

# Withdrawal of Russian Plan for Movie on Race Issue 'Strands' 22 U. S. Negroes

'STAR' ADRIFT



LANGSTON HUGHES

Famous young poet and novelist who went to Russia two months ago to star in a motion picture to be produced by the Soviet government. When the Reds decided to shelve the film, it left Hughes and 21 other American Negroes not quite stranded but somewhat "adrift" among the Soviets.

## 22 EXPECTED GOOD PAY IN FILM

### Langston Hughes One of Party Left With No Job in Russia

#### HARLEM HOPEFUL

MOSCOW, Aug. 16.--(Special)-A sensation has been caused in the American colony here by the sudden collapse of the "Mezharabpom" project to produce a motion picture depicting "the exploitation of the Negro in America from the days of slavery to the present."

As a result of this collapse the future of twenty-two American Negroes now here, including Langston Hughes, novelist and poet, who was brought here from New York two months ago to play the principal role in the film, is uncertain.

The correspondent understands that the Soviet authorities suppressed the film for fear that its appearance would prejudice American opinion against the Soviet Union. Since the occupation of Manchuria by Japan the Soviet authorities more than ever have been eager for a rapprochement with the United States as a means, among other things, of strengthening the position of the U. S. S. R. in the Far East. Hence, their desire to avoid difficulties which might result from the production of the film.

While it is said that the making of the film has been postponed for one year it is certain that "postponement" means letting the project die a slow death. The scenario already had been prepared and some of the scenes had been taken under the direction of Carl Junghann, the producer.