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## THE AMERICAN NEGRO AND HIS ACHIEVEMENT.

There are in America more than 13,000,000 Negroes. If it were possible to pick out thirteen persons in America there would be in the group one Negro. These people are scattered all over the U.S. in cities, towns, villages and in every State in the Union. Most of them however live in the South and are engaged in farming. 20% of the total number live in large cities in the North where they are mostly engaged in industrial activities.

When the Negro was first introduced into America his break with African culture was well nigh complete. This was due to the manner in which they were disposed of after they arrived in the country. Most of the slaves came from the West coast and far into the interior of the continent. A goodly number came from the interior of Africa. There fore under this condition they had no common language and common tradition, the memories of Africa which they brought with them were soon lost.

The civilization which he brought with him was very much unlike that found in the new American environment. Language and social customs were different. Even the concept of family life was different. In Africa clan organization and polygamy formed the bases of family life; private property was an institution with which he had little acquaintance because in Africa land was generally held in common. Witch craft and superstition were pervasive and medicine men and charms were influences in public and private life. Music was a large factor in providing emotional outlets and produced possibilities for musical expression which are especially appreciated now.

On the plantation the Negro was introduced to American social customs. He gained a hazy impression of what the meaning of monogamous marriage was and through the missionaries he endeavoured to build up a feeling for family life.

Education and religion went hand in hand. Negro children were educated with those of whites. A very few Negroes in the 18th century began to appear in the professions. Scientist, poets, musicians, engineers, architects, dentists, doctors, judges and many, many more came to the forefront and have served as an inspiration to others of their group.

Since the days of slavery the American Negro has climbed a long way up the ladder. In 1920 the census reported 950 Negro lawyers; 3495 doctors; 19,471 preachers and 35,563 teachers. The total number of Negroes in the professions in 1890 was 34,184.- only 25 years after the emancipation of the slaves. In 1920 the number was 80,183.



In 1926 there were 33 saving banks +  
Commercial banks alone

There were 30 to 40 building + loan Assn.  
+ investment assn.

There are many Bus. concerns + taxi comp-  
panies, Hotels, Grocers, funeral directors  
Insurance Co, Hairdressers + beauty  
Culture —

## Cooperation with whites

Present day Negroes are deciding that  
they want <sup>themselves</sup> a chance <sup>to live</sup> on the same  
basis that other folks ~~have~~ do +  
that it is probable up to them to go  
after those things themselves that  
make life worthwhile.

Whites + blacks are learning to live  
together + respect one another  
It takes both to make the world  
better + they are moving in that  
direction together.



*Incomplete*

Dr Phillips reported that Dr Weiss, a geophysicist with whom he had had a conversation about this proposition was interested in the survey of Bechuanaland and would be glad to give his assistance in this matter.

Sir Evelyn stated in regard to Basutoland that it had been surveyed fairly rrecently and nothing worthwhile was discovered.

In answer to a further question by Dr Phillips Sir Evelyn stated that he was not aware of any scheme to send to send a team of Basuto students to study engineering overseas.

In view of the above discussions, it was agreed that negotiations in regard to the survey of Bechuanaland should be suspended pending the discussions with the British official a report of which would not be available until after two months.

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