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Book Chat By Mary White Ovington

Negro Makers of History.

By Carter G. Woodson, Ph.D. Published by The Associated Publishers, 1558 Ninth St., N.W., Washington, D.C., Price \$1.65. Postage 10c.

Dr. Woodson has been publishing books upon the history of the Negro for some years. This recent volume, he tells us, is "An Annotation of 'The Negro In Our History' to the capacity of children in the elementary schools." And he goes on to say: "The aim is to facilitate the teacher's task of preparing children to play their part creditably in this new age. The teacher should hold up before them the examples of their own people who have done things worth while. Those who have no record of what their forbears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history."

With this aim in mind Dr. Woodson gives a history of the Negro in the New World by means of a series of biographies, with a historical background sketched in. Ninety-one characters are described at more or less length and the names of a number more are mentioned. These are men and women who have helped to make America what it is. Some were preachers of the Gospel. Some were scientists some were slaves who engineered insurrections. It is always of interest to see the slant that the black man places upon his ancestors. To the whites the faithful slave is the noble figure. To the blacks, the one to be remembered is the one who tried to break his shackles though in so doing he saw the white race massacred. The Negro will never put up a statue to a "Black Mammy" until it can commemorate her service to her own child. Different characters will interest different people. The early stories, as being the least familiar, have especially attracted me. There is Estavanico, the explorer, born in Morocco about 1500, and with Narvaez coming to this new continent. The party that set out from Spain numbered 506 when they landed in Florida, but a year later only four were left. These four, of whom Estavanico was one, went as far as Texas. There the Indians made slaves of them. Ultimately Estavanico penetrated to Taos, New Mexico, a wonder city then as now, and there was executed at once because he represented himself as coming from the white man. How, the Indians argued, could a Negro represent a white? There is Omar Ibn Said, a devout Mohammedan, brought to this country about 1807. At first he had a kind master, but at this master's death, life became so hard that the Negro ran away and was later imprisoned as a fugitive in Fayetteville, N.C. By writing in Arabic on some coals, he gained the attention of a scholar, and lived with him in Bladen County more as a distinguished freeman than as a slave. Omar Ibn Said lived to see emancipation. There are many, many others whose achievements, as ministers, as scientists, as poets, as artists, should interest all Americans.

The pictures are an important part of the book. Nearly every page has

Canada Before The Civil War

(Continued from page 1.)

ernment also showed its sympathy. The Elgin Association and the Refugees' Home both secured large tracts of government land on easy terms, the understanding being that they would make it possible for the Negroes to become freeholders.

Any word of criticism in the Canadian Parliament was, of course, seized upon by the southern press and by slavery supporters, and spread broadcast as the attitude of Canadians generally. Such misrepresentation was to be expected but the record of Canada stands clear. The door to freedom swung open all through the period that blacks found freedom only in Canada, and it might be added that the treatment of the black men in Canada has not changed in the half century since Emancipation made the underground railroad and Canada at the end of it less vital to the colored man's freedom.

STUDENTS SEEK KNOWLEDGE OF OTHER RACES.

Atlanta, Ga.,—The effort for better understanding across racial lines which has characterized the interracial movement in the south was evidenced last week by a tour on the part of the sociology class of Agnes Scott College, leading local institution for white young women, during which they visited a number of the more important Negro institutions and enterprises and also went through the colored residential section, observing the conditions of housing and recreation.

The first call of the young ladies, who were in charge of their teacher, Professor Wright, was at the Atlanta School of Social Work, where the purposes and work of the school were outlined to them by Director Forrester B. Washington. Following this they sat for an hour in the class in social case work under Miss Ernestine McGill. Miss Katie May Davis, of the social work school faculty, next conducted the group on a visit to the colored headquarters of the Family Welfare Society, the Atlanta Life Insurance Company, and other business and welfare enterprises.

its illustrations, and the woodcuts and engravings of early times are often beautiful. There is a fine one of Cudjoe, the Maroon, making peace with the British in Jamaica. The white man who is the Negro's friend as well as the Negro himself, finds his picture in these pages.

I wish Mr. Woodson's books were not so heavy to lift. But a heavy book, for some strange reason, costs less to produce than a light one. Also the person who reads few volumes, likes something weighty to pick up. It implies learning and one's money's worth.

Through his careful historical studies, Dr. Woodson has given a wealth of material for the student of the Negro in this country.

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Atlanta, Ga. Crawford, of t Secretary of t ocation of Gc imed today l tion and other train wreck v Manchester, C "The crash preacher helpe ductor from celved instruc prevent anoth sent the flagi give the alarm then took a re stitution's fra to place a v proaching trail

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