

THE NEW NEGRO

He Says the "Amos 'n' Andy" Type No Longer Exists

To the Editor of The Courant:—

I am not writing this letter in a desire to affront anyone, my aim being to present the truth as it exists. It seems that frankness is needed in discussing the race problem as in the discussion of other problems. This letter is the result of deep meditation on this matter.

One of the most interesting books I have read on this subject is "Negro, National Asset or Liability?" by Dr. John Louis Hill, a white man born in Tennessee. This book is a remarkable one, dedicated to truth unbiased, a book which is a revelation to all who read it. Dr. Hill is a man of culture who has traveled widely and is a scholar of international fame. His book should occupy a place in every library in the country. Everyone, regardless of color, should read it, for it speaks of the Negro who really lives, the new Negro, not that created by the Cobb type of writers. For that matter the Uncle Tom type and the Amos 'n' Andy type do not exist among the Negro race today. On visiting the South, I found that some of the natives speak a dialect which these Amos 'n' Andy comedians could imitate without makeup.

This type is one which does not exist today. Dr. Hill recognizes this fact and writes accordingly. It would be far better that the thinking members of both races came to an intelligent understanding and barred such trash as the "Birth of a Nation" from their libraries. There are many intelligent men and women North and South of both races who are working earnestly to bring about an era of good will between the races. Is this possible when books of the type mentioned are read by young people of immature minds?

The American people should be liberated from such bigotry by literature worthy of time and mental concentration. It takes persons of culture to recognize the real from the counterfeit. Dr. Hill's book belongs in the real call, the Cobb type in the counterfeit.

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Rockville, May 4, 1931.