

Hidden History

The Unsung Saga of the Black Man

NEGRO HISTORY BAFFLER

By NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

One of the goals of Negro history instruction is to counteract the misleading effect of schooling--especially in the South--which ignores the black man's contributions and even justifies slavery and Ku Klux Klan terror.

Both white and Negro pupils in Southern schools continue to be taught that slavery was no worse than the treatment accorded Negroes in Northern factories and that Confederate leaders were fighting for a "noble but hopeless cause."

IN TODAY'S Baffler, typical statements made in Dixie-oriented history textbooks will be given. Your job: To tell whether they are true or whether another answer is correct.

Scoring: 4-7: tops; 3: fair; 0-2: poor. Bonus Question at the end counts two points. Here's the multiple-choice quiz:

1. "Recently emancipated slaves roamed around the country after the Civil War in the belief that they no longer had to work and that the government would give each of them 40 acres and a mule."

--A. False. The slaves all remained with their masters, even though they had become free men.

--B. The statement maintains a racial stereotype of Negro shiftlessness, ignores the use of the "40 acres and mule" expectation to defraud Negroes, and overlooks the fact that, in a free society, people may choose to wander around the country and not to work.

--C. Absolutely true.

2. "During the Reconstruction period after the Civil War, the South was ruled by illiterate Negroes, responsible for much corruption."

--A. The great "crime" of these officials was promoting racial equality; they were probably less corrupt than their successors, and most had more formal schooling than Abraham Lincoln.

--B. True, but corruption and ignorance are nothing to be ashamed of.

--C. False. All the Reconstruction officials were men of flawless character and of outstanding educational achievement.

3. "Books like 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' paint an unfair picture of Southern mistreatment of Negro slaves. Most were considered members of their masters' households and were treated kindly."

--A. True. As the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was white, the book must have misrepresented the Negro's situation;

--B. False. No slavery system has provided fewer safeguards for the well-being and safety of slaves than the American system, whose assault on the black man's spirit has resulted in many of our race problems today.

4. "The Ku Klux Klan arose because Southerners could no longer stand to be run by carpetbaggers from the North and uneducated Negroes."

--A. Besides glossing over Klan brutality, the statement presumes that all "Southerners" are white. This is typical of Dixie-oriented textbooks;

--B. The statement ignores the fact that some Klansmen were Negroes;

--C. The statement is justifiable in every respect.

5. "If Negro field servants were mis-

Recommended Reading

"PROTEST And PREJUDICE"

Negroes intensely interested in civil rights activities are the least likely of their race to feel hostile toward whites asserts a Harvard sociologist who directed the first nationwide survey in the 1960's on the Negro's attitude toward himself.

Part of a five year research project underwritten by the Anti-Defamation League, the survey was conducted by Dr. Gary T. Marx of Harvard, at the University of California Survey Research Center, and consists of 1,119 one-hour interviews with Negro adults from urban and rural areas.

Even within civil rights groups, the more militant the individual is, the less likely he is to be anti-white, revealed Dr. Marx's study.

Among the more militant of those in civil rights organizations, almost one-half were without anti-white sentiment, while less than one in ten scored "very anti-white," reports Dr. Marx.

IN CONTRAST, Negroes who do not belong to civil rights groups, and who are largely apathetic or conservative in civil rights issues, were found to score only one out of ten free of anti-white attitudes, while three out of 10 scored "very anti-white."

"Those most removed from the value system of the traditional South, those highest in social position and participation, and those most

treated during slavery days, it was usually the fault of 'poor white' overseers."

--A. True. The real enemy of the Southern Negro was not white slaveholders, but the "poor white trash";

--B. The "poor white" overseers may have committed much of the cruelty, but only with slavemasters' approval;

--C. The slave overseers were not as cruel as depicted; many were really quite kind to the slaves.

* * *

BONUS QUESTION: How does the typical Southern school book treat Negro history other than that associated with slavery and the Civil War?

* * *

ANSWERS: 1. B; 2. A; 3. B; 4. A; 5. B. BONUS ANSWER: It completely ignores it.

* * * * *

THE MARCH toward integrated schools and other public facilities began more than 100 years ago--and is still going on.

In today's Baffler, identify the dates of some of the milestones in the freedom struggle. Scoring: 4-7: tops; 3: fair; 0-2: poor. Bonus Question at the end counts two points. Here's the multiple-choice quiz:

1. The 14th Amendment, on which many recent integration decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court are based, became a part of the Constitution on:

--A. May 17, 1954; B. July 28, 1868; C. April 30, 1917.

2. Congress passed its first significant civil rights bill, giving Negroes access to public accommodations on:

--A. Aug. 29, 1957; B. March 1, 1900; C. March 1, 1875.

3. When was the next civil rights act approved by Congress?

--A. March 1, 1901; B. Aug. 29, 1875; C. Aug. 29, 1957.

4. The U.S. Supreme Court, on May 17, 1954, ruled that segregated schools were unconstitutional. This decision invalidated the court's earlier Plessy v. Ferguson ruling, upholding "separate but equal" schools and issued on:

--A. May 18, 1896; B. July 4, 1826; C. Sept. 19, 1936.

(See BAFFLER, page 4)

likely to possess a positive self-image, high morale and intellectual sophistication were the most militant," reports Dr. Marx. "They were also the most tolerant."

"People high in social involvement are more likely to have contact with whites and while this factor no doubt helps explain their greater militancy, it may also be relevant in explaining their lesser hostility," states Dr. Marx.

The survey, and an analysis of its findings are contained in a book by Dr. Marx titled "Protest and Prejudice," including a foreword by Bayard Rustin, it will be published on October 25 by Harper & Row.

THE ORIGINAL research design called for all interviews to be conducted by Negro interviewers. This was possible in most cases, reports Dr. Marx, but in the non-Southern metropolitan areas Negro interviewers were sometimes unavailable and experienced white poll takers were used instead.

Where analysis suggested that the race of the interviewer had a biasing effect on the attitudes expressed, those interviewed by whites were excluded from consideration.

The survey which sought to examine the Negro attitude towards himself, his condition and towards whites, scrutinized in particular the question of Negro anti-Semitism.

(See PROTEST, page 4)

THIS WEEK IN NEGRO HISTORY

AN "NPI" FEATURE

- Nov. 2, 1939 Maj. John R. Lynch, who served three terms in the U.S. Congress, died.
- Nov. 3, 1794 William Cullen Bryant, a poet of freedom, born.
- Nov. 4, 1829 American Convention of Abolition Societies organized in Washington, D.C.
- Nov. 4, 1865 Wendell Phillips Dabney, now deceased (June 3, 1952), was born in Richmond, Va. Known as the "Grand Ol' Man of Journalism," he was editor-publisher of the weekly Union, Cincinnati.
- Nov. 4, 1902 Birth of the late Langston Hughes, famous writer-poet-lecturer, in Joplin, Mo.
- Nov. 5, 1873 Maj. John R. Lynch, Congressman from Mississippi, was elected to his first term in U.S. Congress.
- Nov. 5, 1906 Dr. John Hope appointed the first Negro president of Morehouse College.
- Nov. 6, 1844 William Wells Brown began his life's work as an abolitionist.
- Nov. 7, 1837 Elijah P. Lovejoy, abolitionist, was murdered by a mob at Alton, Ill.
- Nov. 7, 1963 Elston Howard of the New York Yankees named Most Valuable Player.
- Nov. 8, 1830 Gen. O. O. Howard, for whom Howard University (Washington, D.C.) was named, was born.
- Nov. 8, 1791 Benjamin Banneker began assisting L'Enfant in survey and layout of Washington, D.C.
- Nov. 8, 1938 Crystal Bird Fauset, first Negro to be elected to Pennsylvania State legislature.

LAS VEGAS Voice

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

CHARLES I. WEST, M.D. - Publisher
 ALICE KEY - Executive Editor * DOROTHY WEST - Treasurer
 RAY FEASTER - Adv. Production * CARITA HARBERT - Ofc. Mgr.

DOROTHY JOHNSON - Food Forum * EDDYE KIM - Society

EDITORIAL, ADVERTISING & CIRCULATION OFFICES
 900 West Bonanza Rd., Suite A-B (Moulin Rouge Hotel)
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89106 * Telephone: 384-3117

ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST

Price per copy - 15¢ * One year - 7.50 * Two years - 12.50
 (Application for 2nd Class Mailing Permit pending at Las Vegas, Nevada)