W. E. B. Du Bois Papers

Hope, John, 1868-1936
Letter from John Hope to W. E. B. Du Bois, August 13, 1917

Sharing his excitement about the Silent Protest Parade in Harlem and expressing the need for immediate civil rights for African Americans.

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TNY DEAR DR. B:,

Sorry I did not see you when I was in New York last month.

I have read with inspiration reports of the silent protest bands. I think it wonderful and wish that it might be repeated in many northern and border cities, then the Southern cities. We must now very speedily become free or saddle slavery upon ourselves for it might not last 20 years.

The ability of us U.S. Negroes to break the shackles now will answer to a large extent what will be the nature of negroes in the world over and what will be the fate of the Negro, for the will become necessary because the great European countries have used the African exploitation after the war. Shall we make him a free human being or a slave?

David says:

J. L. M. Hurst}

Chief