

When Negroes Are Black No More

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logic that finds its stimulation in the fallible and insidious propaganda of his opponents. He usually turns the best arguments of his antagonists to his own decisive advantage with the full death-dealing thrusts of his own irony.

What can be more ironical than the incident where Snobcraft and suggester black their faces to save their lives in a Mississippi backwoods town? Can anything be more repulsive to "respectable" white men than to have to black their faces and pose as the despised Negro in order to escape the fury of a Southern white mob?

Apparently, Mr. Schuyler would rather that his blow be full in the face and straight from the shoulder than that it should be delicately subtle and not half as effective. It is believed that Mr. Schuyler possesses a very big mind and that the big mind is more inclined to plain ruggedness than to faintly perceptible nuances of thought. This is manifestly a mere question of differences in style and not a question of right or wrong.

If ever there was a "New Negro" psychology "Black No More" gives such evidence in its essential point of view. The author manifests a distinct superiority complex in being able to detach himself so completely from the subterranean undercurrent of the more insulting phases of race prejudice.

This is remarkable, too, since Mr. Schuyler has been at various times a beggar, a stevedore, a dishwasher, and has done such other labor as is commonly associated with human

beings of a low social status. Being bruited about by almost every conceivable unkind fate has given him an exceedingly colorful background. One can easily see his cynicism peering through the pages of "Black No More." But his cynicism is engendered by his realization of, and his wholehearted passion for, truth and not a vindictive desire for revenge.

In the character delineations he toys with the pet passions of both the megalomaniac and the narcissist type of leader, revealing what he conceives to be a ludicrously true side of them. He is able to do this only because analytical and intellectual aloofness keeps him from the pettinesses of his subjects.

Mr. Schuyler's own individual psychology has in no way been adversely affected by the insidiousness of American propaganda, and this is a distinction to which few Negroes can lay claim. Moreover, this is inevitably the sort of motivating background needed for such an imaginative creation as "Black No More." Indeed, such an attitude would be beneficial for young and old Negroes. An air of condescension is much more wholesome than the depressing psychology of slaves, and it is believed that no sort of revolution among Negroes is more necessary than a complete metamorphosis in their whole attitude toward life.

It becomes painfully and increasingly obvious that the best young minds of the Negro group do not possess the sort of conscious attitude toward the American race problem that is calculated to produce the proper type of Negro leadership. In writing "Black No More" the author has transcended the limitations of race and measures his analytical criticism solely by the yardstick of plain and universal facts.

It is noted also that Mr. Schuyler makes no mention whatever of prominent Negro women who are active in the racial fray. Several reasons may be ascribed for this omission but perhaps the most obvious one is the fact Negro women have in no way figured in the shaping of national interracial policies.

Unfortunately, Negro women enjoy no such place of ascendancy in their group as do white women in their group. Being members of a subject race, they couldn't very well, and their voices of protest are not regarded very seriously.

It has been said that the only free human beings in the United States were white men and Negro women. Much of that attitude still lingers. For it is a rare occurrence to find even a so-called "liberal" white man who will consider the Negro woman in any other capacity than that of a concubine. While on the other hand, Negro leaders realize that they must rely mainly upon white women as the ultimate and most helpful benefactors of the Negro race.

The accessibility of white women to Negro men is the accessibility of the white man's citadel of social supremacy. The Negro woman then has not had the opportunity to make

the farcical spectacle of self-appointed race representation as has the Negro man. The book seems none the worse for this omission.

"Black No More" moves forward with an extraordinary driving speed and coherence. But it manifests tendencies of having carried the author, so great was its tempo. In doing so it moved with a faster pace than was best for its technical structure. Here and there passages are indicative of hurried writing. But this minor failing whips the reader to a point of frenzied interest and he rushes impatiently to the ending.

The book never drags, never releases the reader from the spell of its dynamic appeal.

Besides a wealth of explosive satirical talent Mr. Schuyler commands a marked ability for genuine entertainment which he uses to the delight of the reader. One wonders when he writes if too much attention is not paid to financial reward. It is so easy for a showman, as Mr. Schuyler undoubtedly is, to perform with effect too uppermost in his mind rather than with the sole purpose of inflicting the unmitigated punishment of which his satirical arsenal is capable. But perhaps a too sparing use of ridiculous if trenchant comedy would retard the sale of "Black No More." On pure principles of expediency such showmanship is excusable. Writers, too, must be permitted to eke out an existence as best they can.

By and large, "Black No More" is probably the most significant book dealing with interracial relations published in the last decade. Though it is not flawlessly constructed, its scorching treatment is suggestive of the master satirists, Swift and Anatole France.

Its contemptuous disregard of anything except pure reason and brutal facts marks a radical departure from the pusillanimous palaver so often emanating from the pens of writers who timidly approach the race problem. Mr. Schuyler merely takes one huge hefty blast at the entire tragi-comedy, irrespective of what and whom his fire might ignite. He dares and defies indiscriminately. He has no "axe to grind," and one must admire that sort of courage.

It is feared that Negroes will adopt the wrong attitude toward this new novel. They are likely to resent the impertinent, iconoclastic manner which the author uses to slap the faces of their cherished Negro leaders. Perhaps they will think that Mr. Schuyler should not have debunked everything, that he should have left someone unharmed, that he will destroy the meager confidence that now exists in Negro leadership. But such apprehension is entirely unnecessary in regard to the proper type of leadership. If the present so-called Negro leaders cannot withstand searching scrutiny, then a whole new set of leaders are urgently in order. It is as permissible to magnify faults as to deify virtues, and as a matter of fact it is far less injurious to all parties concerned.

After all, Mr. Schuyler has satirized his principal characters by attributing their apparently genuine unselfishness to personal economic greed. It is highly dubious as to whether he is wrong here at all and if he is, the satirized leaders have the dubious comfort of knowing the good old maxim, "virtue is its own reward."

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MAYOR, RITCHIE JOIN IN SHRINER WELCOME

Governor Albert C. Ritchie, Mayor Broening and J. Frank Roberts all have joined in letters of invitation to the forthcoming imperial council of the Mystic Shrine, which is scheduled to hold its 1931 session here August 11, 12 and 13.

According to John H. Murphy, Jr., who heads the publicity committee, more than 5,000 will be in attendance here that week. It will be one of the biggest and most colorful fraternal meetings here this year.

In a letter to Caesar R. Blake, Jr., Imperial Potentate, Mayor Broening pointed out the advantages that

International Entertainer



ALBERTA HUNTER—One of the most renowned international entertainers, who has recently returned to this country. She is formerly of "Showboat," and played in the cast when this popular show was presented in London. She was also in the cast when this production entertained for Bellonte and Coste, famous French aviators, at the Ritz-Carlton.

would be available to the meeting and urged him to accept the city's invitation. Elaborate plans are being made by the Nobility of Jerusalem Temple to entertain the delegates.

WINTER JAMS AND JELLIES

Orange and Lemon Jelly

2½ cups (1¼ lbs.) juice and water
6 cups (2½ lbs.) sugar
1 bottle commercial liquid pectin
Add juice of 4 oranges and 2 lemons to grated rinds and let stand 10 minutes. Press juice through cloth. Measure juice and water and sugar into a large sauce-pan, stir, and bring to a boil. At once add pectin, stirring constantly, and bring again to a full rolling boil and boil one-half minute. Remove from fire, let stand

1 minute, skim, pour quickly. Cover hot jelly with film of hot paraffin; when jelly is cold, cover with ¼ inch of hot paraffin.



bruises?
Sloan's Liniment

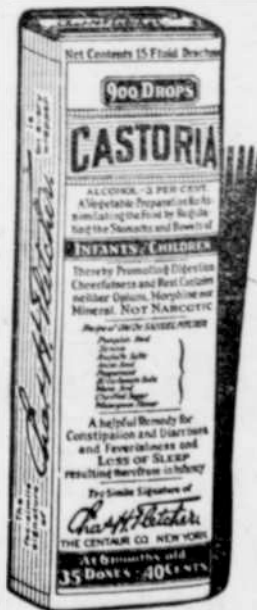
Castoria corrects CHILDREN'S ailments

WHAT a relief and satisfaction it is for mothers to know that there is always Castoria to depend on when babies get fretful and uncomfortable! Whether it's teething, colic or other little upset, Castoria always brings quick comfort; and, with relief from pain, restful sleep.

And when older, fast-growing children get out of sorts and out of condition, you have only to give a more liberal dose of this pure vegetable preparation to right the disturbed condition quickly.

Because Castoria is made expressly for children, it has just the needed mildness of action. Yet you can always depend on it to be

effective. It is almost certain to clear up any minor ailment and cannot possibly do the youngest child the slightest harm. So it's the first thing to think of when a child has a coated tongue, is fretful and out of sorts. Be sure to get the genuine; with Chas. H. Fletcher's signature on the package.



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—to neglect your cold. Take St. Joseph's Lax-ana (double strength) for overnight results. It combines the best cold medicines with effective laxatives. At all drug stores.

Free to Women
Regular \$1.00 Treatment Sent Free. Only One to Each Family.

Many women suffer from ovarian pains, female complaints, dragged down feeling, backache, headache, bearing down pains, flushes of heat, whites, painful and irregular periods, growing prematurely old.

A marvelous modern treatment has been used with such results by thousands of women that for the next thirty days Dr. DePew offers to send a full dollar treatment, postpaid, no C. O. D., no cost, no obligation, free to every woman who writes. Only one to each family.

Dr. DePew's remedy, a non-specific, is based on discoveries in glandular activity apparently obtains results not possible with old methods of vegetable or mineral preparations. Women report: "I don't have that pain any more." "Am looking younger every day." "Feel like a new woman."

A limited supply of free treatments will be sent out this month, so be sure and write today. No matter what your age or condition, Dr. DePew is anxious that you make this remarkable test of this convenient home treatment to secure immediate relief.

Simply send name, a postcard will do. Remedy will be mailed in plain wrapper. Dr. DePew believes you will be surprised and delighted. Address: Paul St. John, exclusive distributor, 115 Coates Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.



Chicago: 20 E. Jackson Blvd.,
New York: 61 Whitehall St.

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This year ten MILLION treatments of Wavine will hardly go around.

It **MUST** be good! Wherever toilet goods are sold Wavine holds first place in sales . . . because in the dainty glass jar there is a perfumed dressing that does three things well. It straightens the hair from roots to end. Makes your hair grow long and silky. And brings beauty you never had before.

Is hair beauty worth 25c? That's all Wavine costs . . . at your druggist's or by mail post paid from The Boyd Mfg. Co., Birmingham, Ala.