

SPEAKER CLAIMS SOUTH DOES NOT KNOW 'NEW NEGRO'

NORFOLK, Va., Mar. 16—(ANP) —The time-worn theory that the South knows and understands the Negro best, was blasted here last week in an address delivered before the St. Johns Brotherhood of the St. John's A. M. E. Church by Douglas Gordop, editor of the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch, who asserted that contrary to this theory the South understands the Negro less fully and less clearly than any other section.

Mr. Gordon, who is well known among the group here and is very popular because of his fairness was on the program with Hon. Kat Shau Fung, consul in charge of the vice consulate of the Republic of China located here, who made a plea for a "divine impatience with present ills that drives us on to correct them."

Referring to the relationships between the races in this city, Mr. Gordon cited instances that indicated that there was constant improvement of these relationship and predicted that the race problem would be solved, but that the Negro would have to make his contribution toward this solution.

"If the Negro race," said the

speaker, "leaves the burden of solution solely upon the white man, the members of that group are making a confession that the race is incapable of making any contribution themselves. We must then assume that the Negro has a child's mind almost incapable of thinking and such an assumption would be nonsense. No race that has advanced in 300 years from a tribal state, from bondage to heights attained by its members—no race that has produced Paul Laurence Dunbar, Charles Gilpin, Harry Burleigh, R. Nathaniel Dett, Robert R. Moton, Booker T. Washington, Samuel Coleridge Taylor, Roland Hayes, among scores of others—no such race has a child's mind."

In warning the whites that they did not know the "New Negro," but were familiar with the "Old Negro," Mr. Gordon expressed the opinion that when his group in the south really knew and understood the "New Negro" "that it will bring to that knowledge a feeling of kindness and fondness based on long contacts between the races in the South, which will nobly sweep the two races on to a joint solution of mutual problems."