

John Henrik Clarke—"A Giant of a Man"

by Maria E. Heywood

One of the most internationally notable, distinguished and respected Black historians of our time is Hunter's John Henrik Clarke of the Black-Studies Department.

Prof. Clarke, an extremely amiable, soft spoken man of small physical stature is, according to one of his students, "a giant of a man; in teaching he skillfully builds your interest to a peak where you begin to believe that he has escaped from a shelved history book. You can't help feeling that he

subject of African and Afro-American History. Among many of his other trailblazing achievements, Prof. Henrik Clarke is a founding member of the Black Academy of Arts and Letters and is president of the African Heritage Studies Association.

Here at Hunter College Professor Clarke serves as an instructor in the Department of Black and Puerto Rican Studies. He is the major developer of courses in African and Afro-American history and culture. Some of the courses

Prof. Clarke advises the individual student as to how he can best combat the move to erase minority students from the university. "Be a successful student in your choice of study. Education is a tool for liberation, it is not a student's private property but rather something that belongs to a whole people. Be alert to the forces of power around you and be realistic as to the role you are capable of playing," he said. "Sure, every student should participate in student activities but not to the detriment of his grades."

Prof. Clarke is soon to begin his sabbatical leave. He intends to attend a conference on Yuroba culture in Nigeria, and to complete his latest

books: one a basic text in African history and the other the first volume of **The Formal History on The Black Woman in World Power**. Some of the numerous books written by Prof. Clarke are: **Rebellion in Rhyme; The Lives of Great African Chiefs; Harlem, a Community in Transition** and **Malcolm X: The Man and His Times**. Prof. Clarke also intends to spend some of this time "writing and reflecting."

He has been awarded many citations for his achievements. Some are: two Carter G. Woodson Awards; one for Creative Contributions in Editing and the other for Distinguished and Outstanding Work in the Teaching of History, and the NATRA Citation

for Merituous Achievement in Educational Television.

Prof. Clarke lives in Harlem with his wife and two children: His daughter, not yet eleven years old, is certainly walking in her fathers footsteps. Having been skipped grades she will be attending high school in the fall.

Professor Clarke has travelled throughout the world lecturing on African history. Thanks to him, the world is more knowledgeable of a people—his people. Were it not for his literary contributions and effortless teachings many Blacks today might have found themselves as he did in his youth—searching for their past in order to pursue their future.



Not Just a Librarian

by Anne Grosso

Can one person be a librarian, a counselor, a playwright and a research scientist? Smith Garrett Robinson, the head and only librarian at the Health Science Institute is all these. He takes a personal interest in the students at the Institute and tries to help them an every way he can.

"The young people here at Hunter are creative and know what's going on," says Mr. Robinson. He explained that he asks students at the Institute how they feel about the library and tries to encourage them to come in and use it as much as possible.

