

# BOOK REVIEW

## DO THEY ALWAYS RETURN?

FADING. By Nella Larsen. Alfred A. Knopf, 216 pp.

Here is an excellent novel which suggests that the "near whites" always return to their own race for genuine happiness, comfort and understanding. It is interesting to note that this was also apparent in "Plum Bun" by Jessie Redmon Fauset.

Clare Kendry, the "near white," is married to a white man. The situation is complicated by the fact that the husband has an orthodox southern viewpoint concerning Negroes. Moreover, Clare's white husband calls her "Nig" because as she grows older she becomes darker.

The unsuspecting husband explains to Clare's "near white" friends that as long as he is assured that Clare is not colored he might even call her "nigger." It is apparent that he regards the nickname as having no significance other than a humorous one.

Irene Redfield might also "pass"; but she chooses not to, and makes an interesting comparison with Clare. Irene is the unwilling confidant of Clare who seeks her companionship in order to escape the tenseness of her racial camouflage.

Clare's husband finally discovers that her blood is not really "blue" but black. The discovery is made in circumstances which result in Clare's death.

At the beginning, the story moves

slowly. However, the injection of innumerable situations where the reader's interest is usually intense renders the work one of merit.

## "TRACKING DOWN A NEGRO LEGEND."

JOHN HENRY. by Guy B. Johnson. University of North Carolina Press, \$2.50

It is claimed in this book that the legend of John Henry, the Negro steel driver, is one of the most fascinating native to America.

It is a collection of data surrounding the existence of such a character. There is a valuable bibliography as well as interesting information on Negro folk lore.

## WILL ROGERS AT HIS BEST

ETHER AND ME. By Will Rogers. 77 Pages. G. P. Putnam & Sons, \$1.

With his characteristic refreshing wit, Will Rogers, noted humorist, describes in a clever and comical manner the intricacies of his operation for gall stones. What causes gall stones to form, the author wittily states as follows:

"There are various reasons. Republicans staying in power too long will increase the epidemic; seeing the same ending to moving pictures is a prime cause; a wife driving from the rear seat will cause gastric juices

to form an acid and that slowly jells into stone as she bickers."

Another high spot is when Will tells of the physician's attempt to ease his pain just before the operation.

"When I got home they called a doctor. He gave me some powders. The pain just thrived on those powders. I never saw a pain pick up so quick as it did when the powders hit it."

The book literally sparkles with choice morsels of wit of this sort. It is unique humor, highly interesting, and informative in that it expresses orthodox medical procedure in the operating room in a hilariously funny fashion.

## LOAN FUND FOR STARTING NEGRO TAILORING ESTABLISHMENTS

A member of the Association of Negro Tailors, Designers, and Dress-makers is reported to have deposited a fund of \$30,000 with a New York bank to assist Negro graduates in those branches to get a start in business. It is stipulated that loans shall be at 6 per cent and shall not run longer than three years. The president, secretary and one other member of the association are to pass upon the merits of individual applications.

—Domestic Commerce Bureau.

## APPLE FILLING FOR LAYER CAKE

Three large apples, grated; mix with one cup white sugar, stirring it in as the apple is grated. Add the juice and grated rind of one lemon, then one beaten egg. Cook in a double boiler until clear—about five minutes.

## FRIED APPLES

Wash, core, but do not peel several good apples; cut in thick rings, dip in flour and gently fry in butter and bacon fat, when brown and soft

sprinkle a little brown sugar and a dash of cinnamon over them and let them stand in the hot pan to melt the sugar. Serve with bacon curls for breakfast.



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## Sore Legs Healed

Open Legs, Ulcers, Enlarged Veins, Gout, Eczema healed while you work. Write for Free book, "How to Heal My Sore Legs at Home." Describe your case. A. C. Liepe Pharmacy, 1729 Green Bay Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

## Asthma Left and Never Returned

Got Entirely Rid of the Disease After Suffering 17 Years.

Asthma sufferers will be deeply interested in a letter recently written by Miss Mary Bean, Route 2, Nashua, Iowa. She says:

"I had asthma for 17 years, coughed most of the time and couldn't rest, day or night. I tried everything, but grew so weak I could hardly walk across the room. After taking part of one bottle of Nacor, I could do most of my house-work. That was 8 years ago. I recovered completely, am still feeling fine, with no signs of asthma."

Hundreds of other sufferers from asthma, bronchitis and chronic coughs have reported their recovery after years of affliction. Their letters and a booklet of valuable information about these diseases will be sent free by Nacor Medicine Co., 731 State Life Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind. No matter how serious your case, write for this free booklet. It may give your whole life a new meaning.—Adv.



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Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out { Vocals . . . . . Bessie Smith

Record No. 14427-D, 10-inch, 75c

I'm Wild About That Thing  
You've Got To Give Me Some { Vocals . . . . . Bessie Smith

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