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The 4,706 Votes That Beat Faubus

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AFRICANG, 59

RUN of the News

By KARR SHANNON.

The Moderates Won???

Prior to the Little Rock school election in which three school board members were recalled, the STOP (Stop This Outrageous) Purge) organization consistently contended that integration-segregation was not the issue. In all newspaper, radio, teevee and circular advertising, and in all speeches sponsored by STOP the issue was clear-cut. It was a test of the voters to see whether or not the majority was in favor of the relentless teacher purge. Both daily newspapers came to the aid of STOP. They editorialized against the teacher purge, emphasizing it as the issue.

CRCSS (Committee to Retain Our Segregated Schools), the opposition group, argued that the STOP's plea was nothing more than a smoke-screen to mislead the voters, that the real issue was integration-segregation. This group cautioned that should the board members be recalled, it would be looked upon by outsiders as a victory for integrationists and/or moderates. They were supported in this contention by Governor Faubus.

Status Quo Continues.

This caused the STOP group to stress all the more that it was not an integration-segregation contest.

I stated in this column on Sunday following the election that the issue was not integration-segregation but approval or disapproval of the teacher purge, and that the majority registered disapproval. I still maintain that stand.

But listen to 'em now. Some of the leaders of the campaign against the teacher purge are saying that it was a victory for the integrationists or, more often and more emphatic, a victory for the moderates. It's not enough for the Northern press to play up the vote as a victory for moderates; it must be published right here in Litle Rock.

A majority of the voters at the election registered opposition to the teacher purge by voting to recall the three board members executing the purge, and it was a narrow margin at that. If the vote had been for or against integrated schools, it would have been a landslide against integration. The so-called moderates in Little Rock haven't gained enough ground to deserve a two-inch news story on Page 6.

WHITE MAJORITY VOTES FOR SEGREGATION IN LITTLE ROCK

The Afroamerican

BALTIMORE, MD., JUNE 6, 1959

The 4,706 Votes That Beat Faubus

On May 14, 1959, eleven days before the school board recall election, officers of the Capital Citizens' Council charged that about 4000 negroes had signed the STOP petitions. We believed that the negroes and white racemixers had joined hands in order to gain control of the Little Rock School Board.

The STOPPERS immediately yelled "Diversionary Tactic" and vowed the "Teacher Purge" to be the ONLY ISSUE.

This reprint from a negro newspaper speaks for itself. Is it not a shame that we have to read a northern negro paper to LEARN THE TRUTH?

Prove to be balance in Little Rock

(Special to the AFRO)

LITTLE ROCK — This strife-torn city's colored residents organized a motor pool and a door-to-door canvass Monday to get out 4,706 balloters—a vote which proved the telling factor in the most decisive setback handed Governor Faubus' segregationist forces since closing of the city's high schools last fall.

community pointed out that approximately 5,000 colored voted solidly for the defeat of the segregationist trio and retention of the moderates, provided more than the margin of victory.