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The Government and the Negro

An *Evening World* (New York) dispatch of November 4 confirms what we have all along suspected and hoped for, viz.: that the United States Government is closely scrutinizing month after month the contents of *THE CRUSADER*, *The Messenger* and other "radical Negro publications." We are grateful indeed to have the ear of the United States Government, and we can assure them that they have only to read the unbought Negro press to get an earful of the thoughts and attitude of the Negro toward the government. For instance, the Negro remembers that the government that is now so deeply concerned and apprehensive for the white South because of the change that has come over the Negro is the same government that practiced, upon the railroads it controlled, Jim-Crowism and other forms of discrimination and insult against a special group of its own citizens. This is the same government that sent our men untrained and inexperienced into the first line trenches to be massacred; it is the same government under which the Metz massacre of the 92d was all arranged and ready for consummation upon the advance over an area that was fully mined and known to have been mined by Negro troops specially picked for the "honor"; it is the same government that allowed our troops to be grossly ill-treated by its cracker officers, "men who knew how to handle Negroes"; the same government that allowed, without repudiation or condemnation, the filthy propaganda of lies which cracker officers in France disseminated in their efforts to discredit our troops with the French nation; the same government that kept a discreet silence on mob murders before, during, and after the war, breaking it only when an *enemy alien* was lynched; the same government whose troops were turned *against us* in Washington and Chicago when we attempted to uphold our manhood rights; the same government that practices discrimination and Jim-Crowism in Federal offices; the same government, in fact, which, in direct conflict with the Constitution of the United States, governs us

without our consent because allowing to be inflicted upon us in several of the States the onerous system of taxation without representation.

While glad to note the present totally unprecedented interest of the United States Government in fifteen millions of its hitherto most loyal citizens, we cannot help observing that this interest was not forthcoming until, with our backs to the wall, we determined to fight back *in self-defense*, and for the protection of our women and the things men of whatever color hold most dear in this world. Before our change in attitude, and when we were tamely allowing ourselves to be led out for the barbarous pastime of the cultured Khivalric whites south of Mason-Dixon, and supinely witnessing the rape of our women and their lynching if they protested, the United States Government did not show any such deep interest in us.

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What They Say of Us

THE CRUSADER, published in New York City, a well edited magazine, neat in appearance, was received on our exchange table this week as was a copy of "The Churchman," published in Newport, R. I. These magazines are recent efforts of efficient publishers of the race and compare favorably with those published by any other people. They espouse the cause of the race in a manner that wins for them praise. We welcome them among our list of exchanges.—*The East Tennessee News*.

Dear Comrade: I have yours of Oct. 10 and read same with great interest. I am also enjoying *THE CRUSADER* very much and I wish you unlimited success in your efforts to awaken the colored race to an understanding of where its real interests lie. You are doing a splendid work and you seem to have made an impression on even Du Bois as well as other conservatives among the Negroes.—From letter of Linn A. E. Gale, editor and publisher of "Gale's Magazine."