Just a reminder that the most impressive thing about Chivas Regal is what's in the bottle, not what's on it.

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Black Culture Quiz

Who was the first black appointed a governor on the Federal Reserve Board?

Andrew F. Brimmer, an economist, received his PhD in 1957 from Harvard University. He taught conducted research at the M.I.T. Center for International Studies, worked at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York, served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs, Department of Commerce and as assistant secretary. He was appointed to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Board in 1966, becoming the first black to hold that position. He resigned that post in 1976 to establish his own private consulting firm.

Which black southerner helped revolutionize agriculture in the South?

The difficulties that can arise within a one-crop economy are numerous. The boll weevil and soil depletion brought problems to southern agriculture which were solved mainly through the discoveries of George Washington Carver (1861-1943), a master teacher at Tuskegee Institute from 1896-1943.

When the boll weevil threatened cotton, Dr. Carver focused on the peanut, soybean and sweet potato. He developed many uses for each making it profitable to grow them in place of cotton. For example, the products from the peanut included meal, coffee, bleach, paper and plastics and from the soybean, flour, breakfast food and milk. He also pioneered the process of dehydrating foods for longer preservation and pioneered in agricultural extension. Carver was elected to the Hall of Fame for Great Americans in 1973.

Who was the black biologist who received the first Spingarn Medal?

The Spingarn Medal, established by Dr. Joel E. Spingarn, a white who along with his brother Arthur, gave many years of service to the NAACP, was first awarded to Professor Ernest E. Just of the Howard University Medical School for distinguished research in biology in 1915.

The NAACP gives this award annually for the highest or noblest achievement by an American black during the preceding year. Professor Just received distinction in his field through his research on egg fertilization and the functioning of cells.

Whose invention was transformed into the gas mask used in World War I?

The gas mask of World War I was based on a device invented by Garrett A. Morgan.

What freedman revolutionized the sugar industry?

The intelligence of slave - born Norbett Rillieux was recognized at an early age and he was sent to Paris for an education, staying on for a time as instructor. He published several papers on the steam engine and steam economy. He returned to Louisiana and accepted the task of reorganizing a sugar refining plant.

Sugar cane juice at that time was made into sugar by a slow, costly process. Rillieux developed a process which reduced costs and produced a superior quality of sugar. The process was adopted in Cuba and Mexico and used in other industries which had the problem of liquid reduction.

What black hemotologist won the 1971 J. D. Lane Award for excellence in clinical research?

Dr. Delano Meriwether, the first black accepted by the Duke University School of Medicine, specialized in blood diseases.

Phillis Wheatley
1753-1784

Former slave who became one of America's first poets published her first poem when she was twenty-one, and later gained international recognition.

The little girl from Senegal, West Africa, who stood chained on a Boston Slave Auction Block, was one of an estimated 15,000,000 African blacks who were brought here on a one-way passage to enslavement or death. On that day in 1761, John Wheatley, a prosperous tailor, bought her.

He took the youngster, whose eyes were wide with curiosity, home where she was to be a servant for his ailing wife and a companion for Mary and Nathaniel, his twin children.

She was treated more like a member of the family. They named her Phillis, gave her the family name and educated her.

Phillis grew up in a cultured atmosphere. Mary taught her to read and write, and in 16 months she was reading the Bible with ease.

She wrote poems for birthdays, weddings, deaths and other newsworthy events, and in 1770 her first poem "On the Death of the Reverend George Whitfield" was published.

In 1772, John Wheatley gave Phillis her freedom, and soon after she was invited by Lady Huntington to sail to England.

While there, she published her first book of poetry, "Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral." The Lord Mayor of London presented her with a first edition copy of Milton's "Paradise Lost."

Her stay in England was cut short when she returned to America to attend the seriously ill Mrs. Wheatley.

In 1775, during the Revolutionary War, Phillis wrote a poem for General George Washington terming him "first in peace."

The General wrote her a warm letter of thanks and invited her to visit him at his headquarters. When the war ended, she wrote her most popular poem "Liberty and Peace."

Phillis had an unhappy marriage and had 3 children of which 2 died. She continued to write until 1784 when she and her remaining child died.

In that same year her first American edition of poetry was published in Boston. Her poetry, which brought her fame in her own time, is still read and admired today.