

KELLY MILLER MAKES APPEAL TO "NEW NEGRO"

Issues New Year's Greetings;
Race Is at Standstill Ex-
cept in Business

By Kelly Miller

Washington, D. C., Jan. 30.—The
year is now standing at the end of
one era and the beginning of another.
The world war marks the epochal
transition. We are marking time,
rather than marching forward. Our
hurdles are augmenting in number
rather than gaining in spiritual
power. Our schools are gaining in
efficiency, but wanting in moral en-
ergy and inspirational appeal. Our
political life is retrograding. In busi-
ness enterprise alone is there en-
couraging indication of a progressive
spirit.

Must Shoulder Our Burdens

The burden of Race reclamation is
shifting from philanthropy to our
own shoulders. The future service of
philanthropy will be material, con-
sultative and advisory. It can no longer
be intimate and directive. Two
generations of philanthropy have
availed in vain unless we have been
enabled thereby to walk on our own
feet. The only help that is worth
while is the help which helps the
wretched to help himself. We must
retrograde and furnish our own lead-
ership. Race co-operation, not Race
control, is the way for the future.
The best elements of the two must
come in the spirit of mutual respect
and good will for the common good.

Ten million of us possess all of the
potentialities of civilization, but, like
the wild water power of our mighty
rivers, we have been going to waste
for all of the centuries. Slavery has
reduced our animal and mechanical
powers to the crude task of the
South's industrial needs. The new
task of our leadership is to gear up
our latent power to the machinery of
Race uplift and reclamation.

No "Inescapable Difference"

There is no "fundamental, eternal,
inescapable difference" of race which
we can recognize in any mood. We
must stand. If we stand alone for
the intellectual, moral and spiritual
unity of mankind. Religion must not
surrender to race. Christianity must
not be allowed to compromise with
color.

The task which devolves upon the
"new Negro" leadership is as great
as any which falls upon human
shoulders. An ideal must be formul-
ated which is sufficiently tangible
and definite to appeal to the whole
Race and quicken and inspire its
ormant energies. Whether this ideal
shall ultimate in America or on some
distant continent boots but little. The
thought is greater than the thing;
the truth is greater than the deed. A
principle is greater than a program.
The ideal transcends the ideal. Let
this be the fulcrum by which we
shall uplift the Race. I would say
to the "new Negro" leadership: Ac-
quit yourselves like men; awake,
arise, make ready the new way for
the new day.