

Hidden History

The Unsung Saga of the Black Man

NEGRO HISTORY BAFFLER

In today's Baffler, tell what's going on, without the aid of multiple-choice of Grab Bag clues:

Scoring: 8-10: excellent; 6-7: good; 4-5: fair; 0-3: poor. Bonus Question counts two points. Here's the multiple-choice quiz:

1. Much has been said in criticism of the Poor People's march. But even so, it has made its accomplishments. Name one of the march's achievements listed by the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, SCLC president.
2. What has the U.S. Government suit accused Alabama state agencies of doing?
3. "Solidarity Day," which climaxed the Poor People's campaign, took place on June 19. What is that date called in Texas, and what does it commemorate?
4. Name the dates on which President John F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy were assassinated.
5. What charges did a black Philadelphian, William Henry Nelson, 24, make against Cuba after defecting to the Communist-controlled island and returning to the United States?
6. What is the name of the man accused of slaying Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and where is he now being held?
7. Herman Ferguson, 46, suspended public school assistant principal, and Arthur Harris, 22, have been convicted and released on \$25,000 bond in a New York conspiracy case. What charges were lodged against them?
8. Give or take 1 per cent, what was the Negro unemployment rate, when last computed by the U.S. Labor Department?

* * *

BONUS QUESTION: Both Cleveland Mayor Carl B. Stokes and Gary Mayor Richard G. Hatcher have ways of giving residents a chance to air their complaints before city officials. Each uses a different method of getting close to the people. Tell what each of these methods is.

* * *

ANSWERS:

1. Among them are Senate passage of a bill amended to increase housing for low-income families; Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman's agreement to "provide food in the neediest counties in the country;" the Office of Economic Opportunity's decision to free \$25-million for expanded anti-poverty programs--such as Head Start; and Senate approval of an amendment removing restrictions on Agriculture Department contingency funds.
2. Employment discrimination against Negroes.
3. June Teenth, commemorating the day in 1863 when the slaves were declared free in Texas.

(See BAFFLER, page 4)

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PLAIN TALK !!



1866 RECONSTRUCTION HOUSING LAW

"ALL CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES SHALL HAVE THE SAME RIGHT, IN EVERY STATE AND TERRITORY, AS IS ENJOYED BY WHITE CITIZENS THEREOF TO INHERIT, PURCHASE, LEASE, SELL, HOLD, AND CONVEY REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY."

HOUSING DECISION A "LANDMARK MANDATE"

In the wake of the Supreme Court ruling that the 1866 Civil Rights Act prohibits racial discrimination in the sale or rental of all housing, there has been much discussion among local proponents of fair housing on the advisability of continuing to seek state open housing legislation.

An attorney who served on the Governor's committee to study "alleged" discriminatory housing practices in Nevada was heard to assert that due to the complexities of legal opinions it would be wise to remand consideration of the issue to a group of lawyers for a final judgment.

The National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing (NCDH), formed in 1950, is the only national organization devoted exclusively to the housing/civil rights field, and has pioneered in the development of programs designed to achieve an open housing market and the development of inclusive neighborhoods. NCDH serves as a nationwide center for information, consultation, technical assistance, and program service to business and industry, government agencies, organized labor, civil rights and other national and local organizations, and the communications media.

It is noteworthy, in view of NCDH's long experience in this single field, that the Committee accepted the sweeping June 17 decision of the Supreme Court as one of singular clarity.

Officials of NCDH, immediately hailed the Court's decision as a "landmark mandate outlawing segregation as a way of life that goes far beyond the concept of a mere prohibition of racial discrimination in the sale or rental of all real property." Spokesmen for the Committee said "The Supreme Court decision makes it clear that housing units which were exempt by the fair housing section of the 1968 (April 11) Civil Rights Act are now subject to the non-discrimination requirements of the 1866 statute. Thus, damage suits can be brought for sums in excess of the \$1,000 limitation imposed by

(See HOUSING, page 4)

THIS WEEK IN NEGRO HISTORY

AN "NPI" FEATURE

- July 11, 1905 A meeting of Negro leaders resulted in Niagra Movement for Justice.
- July 11, 1804 Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of Treasury, and believed to be a descendant of Negro ancestors, was fatally wounded in a duel with Aaron Burr.
- July 11, 1947 Richard B. Wright, Sr., first president of Georgia State College (now Savannah State) died in Philadelphia.
- July 13, 1863 Anti-slavery riots in New York City.
- July 13, 1870 Richard T. Greener was the first Negro man to graduate from Harvard College.
- July 14, 1793 Richard Allen, founder of the AME church, organized city-wide nursing service during yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia.
- July 14, 1881 Tuskegee Institute (Alabama) enrolls first students.
- July 15, 1873 Quinn Chapel AME Church, one of the oldest churches in Chicago, was destroyed by fire for the second time.
- July 16, 1862 Ida B. Wells-Barnett, initiator of the anti-lynch campaign of 1890's was born in Holly Springs, Miss. Before coming to Chicago where she was an opponent of segregation and a political worker, she edited her own paper. The Memphis Free Speech, in Memphis, Tenn.
- July 16, 1866 Freedman's bureau, organized to assist recently emancipated Negro slaves, continued over the veto of President Johnson.
- July 17, 1864 General Sherman launched the famous march to the sea, breaking the back of the Confederacy during the Civil War.