

Declares Whites Still Ignorant Of "New" Negro

Reading, Pa., April 10—Before a mixed audience of several hundred citizens in the spacious Redman's Hall here today, Frank R. Crosswaith of New York, Organizer of the U. C. B. of A., declared that white America does not know the Negro. "The popular conception of the Negro is an American of African descent whose forebearers 300 years ago were kidnapped on the shores of Africa and brought into the Western world as slaves, and who, through the changing centuries following, has remained just a slave, with a child's mind." "Ask the average American about the Negro today and you will hear a tale which takes you back to plantation days" said Mr. Crosswaith. "They do not know that the Negro today is beginning to think and act in a fashion which is at once promising and encouraging to those of us who want to live in an America free of prejudice and injustice." "The industrialization of the South and the advent of the Negro into the so-called skilled trades among other things, are making profound impressions upon the mind of the American Negro.

"The Negro today is overhauling his whole philosophy of life; he is demanding a new kind of religion, a new social and economic order, and the sooner we recognize that the type of Negro immortalized by Harriett Beecher Stowe in Uncle Tom's Cabin is gone forever and that a New Negro now makes his debut in the arena of men, the sooner will we be constrained to deal with him on the basis of a man, the equal of other men.

"Mr. Crosswaith's subject was "Socialism and the Negro." In the course of his address he referred to the present "Furnigation program of the Republican Party." President Hoover, he said, had officially consummated the task begun several years ago by the Republican Party in its efforts to secure power in the South by discarding the Negro. The action of Mr. Hoover will help greatly to convince the Negro that his only hope for justice, social, political and economic, is through the establishment of a Socialist order."