

Toward Freedom

THE five-day course on "The Negro and the Nation," which begins next Monday at the Carver School, offers a rare opportunity which New Yorkers would do well to grasp. There never was a time in recent history when it was more important for white and Negro leaders really to understand the crucial role of the Negro in the nation.

After several long oppressive decades of deliberate negation of the Reconstruction amendments to the Constitution, the American nation is witnessing, and can no longer ignore the rapid strides of the Negro people toward their historic goal of freedom. Negroes are "getting out of place," all up and down the line. Propelled forward by the upsurge of democratic forces which this people's war has set in motion, the Negro people are fighting for their freedom with a confidence and vigor heretofore unknown.

Much as was true during the revolutionary change marked by the Civil War and Reconstruction, so now, when the very foundations of world and American society are in process of reconstruction, the Negro sees the goal of full democratic rights as entirely at-



By Doxey Wilkerson

tainable in the near future. He is determined to reach that goal, and new and powerful allies have come forward to help him along the way.

AS A RESULT, status quo is being profoundly disturbed. Those with vested interests in "white supremacy" are alarmed at the threat to their status—or profits. Race relations are subjected to terrific strain. Sharp "race conflict" appears here and there, in both the North and South; and it is reasonable to expect that much more lies ahead.

How shall we meet this problem to assure that race conflict does not seriously disrupt the unity of our nation, and at the same time to hasten the process of Negro liberation?

The basic approach is first to understand the problem, and that is what the course on "The Negro and the Nation" seeks to contribute.

Here is an opportunity to discuss with eminent instructors and progressive white and Negro fellow-workers (1) the historical roots of the present problem of race conflict; (2) the changing character of the problem in different areas of American life—economic, political, educational, social; (3) the new role

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of the Negro in the labor movement, and the implications of the "Negro question" for the unity and strength of organized labor; and finally, (4) what is to be done—a program of action on both the foreign and domestic scenes to make sure that this problem is handled in such a way as to promote the democratic interests of the nation.

THIS course is sponsored jointly by the Carver School (57 W. 125th St.), the Jefferson School (575 6th Ave.), and The People's Voice. Classes are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily, Dec.-11 to 15, inclusive. Lecture-discussion leaders include Edward Lewis, secretary of the New York Urban League; Thomas Richardson, vice-president of the United Federal Workers of America (CIO); Gwendolyn Bennett, director of the Carver School; W. Alphaeus Hunton, educational director of the Council on African Affairs; Doxey A. Wilkerson and others to be announced. Registration for the course are accepted at either the Carver School or the Jefferson School. The fee is \$5.00.

There are no Americans now who are isolated from the "Negro question." Many individuals and groups are eager to know what to do about it. Next week's course on "The Negro and the Nation" should do much to clarify their path.