BOOK REVIEW
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Two of the Best

DARK GHETTO. By Kenneth B. Clark.

Harper & Row, $4.95.

WHO SPEAKS FOR THE NEGRE? By Rob-

ert Penn Warren. Random House,

$5.95.

+ FROM the seemingly endless stream
of books on racial issues I have plucked
these two as representative of the best
published in 1965. Despite their differ-
ences, they work together as a powerful
pair, for both use the personal testimony of
Negroes, their forceful use of the personal testimony of
addicts in depicting the "menacing and
insidious poison of drug addiction." Clark is at his best — there is not a dull page when he exposes the
psychological subtleties buried in so-
cial facts.

The white reader of Dark Ghetto should
deliberately go down the pace of his reading as he comes to those passages in which Clark turns the white
liberal on his heel and will see com-
ing toward him in these pages one "who
struggles to reconcile his affirmation of
racial justice with his visceral racism." The
author states that the ghetto is governed
by two rules: "One basic rule is to
present to the hostile white world a
single voice of protest and rebellion....
Another basic rule is that no issue can take precedence over the basic issue of
race and, specifically, of racial oppres-
sion." As a psychologist and a sociologist
Clark knows the fallacies of these rules.
He knows the need for reason, logic, and
the tensions existing between middle
class and lower class Negroes, his force-
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The weakness of this book — if it can be
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