America near worthy of him; the original George Godfrey, and a match was arranged between the two. But Peter beat him with such form and captivating ring grace that the more sportsmanlike whites began ridiculing the white fighters in their refuge behind the color line until Jack McAuliffe, the leading heavyweight on the Pacific Coast,

VOICE READERS COMPRISE A \$30,000,000 MARKET

EDITORIAL

Save Powell and Salvage Democracy

By Chas. I. West

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Has Fought Our Fight For 22 Years. The time has come where we can fight for him--as a matter of fact, POWELL'S FIGHT IS OUR FIGHT.

The Negroes of America can not afford to lose this champion of civil rights. His seniority in the House of Representatives is important to every Negro in the nation. Powell's seniority in Congress has placed him in the chair of one of the most vitally important committees involved in the welfare of Negroes. The Harlem congressman is the chairman of the powerful House Education and Labor Committee. It is very important to Negroes that Powell retains this position.

THERE IS NO activity in the Congress which is more important to Negroes than affairs which deal with jobs and education. Negroes must get a fair shake from this committee (Education and Labor). Better jobs, and better preparation (education) to perform the better jobs have top priority in the Civil Rights Movement. NO ONE BUT ADAM CLAYTON POWELL can assure the Negro of a fair shake from the House Education and Labor Committee. He must remain chairman of that Committee to assure the fair shake.

Negroes must protect their vested interest in Powell and his important committee in order to assure continued progress in Civil Rights. In addition, we are obligated to rally around this champion of the cause to demonstrate appreciation for what he has done in the past. His banner-waving on Capitol Hill has caused some of his envious associates to drop the flag on him. Congressman Powell's problems were con-

agreed to fight him for \$3,000.

"THEY MET before the California Athletic Club and fought with bare knuckles as was the custom then. Peter simply toyed with McAuliffe. To give the sports a run for their money, he allowed him to stay to the twenty-fourth round and then drove home his famous one-two. When the right to the stomach had doubled up McAuliffe, Peter straightened him up with a left between the eyes before he fell.

"The victory drove the white American fighters still farther behind the color line, John L. Sullivan most of all. The Australian sportsmen, indignant at the treatment of their favorite, ridiculed Sullivan, telling him that by refusing to fight Peter, he was no longer world champion but only white champion.

"Sullivan, arrogant, and unpopular with the fighting fans, but at times good-natured, announced that he could whip Peter, therefore, it wasn't necessary to try. Sullivan was probably stronger than Peter. It is said that he once lifted a trolley car back on its tracks after six men together had failed to do so. Peter, on the other hand, was three inches taller, weighed a pound more in fighting trim, was three years younger, and a more scientific boxer. Sullivan, too, trained on whisky, while Peter drank little.

"THE SPORTING papers took up Peter's cause, but Sullivan was too difficult to catch. When Peter would be leaving London for New York, John L. would be leaving New York for London. A cartoon of the times showed the two meeting in mid-Atlantic on ships going in the opposite direction with Peter shaking his fist at John. This was the nearest that Peter ever got to the championship.

"In England, Peter was warmly welcomed. The English had remembered two other great Negro fighters, Tom Molineaux and Bill Richmond. Peter's elegant manners captured them, too, and they arranged several matches for him.

"England at that time was still the principal centre of boxing. To be English champion was almost equivalent to being champion of the world. There was a tradition, too, that only Englishmen and Irishmen made good fighters. Peter shattered that belief. He defeated all comers, among them Jem Smith, the English champion, whom

jured-up by the white backlash. Powell got to be "too big" in white America. The bigots decided to cut him down to size--to weaken his position in the Congress, so that he would not be so big--so that he would not be so effective in his war against discrimination of Black Americans.

Black Americans must immediately band together to protect the champion of their cause. ALL AMERICANS should abhor the invasion of privacy of Adam Powell's personal life. Nevadans, in particular, should frown upon this invasion of privacy after the FBI bugging incidents.

Life Magazine revealed "How Congressmen Live High off the Public" way back in 1960, but the members of Congress DID NOT take any action against themselves. However, nearly 7 years since publication of that article by Walter Pincus and Don Oberdorfer, certain interests in the House are trying to make it appear that the Harlem Dandy is the only 'high liver' in the Congress.

The Congressional Quarterly (March 4, 1966) made it public news that half the Congress took trips at public expense. They didn't say that Dapper Adam was the only 'free loader' on Capitol Hill.

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell must be cleared of the charges against him, not only to save the momentum of the rights movement, but to save the face of the U.S. Congress and the image of the United States as well.

WE MUST do something to salvage this image of Powell for his sake, for our sake, for America's sake--for God's sake!

he knocked out in two rounds. Soon there was no worthy opponent for him in England, and none in America, who dared meet him.

"Peter by now had made such a reputation that the true sportsmen in America were clamoring for his return. He came and a match was arranged for him with Patsy Cardiff, the Peoria Giant. The match was but a slaughter. Peter played around with him until the tenth round then finished him with his deadly one-two.

"THIS VICTORY increased the cry against Sullivan. Patsy Cardiff had once fought Sullivan to a draw. The English and the Australian papers redoubled their ridicule of Sullivan but fear of humiliation at the hands of a black man was too great for the Boston-born Irish-American. At least, his persistent dodging of Peter amounted to that in the opinion of those who were eager for such a match."

**DON'T SPEND WHERE
YOU CAN'T WORK
SUPPORT MERCHANTS
WHO
SUPPORT YOUR PRESS**

**LAS VEGAS
Voice**

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER (Published every Thursday) DEDICATED to the INTERESTS and ASPIRATIONS for a BETTER LIFE of the NEGRO CITIZENS of the STATE of NEVADA

CHARLES I. WEST, M.D. - Publisher & Editor
ALICE KEY - Associate Editor * JOHN P. WEST - General Manager
DOROTHY WEST - Treasurer * CARITA HARBERT - Office Manager

RAY FEASTER - Advertising Production * EDDY K. KIM, Society
REV. DONALD M. CLARK - Religion * DOROTHY JOHNSON - Food Forum
HENRY MILLER & ROBERT ARRINGTON - Advertising Representatives
CLINTON WRIGHT - Photography * EARL PERKINS - Northern Nevada

EDITORIAL, ADVERTISING & CIRCULATION OFFICES
958 West Owens Ave. (Golden West Shopping Center) Las Vegas, Nevada
Telephone: 642-5308

ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST

Price per copy - 15¢ * One year - \$6 * Two years - \$10
(Application for 2nd Class Mailing Permit pending at Las Vegas, Nevada)