

Hubert Asks Opportunity For New Negro in Lyons

Addressing the Civic Club at Lyons, N. Y., on "Changing Interracial Frontiers," James H. Hubert, executive director of the New York Urban League, declared last Wednesday that the new Negro is asking an opportunity to develop and use his capacities without restrictions. It was the first time that a Negro has been invited to speak before the club, and the subject drew a record attendance.

Mr. Hubert contrasted what he termed the "Old Negro" commonly called the "Uncle Tom" with the "New Negro." "The Old Negro," he said, "made his contribution. It was a contribution that found expression in song—in literature that is being recognized not only in America, but throughout the world as America's greatest contribution to world culture."

"The old Negro stooped to conquer. While he had his own methods of approach, usually entering by the way of the side door, he, however, got what he sought. The new Negro is asking not aims but opportunity. Opportunity for what? Is it merely an opportunity to share in relief, to work, to eat in a restaurant without being Jim-Crowed, to ride on a train without being relegated to the baggage car, is it a seat in a theatre, or the privilege of buying or renting a house in a respectable neighborhood? Of course, he wants all of this, but he is asking also for an opportunity to bring his gifts to the altar—to play his full part in the making and the remaking of America."