

The New Negro Emerges Unafraid And Undaunted

By JOHN B. HENDERSON

IT IS rather amusing to see how inconsistent the prejudiced and passion-controlled can be. Recently I've



noticed evidences of their resentment at seeing in Negroes the same qualities they admire in themselves. It is all right for them to draw up a Declaration of Inde-

Dr. Henderson pendence and follow through bravely with a determined fight for freedom, but not for Negroes.

It is all right for them to be aggressive, forthright, ambitious and enterprising but any aggressiveness on the part of of Negroes is sufficient grounds for southern lawmakers to rise up and put them in their place. It is all right for them to desire decent homes, beautiful, wholesome surroundings for their wives and children but when a Negro desires it he is an "uppity", Communist inspired. mongrelizationist.

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THEY HAVE a stereotype in mind from which they hate to see any Negro deviate. They like to think of the Negro as being a dumb, docile, dependent, lazy, shiftless, good-natured beast. Such a character allows them to make all the decisions, do all the voting, make all the profits, enjoy all the privileges and dole him out a pittance for his labor for which he grins and

says, "tank ya suh".

During all these years since 1865 they have used effectively poverty, ignorance and fear to intimidate and brain-wash those with whom they have had dealings to keep them down and satisfied to remain down. When they say they know the Negro that is the type of character they have in mind. That is the way they want all Negroes to be, then one of them can manage 1,000.

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THERE HAS grown up in recent years, a different type of Negro. He is neither dumb, docile nor dependent. He is intelligent, aggressive, ambitious and determined to win for himself every right enjoyed by any other man. He does his own thinking and does not frighten and that puzzles and exasperates his good white friends.

Negroes are always supposed to fear whites but this new Negro did not inherit any of his grandfather's fear or trembling. With head erect and a feeling of self-respect and pride within, confident of his stand and encouraged by the fact that religion, law and world opinion are on his side he goes his way determined to fight until hell freezes over; to win what others have said were the inalienable rights of all men.

He desires no special favors, asks for no exceptional privileges, wants no preferred concessions. All he wants is the same things everyone else wants and will accept nothing less.