

REDMEN FOR WELL-READ MEN

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A couple of years ago I addressed the annual meeting of the American Name Society on "Rockomastics: The Names of Popular Musical Aggregations" and in the February 1968 Word Ways I took up "Musical Nouns of Multitude" from the Supremes to the Strawberry Alarm Clock. What I now call petronymics (the names of rock groups), however, seems to be related to the names of some of the oldest inhabitants of America. Below are the English translations of the common names of Indians of North and South America (in parenthesis, the language that has furnished us with the name we use today for the tribe). None of these groups is likely to render "When Shawnee Comes Marching Home" or even "Teepee-Teepee-Tin" for us, but they do indeed sound like musical groups. Can you guess the more familiar names of the following? The answers can be found in the Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

1. The Mop-Heads (from the French)
2. The Real Adders (from the Algonquian)
3. The Little Snakes (from the Algonquian, via French)
4. The Enemies (from the Zuni)
5. The Great Plainsmen (from the Navajo)
6. The Runaways (from the Creek)
7. The Maneaters (from the Algonquian)
8. The Wolves (from the Algonquian)
9. The Villagers (from the Latin, via Spanish)
10. The Clustered-Huts (from the Canadian Indian)
11. The War God People (from the Aztec)
12. The Royal Princes (from the Quechuan)
13. The Destroyers (from the Algonquian)
14. The Lords of the (Nose) Ring (from the French)
15. The Traders (from the Cree, via French)
16. The Southerners (from the Algonquian)
17. The Peaceful Ones (from the Hopi)
18. The Hilltoppers (from the Iroquois)
19. The Standing Rock Group (from the Mohegan, via Dutch)
20. The Roasted Until Puckered (from the Ojibway)