

Special Articles

THE NEGRO EMERGING FROM THE DORMANT STATE

The Negro was like the embryo of a plant that was carried by the river and deposited on a foreign island, when he was brought to America. He was brought to a country unknown to him, and forced to work under hard taskmasters. His position was limited, and his condition was such that it could not stimulate the possibilities that slept within him.

For more than two hundred years he remained in a dormant state. There were no means by which he could raise himself into the light of knowledge. Within him was a sincere desire to know that which was going on in the outer world, but the knowledge of those things was kept away from him. In the yoke of slavery he worked year after year, looking to God for his freedom.

The slave question that arose at the end of the first half of the nineteenth century resulted in the freedom of the Negro in 1865. Freedom placed him in a favorable position. He arose from the sleeping embryo in the form of a New Negro, but he found himself handicapped. He did not have any property, neither did he have any institutions of learning. With a strong determination he fought and conquered the obstacles that confronted him. Within the sixty-five years of his freedom he has accomplished many things. He has reached a point which made it possible for him to be represented in various fields. His deep and forceful thoughts have made his brain-cells so powerful that they are able to receive finer vibrations.

Luther Burbank said, "We are just beginning to realize what a wonderful machine the human brain is. We are at the threshold of knowledge, but until yesterday we were outside. The human race has been broadcasting and receiving, perhaps millions of years without knowing, but suffering all the while from bad thoughts sent. The radio, while but a very small instrument as compared with the brain, is helping us to understand what the brain has always been doing."

The Negro has been broadcasting for many years, but his thoughts were weak. They were not strong enough to reach the height of recognition; therefore, they fell flat. He has been receiving, but his education was so poor that he was not able to appreciate the fine things that he received. Within the past sixty-five years the Negro has achieved a sense of existence. He is drinking at the fountain of knowledge. He is broadcasting and receiving with millions of human beings. His thoughts are no longer being drowned out by those of his fellow-citizens, but they are being received throughout the world, and he, in turn, is able to appreciate the things which he receives. He is rapidly rising from the dormant state.

CHARLES W. HILL, '32.

HIGH HOPE FOR THE NEW DIPLOMACY

JOHN W. LEATHERS, JR., '30

The old type of diplomacy behind closed doors, with a high degree of secrecy and intrigue, has faded into oblivion, while a new type of diplomacy has developed by leaps and bounds. The visit of Ramsey Mac-

Donald to the U. S., and the speeding of naval disarmament by Mr. Hoover are fair representations of radical changes that penetrated into the world of diplomacy. It is this new diplomacy which is open to the democratic public to criticize pro and con.

"It is hardly possible to exaggerate an influence of this new style of diplomacy upon affairs of the world. It substitutes open covenants for the back-stair treaties of former times. It gives the press and people the opportunity and the right to express their verdict."

Sir Philip Gibbs states, "As a journalist, I came in contact with the old tradition, or rather I tried to get behind its barriers, and mostly failed." The conditions which Sir Philip Gibbs pointed out, of course, were before the World War. Heretofore, for an individual to come in close contact with the diplomatic world, he had to have a certain social pull. The old statesmen, in many instances behind closed doors, were given in addition to a large bribe pots of wine to increase their desire to talk.

Long before the railway age and the advent of the telephone and cheap postage, ambassadors were the only source of information and correspondence between nations. They were necessary and useful. Later on they maintained a bad old tradition of secrecy and intrigue. The worst charge against the old diplomacy—and it is a grave one—is that intelligent, or comparatively intelligent democracies which had obtained a certain amount of self-government, as in England and France, had no conception whatever of relations between their own country and foreign powers, and had no certain knowledge of treaties or agreements which their lives and bodies were engaged.

Until the Declaration of War in 1914, the British House of Commons knew practically nothing of how far Great Britain was pledged to France in event of a German attack. Moreover, the French people were in utter ignorance of the correspondence upon war preparations between Poincare and the Russian War Minister. The German people had practically no conception of the German Emperor and his Chancellor or the war party which ruled in the background.

The open diplomatic policies, in many instances, have been substituted for the old, for example, Sir Philip Gibbs further states, "At Geneva during the most important international crisis it was a regular habit of the British delegate—Lord Cecil or Sir Austin Chamberlain—to hold reception of the British journalists once a day and tell them the inside story of negotiations." He goes on, "I am bound to say that the information given at these meetings was remarkably candid and accurate, and that a great deal was left to the journalist's honor and discretion."

Thanks for the enthusiastic democratic public, who refuse to lend their lives and bodies, to narrow-minded gentlemen who quietly arrange for the massacre behind closed doors.

How would this new fashion for statesmen to talk aloud or to write in newspapers effect the old school of statesmen? Doubtless the old school of statesmen would turn in their graves to see the articles of Winston Churchill, Lloyd George or Ramsey MacDonald. The old school of reticence has gone. The veil of secrecy has