

At Phenix High School

'The New Negro' Depicted By Government Classes

The government classes of George P. Phenix high school in celebration of Negro History Week presented a play entitled "The New Negro." This play depicted the history of the Negro race in a new and different phase — the development and achievement of racial integration in many areas of the South. It was divided into four scenes, and was narrated by Simon Gaskill.

The first scene, "The Spark Ignited," brought out the fact that the Negro of today is passive, yet demanding. It was demonstrated by college youth attempting to eat at segregated lunch counters.

THE SECOND scene, "Seeking Status," illustrated the efforts of the college youth to gain equal rights. By having college picketers on one side of the street and Klu Klux Klan picketers on the other, they demonstrated that the "New Negro" is unafraid and uninhibited by traditional ties.

Scene three, "Self Assertion," with the aid of a speech choir brought out the fact that the "New Negro" is vocal and is no longer content to be a "yes sir" or "no sir" man. Quotes from Martin Luther King, Dr. Ralph Bunche, and Roy Wilkins were cited as ex-

amples of self-expression.

The fourth scene was entitled "The Old Order Changeth." It carried the audience to the 175 year-old campus of the University of Georgia and showed the struggles and torments gone through by the two Negro students, Charlayne Hunter and Hamilton Holmes when they sought admission to this institution.

UNDER THE guidance of Mrs. E. C. Jordan, government instructor, this play was written and directed by four senior high school students: Elsie Bowman, Marcia Parks, Shirley Thomas, and Mona Wilson. Teresa Keene presented a creative dance demonstrating the breaking of the "shackles of slavery."

The art work was done by Clarence Pearson and Yvonne Brown. Under the direction of student director, Henry Wilson, and his assistant, Ann Byrd, the choir rendered many elections throughout the program.

The theme song was entitled "Great Day." Soloists in the choir were Marvin Patterson and John Wallace. Other members of the choir were: Raymond Anthony, Jacqueline Baker, Herbert Byrd, Joyce Chavers, Ernestine Flowers, Leonard Harper, Hugh Harrell, Dallas Hpson, Marjorie Hopson, Gwendolyn Hughley, Florence Jones, Charlotte McRae, William Lee, David Marshall, Charlotte McRae, Gordon Miller, Edward Morse, Andrew Perkins, LeRoy Pierce, Ronald Pride, Milton Reid, Evelyn Small, Jean Spratley, David Sturdivant, Parthenia Tyson, Celestine Whitfield, Milton Williams, and Sylvia Winston.

PARTICIPANTS in the play were: Gloria Anthony, Marcia Baker, Percy Banks, Betty Brown, Elaine Brown, Savannah Caples, Herman Carter, Ann Chavers, Clarence

Curry, Rosilyn Jackson, Sandra Bown, Marian Burwell, Gertrude Jiggetts, James Jordan, Vincent Middleton, Clarence Pearson, Andrew Perkins, Ralph Simpson, Edna Smith, Janet Smith, Andrew Sparks, Horace Thompson, Ruth Waddell, Ernie Williams, Wilma Wright.

This play was first presented for the H. T. A. at the Phenix auditorium on Feb. 2. Under the auspices of the HTA, it was presented for the Portsmouth Teachers Association at I. C. Norcum high school, Portsmouth, on Feb. 9.

"The New Negro" made its third appearance on Feb. 16, when it was presented for the entire student body of the George P. Phenix high school. Feb. 22, it will be given for the pupils and faculty of R. R. Moton school.