

HAITIAN BLASTS HYPOCRISY OF EUROPE'S WAR: EXILE WARNS CIVIL RIGHTS ...

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EXILE WARNS CIVIL RIGHTS ARE AT STAKE

Makes Stirring Plea At New York Banquet Of American Writers

NEW YORK, Nov. 24—The growing attacks on civil liberties in the western hemisphere were assailed, and the present war denounced as an imperialist conflict for the redivision of colonial booty, by prominent Race and white writers who gathered at the Harlem Y.M.C.A. to pay tribute to Jacques Romain, famous Haitian writer and leader who has been exiled from his country by the present Haitian government.

Fully 150 men and women, prominent in the art and literature of two continents, attended the dinner-reception for Mr. Romain in the auditorium of the Y.W.C.A. The reception was jointly sponsored by the League of American Writers, the Caribbean Union, the Haitian Alliance and the Council for Pan-American Democracy. Dr. Alain Locke, of Howard university, acted as chairman.

Given Ovation

Dr. Locke eulogized Mr. Romain as a great creative genius and a fearless social reformer, as not only the man of genius and letters, but the man of action, dedicating his genius to social reforms and showing a passionate love for his people.

As Mr. Romain was presented, the audience rose to its feet in an enthusiastic ovation. The Haitian leader declared that "the entire world, because of the war, is facing problems which fundamentally affect us all." He characterized the war as a war for a redivision of the world, which must affect the destiny of all mankind, no matter what race.

Raps British

Writers, he urged, must reflect the dialectic processes of life; "must defend not only freedom but the rights of the intellect against the swelling tide of feudalism" He voiced his pride in belonging to "a people to whom the cry of liberty has always found an instant response."

He assailed the assertions of Chamberlain and Daladier that Britain and France are waging the present war on behalf of democracy and to crush Hitlerism. If that were so, he asked, why are anti-Hitler writers thrown in French concentration camps; why are India and other colonies denied democracy?

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