The New Year thousands it how year made by eitiffers of childago was the one & what launch the Chicago Review yearight now in the midst of seconomic depression, lack of John for men and Women back of money for Christmas cheer owning to back failures is the time to give the people these this of cent tabloid. First take their thoughts off the gloomy cituation of the present, to put their mends to work to help solve the peroblems of the future con year before us and incidentally A furnish a few more gobs for the unemployed Watch it grows &

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## THE NEW YEAR

Written by Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Jan. 1, 1931

Among the thousands of resolutions for the New Year made by citizens of Chicago was one to launch The Chicago Review. Yes, right now in the midst of economic depression, lack of jobs for men and women, lack of money for Christmas cheer owing to bank failures, etc., lack of faith in the future is the time people need this 5-cent tabloid to take their thoughts off the gloomy situation of the present, to put their minds to work to help solve the problems of the year to come and incidentally to furnish a few more jobs for the unemployed. Watch it grow!

## THE OID YEAR

The old year which has just gone, taught some splendid lessons in life's school room which should be studied and learned "by heart" as was done in old school day methods.

The most outstanding one was that given by The Chicago Whip: "Do not spend your money where you can not work." Others from time to time have uttered the same slogan, but no other influence had rung the changes on it as did The Whip in its every issue. It made a gallant fight and richly deserves the success which has crowned its efforts. For that splendid achievement The Whip not only deserves the gratitude of the race, but The Review begins its career by nominating the editors of The Whip for the Spingarn Medal. For not only did the fight open up hundreds of jobs for the Negro which he never had before, but other sections of our country have caught the spirit and learned this lesson of united effort. This slogan is echoing from one end of the country to the other and has earned

the respect of other races by this fight - this bloodless battle for recognition and progress in the economic field.

The second outstanding lesson of the year just past was the realization of the strength of our political worth which came to a crisis when the Negro through its representatives in Congress taught President Hoover a lesson which he will never forget. Judge John J. Parker of North Carolina was rejected as a U. S. Supreme Court judge because Negro constituents showed their resentment of Judge Parker's slur on the citizenship rights of their race. Great honor is due Senator Charles S. Deneen of Illinois who cast the deciding vote for Parker's defeat, and the Negroes of Illinois and the country owe him a debt of gratitude which they must not fail to pay.

The third great lesson for the Negro comes from still another field of endeavor - that of the stage in the marvelous success of "Green Pastures" as played in New York by Negro actors. Other Negro companies have demonstrated their dramatic ability for years, have amused and entertained the great theater going public. Many have belittled and caricatured their race to do so. But by their reverent treatment, supurb acting and dignified presentation of what was meant as a travesty on Negro conception of the Bible, these Negro actors have won the united tribute of the critics and theater goers, and on our modern Babylon for a year they have crowded the theater to laugh but remained to praise. A wonderful triumph of and testimonial to Negro art and religion. The leader and teacher in this case is Chicago's own Richard B. Harrison.

May Negroes everywhere catch the inspiration of these three great achievements of 1930, and strive in 1931 to equal if not exceed them.

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Years earlier Judge Parker had said Negro participation in politics is a source of evil and danger."

The Crisis March, 1965. p. 145

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