

# "Modern Negro Mentally Enslaved By 'White-Itis' "

**So-Called Leaders Have Nothing For Followers But Whiteism, Writer Contends.**

**By W. EUGENE SIMMONS**

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 15—As a representative member of that great army of Gregarians, (the common herd), I have an ax to grind with those pot-bellied Negro leaders (?) who are riding around in big, luxurious automobiles, dishing out shabby horse and buggy ideas and suggestions as to how the common people should think and act as a race.

From the day that marked emancipation of the Negro as a chattel slave, there has been a clique between designing whites and dollar-seeking Negroes — a clique to keep the masses in a state of utter darkness so as to be better exploited and robbed by the "leaders" both black and white. The whites picked out and are still picking out, certain types of Negroes to go to their people and preach the doctrine of racial inferiority and the gospel of "Whatever conditions you find yourself in, therein be content; for

this is pleasing unto the Lord." Such leaders arrive on the scene of Negro life in various garbs, sometimes they come as a college professor; sometimes they come as a lawyer or a doctor; but most of the time they come in the name of God, styling themselves as preachers "sent" by God when in reality they were "sent" by their white masters. Black paid puppets!

As a result of the preachments of such self-appointed Moses, of the Negro race, every Negro tries to become white. Here, I am reminded of a line or two in DuBose Heyward's "Mamba's Daughters." Lissa came in crying and old Mamba asked her: "But all dem new frien' yo' got ... ain't dey yo' kind? What's de matter wid dem?"

"Oh, I don't know," Lissa said wearily. "They seem to spend all their time saying how glad they are to be Negroes and all the time they're trying their damndest to be white!"

In every strata of our social order one can find that Jekyle and Hyde inconsistency of the sons and daughters of Ham. "Glad to be a Negro!" "Proud of my people?" and all of that stuff. Yet, we straighten our hair; paint our cheeks and lips red, and try to "swing" a John Barrymore or Greta Garbo. If we were "glad" to be Negroes and "proud" of our people, I should think that an Etta Moten or a Paul Robeson would be better subjects for the "swing." The black copy of a white original isn't worth a Georgia Cracker's dam in my estimation. I hate these Black Billy Sundays; I detest these Black Bing Crosbys; I abhor these Black Clara Bows; I loath these Black Clark Gables! Had I the power I would deport them to that vale of darkness where his satanic majesty rules supreme.

The white master still speaks to the black leader; the black leader in turn speaks to the masses; the masses plunge ahead, thoughtless. The white masters give the black leaders a white education, a white philosophy, a white psychology, a white theology; the black masses "lick the platter clean" like the fabled Jack Spratt and his spouse. Foolish Aframerica! How long wilt thou be the mental tool, parasite,

assinine doll of the white brethren?

Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson can be pointed out as the only exception in America. Here is a man brave enough to speak out; to tell the Negro just what he is, no more, no less. We need more men of the Woodsonian calibre, more men of the Woodsonian zeal and veracity. That is the need of Aframerica.

Some of you will say that this sounds Garveyistic. To you I will say: I am not a Garveyite, because I can not make up my mind to believe everything advocated by the West Indian promoter of Negro-cracy. I agree with him, however, on his assertion that the Negro should be a man and put away childish things. Some of you, on the other hand, may say: "He is plagiarizing Dr. Woodson's philosophy." Well, what if I am? Is it not time that some Negro "ape" another Negro instead of a white? I could easily plagiarize Beard, Thomas Dixon or some other Negro hating white overlord, but I am not a "leader;" I am not spoon-fed by Negro "leaders" who are dishing out white psychology. I am not suffering from "white-itis;" I don't believe in whiteism.