

Hidden History

The Unsung Saga of the Black Man

NEGRO HISTORY BAFFLER

By NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Today's Baffler will test your knowledge of statistics relating to the black man's past and present. Unlike other Bafflers, there will be no multiple-choice or Grab Bag from which to find answers, but each question will have a stated leeway.

Scoring: 8-10: excellent; 6-7: fair; 0-5: poor. Bonus Question at the end counts two points. Here's the quiz:

1. The United States, in 1860, had how many black people? (Plus or minus 500,000)
2. How many black people are there in the United States today? (Plus or minus one million)
3. The city with the largest Negro population, New York, has about how many black people? (Plus or minus 200,000)
4. Probably the most heavily Negro big city in the country is Washington, which is what per cent black? (Plus or minus five per cent)
5. The state with the smallest black population is Vermont, with how many Negroes? (Plus or minus 200)
6. How many black people fought for American independence during the Revolutionary War? (Plus or minus 1,000)
7. How many Negroes fought in World War II? (Plus or minus 200,000)
8. How many Negroes live in Cicero, Ill.? (Plus or minus 1,000)

BONUS QUESTION: About what percentage of our fighting men in Vietnam are black? (Plus or minus five per cent)

ANSWERS: 1. 4,411,830; 2. 22 million; 3. 1.2 million; 4. 62 per cent; 5. 500; 6. 5,000; 7. 1,154,720; 8. None (They aren't allowed there.)

BONUS ANSWER: 22 per cent, although black people make up 11 per cent of the nation's population. Negro casualty rates in Vietnam are even higher.

CURRENT EVENTS BAFFLER

By NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Today's Baffler will challenge you to tell what the actions were in recent news happenings. Your job is to pick the correct verb that completes each sentence.

Scoring: 8-10: excellent; 6-7: fair; 0-5: poor. Bonus Question at the end counts two points. Here's the multiple-choice quiz:

1. A new era of Mississippi justice was ushered in as Cecil Victor Sessum became the first white man to be (-----) by a state jury, since Reconstruction days, in a civil rights killing.

--A. Executed; --B. Freed; --C. Convicted.

2. Their parents' reaction notwithstanding, white students at several Northwest side schools in Chicago, readily (-----) their new black classmates who transferred under the school system's busing program.

--A. Accepted; --B. Rejected; --C. Ignored.

3. As a result of a protest at all-Negro Jefferson High School in Los Angeles, the board of education (-----) a black principal, vice-principal, and head counsellor at the school.

NEGRO VOTE AN UNKNOWN FACTOR WITH NEW TURN OF EVENTS IN PRESIDENTIAL RACE

The "LOMAX POLL", conducted by news-woman Almena Lomax, is the first and only monthly sampling of exclusively Negro opinion. In its most recent survey which closed March 26 for evaluation, pollsters found that since the poll's February edition which revealed a near 100 percent Negro support of President Johnson, "a sudden surge of the pro-Kennedy excitement engulfing most of the Nation has swept large numbers of predominantly young 'striving' Negroes, and many of the new leaders or spokesmen who have developed over the past 10 years away from the side of the President."

The poll also disclosed that although first-time voter registrants say frankly they are registering to vote for Bobby Kennedy, "the entry of Robert Kennedy into the Presidential race was not the only reason for the sudden spurt of anti-Johnson sentiment among Negroes." The Lomax Poll found that "announcement of an end to graduate school deferments crystallized a large body of Negro opinion on Negro college campuses where sentiment toward the war had previously been somewhat passive." Also accountable as contributory factor to defection from support of President Johnson "is the stepped up reassignment of Regular Army personnel, in which large numbers of Negroes are found, to Vietnam even after prior Vietnam duty or other overseas service."

Significant, however, is the poll's findings that "the defection of Negroes to the Kennedy camp, although increasing rapidly, is largely on the fringes of the group, among black nationalists, non-conformists, what Negroes call "strivers", of those lately come into the mainstream of the Negro community, and politicians jockeying for leadership."

"The core of the Negro community," the Lomax poll shows, "the 30 and over age-groups, the regular voters, the regularly employed, the established, the so-called 'respectable' Negroes -- those once described by a third generation urban Negro as the 'non-boogie' Negroes, are persisting in their loyalty to President Johnson and their recognition of him for, as one Oakland, California longshoreman put it, 'having done more for Negroes than any

President except Lincoln, who freed them'."

Senator McCarthy, the poll found, was literally unknown to Negroes before his East Coast campaign and almost no pro-McCarthy sentiment was uncovered either before the New Hampshire primary or up until the poll closed March 26. Although it was opined that "his dry, pedantic speeches and the absence of any known Negro names in his camp have prevented him from making meaningful contact with Negroes," it was discovered a small minority within the Negro community find him attractive for just those qualities as evidenced by the somewhat cynical comment of one young intellectual Negro that "If he just gets through the campaign without touring Watts, I'll vote for him."

NOW THAT President Johnson has declared he will not accept the Democratic nomination, presidential candidates can be expected to triple their efforts to woo Johnson's Negro supporters. Always a potent force in national elections, the Negro vote is now one to be sought with understandable zeal in view of the statistics of the most recent Lomax poll.

To the poll's question "Who do you prefer for President, President Johnson, Senator Robert Kennedy, Senator McCarthy, Governor Rockefeller, Governor Reagan, or Richard Nixon?", a cross-section of respondents from all parts of the country answered: Johnson... 65%; Kennedy...24%; McCarthy...1%; Rockefeller...3%; Reagan and Nixon...0%; Don't know...7%.

Asked if Senator Kennedy's entrance into the race had changed their attitude toward the President and other candidates, 70% of the respondents answered their attitude was the same as it was two months ago; 21% had changed their attitude, and 9% didn't know.

Obviously, Negroes' answers to the poll's 4th & 5th questions should give candidates, and particularly Senator Kennedy, much cause for sober reflection. Question No. 4 was "Persons favoring President Johnson say Negroes have made greater advances economically and rights-wise under his administration than under (See NEGRO VOTE, page 4)

--A. Arrested; --B. Fired; --C. Named.

4. TV or not TV--that's the question for black performers, who usually find--according to the New York Commission on Human Rights --that the television industry (-----) them.

--A. Excluded; --B. Wants; --C. Despises.

5. John F. Hatchett, a New York teacher who took his pupils to an off-limits Malcolm X memorial program, has been (-----) his substitute teacher's license.

--A. Restored; --Awarded; --C. Denied.

6. Fair-housing demonstrators in Milwaukee have decided to (-----) their marches.

--A. Cancel; --B. Step up; --C. Televise.

7. At the same time that the U.S. Supreme Court ordered Alabama to stop segregating its jails and prisons, Winston Moore, new black superintendent, Cook County jail (Chicago), announced that he would (-----) jail segregation "as long as necessary."

--A. Ban; --B. Retain; --C. Step up.

8. After being approved by the U.S. Senate, the 1968 Civil Rights Bill is (-----) trouble in the House of Representatives.

--A. Having; --B. By-passing; --C. Preventing.

BONUS QUESTION: Whom is black power advocate Stokely Carmichael planning to marry?

ANSWERS: 1. C; 2. A; 3. C; 4. A; 5. C; 6. A; 7. B; 8. A.

BONUS ANSWER: South African singer Miriam Makeba.

THIS WEEK IN NEGRO HISTORY

AN "NPI" FEATURE

- April 4, 1792 Thaddeus Stevens, reconstructionist, born.
- April 4, 1825 William Syphax, pioneer educator in the District of Columbia, born on George Washington's estate at Alexandria, Va.
- April 4, 1892 Birth of Eustace Gay, president and general manager, Philadelphia Tribune, in Barbados, West Indies.
- April 5, 1770 Crispus Attucks was the first American martyr in the fight for independence from British rule, during the Boston Commons massacre.
- April 5, 1856 Booker T. Washington, famous educator-founder of Tuskegee Institute (Ala.) was born a slave in Franklin County, Virginia.
- April 6, 1954 William Pickens, former dean, Morgan College, and NAACP official, died at the age of 73.
- April 7, 1909 Matthew H. Henson, Negro adventurer and explorer, made the historic dash to the North Pole with Admiral Robert Edwin

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