WHY BE PATRIOTIC?

Senior-Lincoln Universit, Pa.

As soon as a Negro youth becomes becomes startlingly and shockingly aware of the fact that his racial if mitty is a decided handleap for I.Mn. He goes to school and hears all about him such flowery sentiment as: "Every American mother expects her boy to be President," or "There is always room at the top," or "We don't employ your people," or "Come back, next week." If he is so fortunate as to smile cynically. With theoretical knowledge in his head and a college diploma in his hand the Negro graduate goes out ready to conquer the aware of the fact that his racial

folded his graduation gown away than he finds that not only is there old enough to think for himself he not that first rung of the ladder but that there actually is no ladder.

Seeking a Job



Here is another patriotic scene. Realize what these sheet covered gents are doing. They are taking a new candidate into their secret order and compelling him to take an oath under the flag, to do what? To keep Negroes out of jobs, and away from the ballot box.

In the March issue of the Lincoln "News" there was an editorial in which the writer questioned the possibility, at least the plausibility, of the American Negro's efforts to express a real, deep-seated, patriotic feeling toward America. The writer has been asked to defend himself, a challenge which is the occasion of this article.

Let us, therefore, call a spade a spade, and without any conscious attempt at the sentimental, look at the Negro and his peculiar position in American life. Through no fault of his the Negro has physical characteristics which clearly differentiate him from the dominant group beside and with whom he lives. This marked physical difference makes him a marked individual who, as the so-called "submerged tenth," is shunted off to himself into a social, economic, and spiritual world, entirely his own.

years, sees the irony in the "office-boy-to-president" fables, because, starting as porter or doorman, he finds himself in that same position starting as porter or doorman, he finds himself in that same position forty years later.

finds himself in that same position forty years later.

Before he courts of justice, equality and fair play become virtually foreign words to the colored man, especially so in the South. In that same section, and, to a lesser degree up North, the Negro is disfranchised, segregated, lynched, imposed upon, shut off from economic and educational opportunities, and virtually held in physical and mental peonage. He pays the same relative amount of taxes, said money supposedly going for schools, education, and general public good, but the Negro schools get only a pittance, a mere fraction of the number of well-equipped schools which his share of taxes entities him to. The school term is usually much shorter than that for the whites and the teachers get disgraceful salaries for doing the same work as the white teachers who get as much as double and triple the salary of the Negro tracher.

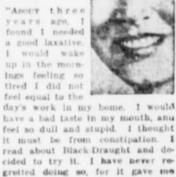
Social Equality

Social Equality

Furthermore, the fact that the whites too frequently take the law

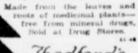
"Feel

up in the morn tired I did not



It must be from constipation. I read about Black-Draught and de-cided to try it. I have never regretted doing so, for it gave me relief and I feit better after uning it. I have used it at intervals ever since, and have found it very satissince, and have found it very satisfactory. Just yesterday I felt so tired and dull, I took a dose of Biack-Draught, and this morning I feel like new."—Mrs. C. Lee Dovis, Anderson, S. C.

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