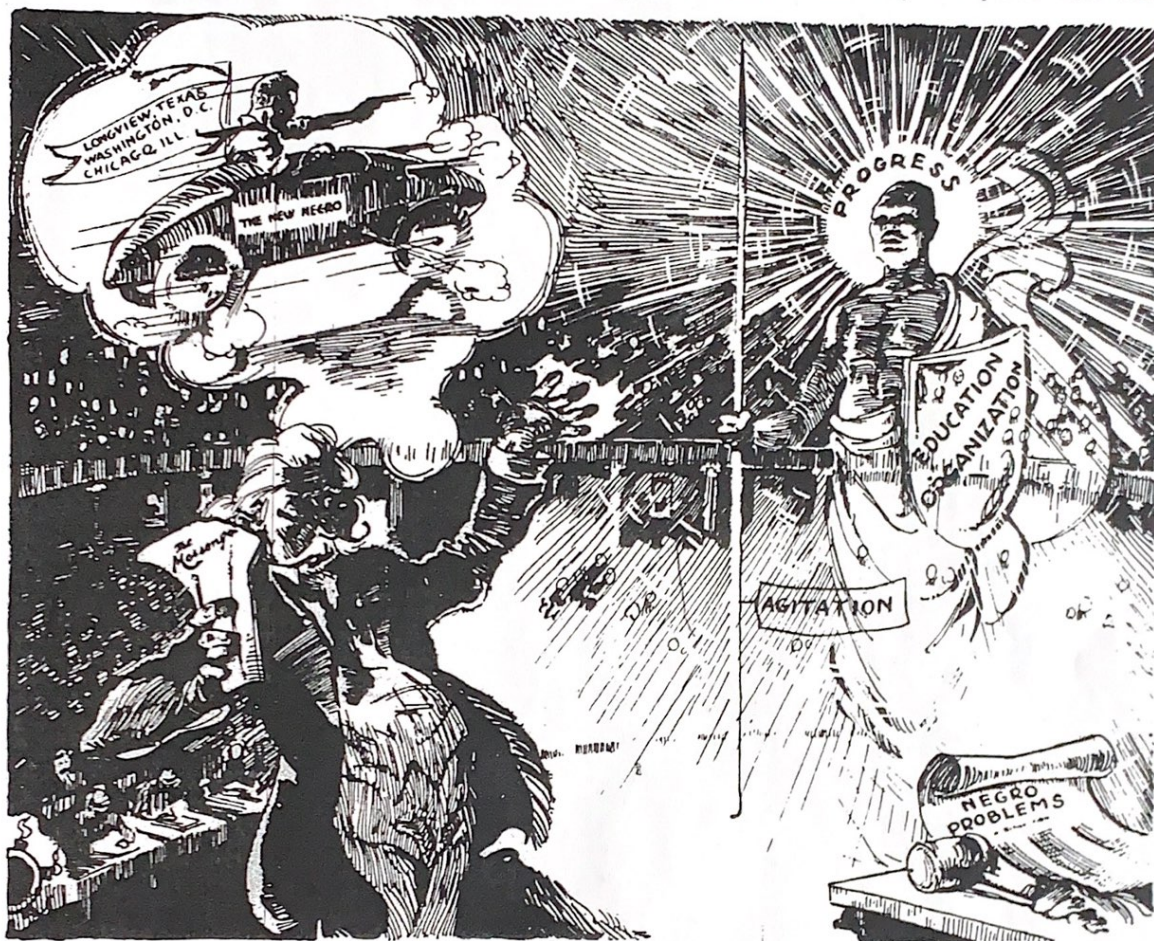


Byrnes then goes on to make a little revelation even to The Messenger staff in stating: "It is unfortunate that some Negro leaders heretofore regarded as conservative have changed their attitude. A fair illustration of this type is W. E. B. Du Bois, editor of *The Crisis Magazine*." This strikes us as more than a revelation; it is a grave charge against Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois. While we know that Du Bois is conservative, reactionary on economic and political questions, and compromising in the face of cheap honors and extended epaulets, we had never

from fighting is a fact. That we return fighting has been demonstrated in Longview, Texas, Washington, D. C., Chicago, Ill., Knoxville, Tenn. We think, however, that a little tip might be given to you, Mr. Byrnes. That we return fighting is stating it too mildly. We return fighting like hell against the hell in this land. We return fighting for law against the anarchy which the Southern Bourbons of your ilk have unloosed upon our people. Chicago and Washington are indeed but little skirmishes and fights between irritated boys compared with what



Congressman Byrnes of South Carolina alarmed at Banquo's Ghost of the New Crowd Negro.

thought of him as being satisfactory to a Ben Tillman Congressman like Byrnes, until he wrote a little prose poetry on "Returning Soldiers," most of which was neutralized by contradicting statements in the same issue. We hope that Mr. Byrnes will never be able to find in our general position anything satisfactory while he holds his present point of view.

Of course, we agree with what Du Bois says about this being a shameful land. That it lynches, disfranchises, encourages ignorance, steals from us, insults us, are too evident to admit of contradiction. As to the balderdash which Du Bois holds on to its being our fatherland, of course, we understand that as one of Du Bois's neutralizing, saving clauses. That we return is a fact. That we return

may come in your own state any day unless the rights and privileges, the lives and property of Negroes are protected by constituted authority. There is a sort of gentlemen's agreement among nine out of every ten Negroes in the United States which in strength of determination, undaunted courage, unrelenting advocacy, unswerving purpose and inflexible resolution to stamp out the vandalism of the South, compares most favorably with your Irish brothers in their invincible aim and unflinching intention to throw off the yoke of British tyranny and oppression even though the little island is drenched in blood and tears.

With respect to your recommendation that the Attorney General indict Du Bois under the Espionage Law, we make a counter-recommendation, that