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Rogers August 15, 1940

In an interview with Mr. Joel A. Rogers, distinguished author and popular lecturer on subjects dealing with the Black Race, at his residence, 37, Morningside Avenue, the following interesting facts were gathered in answer to three questions which were asked.

The following is a list of the books and pamphlets by Mr. Rogers:

The first book published was "From Superman to Man". This book was published in 1917, and ran through four editions. The price of the first edition was \$1.00. 1,000 copies were printed. In the two editions which followed shortly, 1,000 copies each were printed. There were 5,000 copies printed in the fourth edition. The price was \$1.50. This book is out of print, and second hand copies are eagerly bought for prices ranging from \$2.00 to \$2.50. Dr. W.E. B. Du Bois in commenting on this work, says: "The person who wants in small compass in good English and in attractive form the arguments for the present Negro position should buy and read and recommend to his friends "From Superman to Man."

In 1918, "The Approaching Storm", a pamphlet, was published. This pamphlet dealt with the importance of the Negroes of the United States from a point of view of economics. 2,000 copies were printed. All have been sold.

In 1919, "As Nature Leads" was published. 1,000 copies were printed. It is now out of print. The price of this book was \$1.25, but it brings double the price now. The subject which Mr. Rogers discussed in this book was "Race Mixing".

The "Klu Klux Spirit", a pamphlet dealing with the history

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of the Klu Klux Klan was published in 1923. 3,000 copies were printed, and they were sold at 25 cents each. This pamphlet is out of print.

In 1931, "The World's Greatest Men and Women" of African Descent" was published. There were two editions. 2,000 copies were printed in the first edition, and 3,000 copies of the second edition. The price of this book was \$1.00. It is out of print.

The next publication was "100 Amazing Facts About the Negro". Eighteen editions have been published. The first 16 editions was produced in two parts-The Facts, and The Key. The Facts were sold at 10 cents per copy and the price of The Key was 25 cents. 40,000 copies were printed. All of these editions were sold out, and in December 1939, the 17th edition was brought out in pamphlet and book form. 2,000 copies were printed. The 18th edition appeared July 1940. 4,500 in pamphlet form and 500 in book form were printed.

There is at present in the Press a very large work in two volumes, entitled "Sex and Race". It is hoped that this book will be on sale early this Fall. The price of Volume I will be \$3.60, and the price of Volume II will be \$3.50 when bought separately. The price will be only \$5.00 if both volumes are bought together.

Mr. Rogers has a collection of 150 Biographies of great men and women of African descent which he hopes to publish at no too distant date. (See latest edition of "100 Amazing Facts About the Negro" for more complete information regarding the writings of Mr. Rogers.

Mr. Rogers began to write for newspapers in 1920. In 1925,

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he went to Europe and became correspondent for the leading Negro newspapers of the United States, such as "The Chicago Defender", "The Amsterdam News", "The Afro-American", "The Journal and Guide", "The Philadelphia Tribune", "The Negro World", etc., etc. Mr Rogers was a regular contributor to several West Indian newspapers, among them the popular "The Belize Independent".

It is worthy of note to state that Mr. Rogers won the high commendation of the well known journalist and publisher, Mr. H.L. Mencken for an article entitled "The Negro in Europe". This article had the place of honour in the May 1930 issue of "The Mercury".

In May 1933, he wrote an article-"Americans in Ethiopia". It was written under a pseudonym-Jerrold Robbins, and it was also published in "The Mercury".

An article entitled "Experiences of the Negro Under Christianity and Islam", written by Mr. Rogers, was published in "The Review of Nations", at Geneva, Switzerland. This article was published during the year 1928-1929. This magazine had among its regular contributors, officials of The League of Nations. When the editor of this periodical, Mr. Valyi, left Europe on a tour of the oriental countries, he placed Mr. Rogers in charge of the editorial work of this publication. Here is evidence of the great esteem in which Mr. Rogers is held by people who can appreciate the constructive work which he is doing.

At this point of the interview, Mr. Rogers remembered another pamphlet which he had written. The title of this pamphlet is "The Real Facts About Ethiopia". The first edition of this

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pamphlet was published in 1935. 3,000 copies were printed. They were sold at 35 cents. The second edition of which 2,000 copies were printed were sold at 50 cents. Nearly all of both of these editions have been sold. Probably there are about 300 copies on hand.

Picture stories (cartoons) dealing with historical facts regarding Negroes were carried in "The Pittsburgh Courier" for 32 months. Similar pictures were published in "The Amsterdam News" for about 18 months. Then, for 15 months, biographies of leading men of African descent were carried in 47 different Negro newspapers.

Mr. Rogers is a member of the Société d' Anthropologie de Paris. It is one of the oldest Anthropological Societies in the world. Mr. Rogers became a member of this Society in 1929 when he resided in Paris.

During the session of the International Congress of Anthropology, held under the auspices of the above mentioned Society, and which was opened by President Paul Doumer of the French Republic, Mr. Rogers read a paper on "Race Mixing," which was well received. Later, to the pleasureable surprise of Mr. Rogers, it was published in "The London Times", and several French newspapers.

There will be found in Professor Alain Locke's book-"The New Negro" an essay entitled "Jazz at Home", which was written by Mr. Rogers.

Although Mr. Rogers has been fully occupied with the writing of books, he has found time to deliver lectures on certain aspects of Negro history to the students of the most important Negro Colleges

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and Schools of the United States. He has also lectured at several of the white Universities. Mr. Rogers relates with a great deal of humour about the receipt of an invitation from Chicago University, in which he was told of the use by the faculty of his popular book, "From Superman to Man". He was invited to talk about the facts which he had given in this remarkable book.

He lectured at Rochester University and the University of Southern California. He travelled across the country by aeroplane to deliver an address on Ethiopia at this last named seat of learning.

It is probable that Mr. Rogers is the only distinguished writer in the world today who uses the direct method of education in proving that <sup>the</sup> prejudice which exists against coloured people is ~~illogical~~ illogical, unwarranted, and due to sheer ignorance of the contribution of the Black Race to civilization, which, at the present time appears to be greatly endangered by the barbarous attacks against it by the fiendish dictators of Europe, whose bodies may be white, but whose souls are steeped in abysmal darkness with hatred and greed.

Mr. Rogers does not work for fame or money. His only desire is to combat, with the pen, the prejudices which hinder the progress of humanity.

The information which Mr. Rogers gives to the great number of readers of his books, is the result of nearly three decades of painstaking researches, and it must be deeply gratifying to him to know that his efforts have won for him wide recognition as a leader in his particular field.