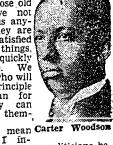
Handkerchief-Headed Political Leaders Got Little for Masses out of

Woodson, Carter -American (1893-); Sep 17, 1932; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American

# Handkerchief-Headed Political Leaders Got Little for Masses out of Politics

Ofays First Gave them a Drink of Liquor for their Votes, then the Money to Buy a Drink and Finally a Few Dollars to Set Up a Jim Crow Office Somewhere to Fool the People and Make them Think Something is Being Done. Thinking People Have Only Contempt for Man Done. Thinking People Have Only Contempt for Men in Politics Only to Get Jobs for Themselves. New Negro Not So Poor that He Has to Sell His People for Campaign Money, is a Slave to No Party and Declines to Make Political Speeches.



whr' they can
get for themselves."
"Do you mean Carter Woodson
to say," I inquired, "that all our politicians belong to this class which you have
thus characterized?"
"No but the large

"No, but the large majority of them do. In fact, they established the rule by which the white politicians have been dealing with us, and we have, therefore, failed to attain a position of influence in the councils of any party. Because of their leadership we are a nonentity in politics."

in politics."

Spokesmen Lack Character

After much discussion I had to concede that this man was in many respects right. I have observed much of this fatal course myself. I have watched the development of things from bad to worse until we all but nee elimination. It seems that some of our spokesmen have lacked both character and common sense, for even if they were low enough to undertake some of the things which they have done, they should have had sufficient common sense not to expect farmable results from such efforts.

Started with a Drink

should have had sufficient common should have had sufficient common sense not to expect far table results from such efforts.

Started with a Drink

Their course has been interesting At first the white man used the Negro leader by giving him a drink; occasionally. The next step was to give him sufficient money to set up drinks in the name of the white candidate. When drinking at the expense of the candidate became so common, the politicians fell back on the distribution of funds in small amounts of a few dollars each. When this finally proved to be insufficient, however, the politicians had the incumbents would have no close contact with white people. In this stage we find ourselves today. It is fair is that in spite of the changes from one method of approach to another, we are never brought into the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affiliated. We are alfold the inner circle of the party with which we are affilia

Contempt for Handkerchief Heads

In spite of this attitude and the effort to continue this policy toward the race, however, the New Negro, I find, is willing to battle for more consideration. He is not knocking at the door of any particular party. He is rather knocking at his own people. This new ticular party. He is rather knocking at his own people. This new thinker does not care how the Negro votes but he wants him to use his vote rather than give it away to reward the dead for some traditional favor. This way thinker has

by DR. CARTER G. WOODSON Director of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History.

"Are you going to follow the machine heading the campaign for the party among our people this year?" said a friend to me recently. "I object to those men because they belong to the old school. Those old fellows have not advanced us anywhere. They are too easily satisfied with little things, and they quickly compromise. We need men who will fight for principle rather than for whre they can get for them-selves."

"Do you mean Carter Woodson" the utmost contempt for the old handkerch: "head in politics, who is still clamoring for the few offices long earmarked as Negro jobs.

Those few state and national positions formerly set aside for Negro politicians only have paled into insignificance when compared with the many highly comprensatory positions now occupied by our people as a result of their development in other spheres. A black man prominent in education, business, or processional life can earn more in a few months than the most successional life can earn more in a few months than the most successional life can earn more in a few months than the most successional life can earn more in a few months than the most successional life can earn more in a few months are paled into insignificance when compared with the many highly compensatory positions now occupied by our people as a result of their development in other spheres. A black man prominent in education, business, or processional life can earn more in a few months are paled into insignificance when compared with the many highly compensatory positions now occupied by our people as a result of their development in other spheres. A black man prominent in education, business, or processional life can earn more in a few months are paled into insignificance when compared with the many highly compensatory positions now occupied by our people as a result of their development in other spheres. A black man prominent in education, business, or processional life can earn more

granting better.
Learned Something
The New Colored Voter in political too, has learned something that the old "walcheelers" have never been able or relize, namely, not only that the few offices allotted colored folk are insignificant but that even if we receive a proportionate share of the spoils, we cannot hope to solve any serious promiem by the changing fortunes of politics.
Real titics, the science of government, is deeply rooted in the economic foundation of the social criet. To figure tatly in politics we must be a great figure in politics. A class of people slightly litted above poverty, therefore, can never have much influence in political circles. We must develop character and worth to make ourselves desirable everywhere so that we will not have to knock at the doors of political parties but will have them thrown open to us.

Not Asking Money
The New Colored Voter, in politics, then, is not asking the party for money. He is not seeking to hire himself for a pittance to swing voters, it line. He is going to contribute to the campaign of the party pleasing hir, rather than draw upon it for an allowance to drive the wolf from the seak for others in the maign. They will speak for him. It will be considered a stroke of goo! fortune that a colored person of such influence and character has aligned himself with a party, and this fact will speak for othe element to which he belongs.

No Politician
The New Black Voter in politics is not a politician. He is a man.