

The New Negro

By FAITH WEBSTER

Up from the depths we've come
Through hate's cruel, fiery flood,
Oppressed, denied, rejected
Our robes dyed with our blood
No longer slaves but free men
Free? No, there are some who raise
A color bar to halt us
While they sing to God their praise.

Like You dear Christ, we've suffered
Like You rejected been;
Like You we bear the burden
Of those who hate our skin
In hope we keep on knocking
At doors closed from within
And see the words "White only"
Find "no room at the inn."

Our youth give years of study
With diligence and care
In all field of endeavor
They seek their rightful share
In hope they keep on knocking
At doors closed from within
They see the words "white Only"
Dear God, forgive this sin!

Our youth, our buds of promise,
Shall bloom in every field
Of equal opportunity
When hate to love shall yield
Our hearts still hold no malice
Our pledge we've ever kept
The equal right—FULL JUSTICE
Still means to all—EXCEPT.

God bless those dear white helpers
Who for our cause have stood,
And all who labor with us
For the common good
They too feel scorn and hate darts
Because they dare to speak
Against the color barrier
And for the equal rights we seek.

And still we travel onward
For right is on our side
Full Justice we are seeking
And will not be denied
We'll leap the lofty barriers
Our Day-star gleams the skies
O, hail the blessed dawning
Let Hallelujah rise.

America we love you
Long may Old Glory wave
And those who've sinned against us
O, God forgive and save
A new world is a-borning
The birthing pains are strong
O hasten the deliverance
Dear Lord, how long, how long