

PERSHING CRITICIZED

The "New Negro" Charges Him With Drawing the Color Line

To the Editor of The Courant:—

In reading General Pershing's account of his experiences in the World War I find that he has made some charges which, as a Negro and one who has been in close contact with men who served in the 92nd Division of colored troops, I must refute. His charges of inefficiency are somewhat complicated. It is a well known fact that political power played its part in the removal of these officers who were of the Regular Army, well trained, efficient, but their places were filled with white officers who, according to statements from the men, were rookies from some military school, unfitted for army life and as green as any boy who has just left college and entered on a business career.

Records also prove that the same attempt was made to remove colored officers of the famous Eighth Illinois Regiment, but this failed because of the staunch fight made by white and colored citizens of that State. This regiment had colored officers and covered itself with glory in France. Even in France attempts were made to discredit Negro troops and officers but fortunately France judges men by merit, not color.

THE NEW NEGRO.

Rockville, March 13, 1931.