

# REFORMIST NAACP ELECTS AS HEAD ENEMY OF NEGRO MASSES

## Major Noel E. Spingarn, Betrayed Negroes During World War, Advocating Jim Crow Training Camp for Negro Officers

By **CYRIL BRIGGS**

**NEW YORK.**—The election of Major Joel E. Spingarn, one of the white bourgeois directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and a supporter during the war of the government's Jim Crow policy, as head of that reformist organization, has roused the wrath of the Negro masses throughout the country.

According to the New York News, a Harlem Negro petty bourgeois newspaper with its own record of betrayals, "a storm is brewing within the ranks of N. A. A. C. P. branches throughout the country."

These branches, composed almost exclusively of petty bourgeois elements who consistently betray the struggles of the Negro masses, fear that the election of Spingarn as head of the organization, will destroy the diminishing influence of the organization among the masses, on account of his advocacy during the war of Jim Crow officers training camp for Negroes.

They also attribute to his influence the treacherous 'Crisis' editorial "Close Ranks," in which Dr. Du Bois called upon the Negro masses to surrender their interests to the interests of their white ruling class oppressors.

To the Negro workers the election of Spingarn to succeed the late More-

field Storey, another white bourgeois "friend" of the Negroes, as head of the N. A. A. C. P., is additional proof of the nature of that organization as an instrument of the white ruling class to divert the struggles of the Negro masses into futile, reformist channels and away from a revolutionary struggle against Negro oppression and lynching and for the right of the Negro majorities in the South to determine and control their own government and its relation to the United States and other governments.

Spingarn has the effrontery to attempt to justify his betrayal of the Negro masses during the war on the excuse that while the Negroes attacked him at first, the Negro petty bourgeois traitors "later backed him because the camp he was responsible for at Des Moines had placed 1,000 Negro officers in the war."

It is reported that the Negro petty bourgeois elements wanted James J. Johnson, a Negro flunkey of imperialism, to head the organization. Johnson's election would no doubt have helped somewhat to cover up the treacherous role of the N. A. A. C. P. As it is, the choice of Spingarn thoroughly exposes the nature of the organization as a tool of the white oppressing class, posing as "friends" of the oppressed Negro masses.