

## Do Two Definite Things This Week

**T**HIS is Negro History Week. It is being in some manner observed, or at least that is the hope, wherever members of the race of intelligence and discerning assemble. The week is in its fourth annual observance. It was inaugurated by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, of Washington, D. C., director of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. The History Association and Negro History Week have a single purpose, and that is to reveal the facts of history of the Negro people to the world in general and to bring them impressively before the Negro race in particular.

In so far as acquiring a knowledge of its ancestry, our race has made marked progress in the past five years. Never before in history have our people in such large numbers sought so avidly for the reading of something that would enlighten them of their buried past. No Negro of intelligence would today display a home library lacking some volume, or volumes on the ancient history of the black people written by Negro authors. Practically every Negro high school student who goes about his history class today is irritably conscious of the fact that the history texts as prescribed for his study are woefully and discriminately lacking in the recital of the past of his own race in relation to the growth and development of civilization. He longs for the truth, and his appetite for knowledge of his past is keen.

The Association for the Study of Negro History and its movement, Negro History Week, have in a major sense been responsible for this arousing of interest by the Negro in his race's ancestry. During this the fourth annual observance of the week, every Negro should not only determine for himself to broaden his knowledge of race history, but should make a resolve to do something to support the program of the History Association. Dr. Woodson and his staff of eminent research scholars are sorely in need of funds. Frankly and shamefully, shall twelve million Negroes fail to supply the History Association with a meagre \$20,000 annually while we partake of expensive and inessential luxuries? Just now Dr. Woodson is faced with two major problems; one is to procure funds to continue research work and the other is to procure the adoption of Negro history texts in the public schools. He must depend upon the group he is serving for the achievement of both of these ends. Certainly we can underwrite the sum needed, and also we can and ought to press the claims and merits of Negro history study in the schools of our various localities. Do two definite things this week, read something of Negro history and make a definite contribution to the Negro History Association in Washington.