HARDING SAYS NEGRO MUST HAVE EQUALITY IN POLITICAL LIFE

Does Not Mean Same Soolial Plane, He Tells South in Birmingham Speech.

WARNS AGAINST 'DEMAGOGY'

Tells Audience He Will, Speak

Frankly, "Whether You Like It or Not."

PRAISED BY UNDERWOOD

Alabama City Gives Housing Wel-

come to President Harding Who

Received College Degree.

Special to The New York Times.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 29—Pres-

ident Harding, in Birmingham to

day, received the degree of doctor of

laws from the University of Alabama.

The occasion was a rather minor one

in the political career of the President,

but the address delivered by him before

the university was one of the most
dramatic in the campaign, and will

undoubtedly do much toward settling

the issue now being raised in the coun-

try about the place of the Negro in

American life.

In his remarks, President Harding

declared that the great Negro solici-
tation was not simply a matter of per-

sonal relations, but that it had given

rise to a political situation requiring

immediate solution.

The President said that the Negro

vote, though small in proportion to

the white vote, was of vital impor-
tance, and unless all classes of Ameri-
cans took steps toward the solution of

this problem, it would be impossible to

safeguard the peace of the United

States.

In the course of his address, the

President recalled how he had been

called upon to recognize the fact that

the Negro vote was a factor of im-
portance in the political life of the

country.

He said that he had been called upon

to deal with this problem in a number

of states, and that in each case he

had been confronted with the fact

that the Negro vote was a factor of

importance.

The President then referred to the

case of the State of Mississippi,

where he had been called upon to

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Continued from Page 1, Column 1.

The President's Speech.

"I am sure the House needs no

reminders. We have seen, and are

getting a glimpse of, the problem

that faces us. We have been told

of the progress that has been made

in the fight for equal rights.

The President's Speech.

"It is evident that in a nation

with a slave history, the problem

of race is prevalent. We are

facing this problem today.

The President's Speech.

"The Negro is a part of our

national life. He is one of our

great assets. Our nation's wealth

is not complete without him.

The President's Speech.

"We must work for the

equal rights of all. We must

fight for justice and fairness.

The President's Speech.

"The Negro has a right to

vote. He must have the same

opportunities as everyone else.

The President's Speech.

"We must not be afraid to

face this problem. We must

be strong enough to overcome

it.

The President's Speech.

"In conclusion, I want to

say that the Negro is a part of

our nation. He is an asset.

The President's Speech.

"We must work to give him

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