

The Open Forum

Hoary Heads Served Notice To Keep out of New Negro Alliance Affairs

Editor, Journal and Guide:

The young Negro is coming to the fore, not by leaps and bounds, but slowly and by sure steps, taking his time, in a most effective manner. Col. Joel Spingarn gathers 30 at Amenia, N. Y., residence for a conference. That's all right. But conferences are so much bosh. What needs be done, is being done in Washington, D. C., and not by fact-finding conferences, but by actual deeds.

Young John P. Davis, a Williams College grad, of Washington, heads up the newly organized "New Negro Alliance," an organization composed entirely of young Negroes, and the lads are really going places and doing things, breaking down discrimination in the district, even in the matter of jobs for Negroes, and they have already forced white employers here to put Negroes to work, back to work, and to raise wages as well.

One white firm discharged its Negro workers, and hired whites. The lads boycotted him, effectively picketed his place, and in 16 hours, he had re-employed all his discharged Negro help. That's really doing something! Another large employer of colored help was made to raise the salaries of his employees, although he didn't want to do it, and even became quite enraged over the idea when approached. He even asked the members of the New Negro Alliance to stay out of his place of business; but the lads, God bless them, refused to lay down on the job, and finally the white employer capitulated to their demands.

That is really doing something and now that the movement is well organized, it is going to spread in America like wildfire, with the young Negroes, and if they can go along, unhampered by these "hold-backers," the older Uncle Toms, who like so much to be at the head of everything, then we can really do some good. But if these old folks get into the situation, then we are going to be slowed down. So I am serving notice for the New Negro Alliance that "We do not—positively do not want—any old 'Negro Leaders' in the New Negro Alliance." Not even the first one.

Just for once, we beg of you, leave us alone, and let us run our own business like we want to run it, and if we need you we'll call you. But we don't think we'll need you. And I think I'll call a halt right here, for that's saying plenty! And, incidentally, this Mr. Davis, the president, is not connected with the Negro Industrial League.

—TREZZVANT W. ANDERSON
Washington, D. C.