

ample, the author discusses a "riot" in Harlem in July, 1961, in which residents attacked policemen attempting to make arrests. He comments that such attacks on law enforcement officers are new and not a part of the past experience of New York police. Quite the contrary, in the years between World War I and the Harlem disturbances of 1935 alone some ten major disturbances between Negroes and police were reported in the *New York Times*, in several of which the dispute grew out of attempts by policemen to apprehend Negro offenders.

On the other hand, Dr. Marrow must certainly be congratulated for the rare candor with which he handles the activities and motives of various Negro leaders in the metropolis, particularly such men as Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., who if they are successful in doing away with discrimination may, in the process, do themselves out of jobs.

The promise of chapters with titles such as "From Uncle Tom to Sit-Ins" seemed never, to this reader, to be fulfilled. This chapter reviews, very briefly, the activities of Black Muslim groups, comments on the changing role of organizations like the NAACP and the Urban League, and compares the activities of such divergent personalities as Martin Luther King and Representative Powell. Yet it fails to catch the flavor of the basic schisms that are developing in the philosophic orientations of Negro leadership—who may differ in methods but who are nevertheless committed to massive change, right now.

I AM aware of the dangers inherent in criticizing a book because it isn't the kind of book a reviewer thinks should have been written. I will admit to disappointment that Dr. Marrow did not exploit his experience with COIR to produce a volume which offers more than the suggestion that participation, negotiation, the use of mass media, appeal to laws, and education should be more fully exploited in attempts to change intergroup patterns. The constraints placed on practitioners by a variety of constituencies—politicians, private-interest groups, and agencies with differing action orientations—could have been explored with great profit.

However, given the type of book he chose to write, I have the feeling that Dr. Marrow could have said much more than he did. He left his tenure as commissioner with a feeling of frustration at the size of the task, but with some optimism about possibilities of positive change. I put down his book with the same feeling.

## A Poet Asks: How Long Is a While?

**"Fight for Freedom: The Story of the NAACP," by Langston Hughes** (Norton, 224 pp. \$4.50), not only recounts the history of a powerful movement and its fighting organization, but sketches such fiery leaders as W. E. B. DuBois who made it a reality. Irving Dilliard has just completed a book on the Bill of Rights opinions of Mr. Justice Black.

By IRVING DILLIARD

MOVE "with all deliberate speed," counseled the United States Supreme Court in the public school desegregation cases some eight years ago. You wonder how long is "deliberate" and how slow it can be and still be "speed."

Take, as an illustration, the life span of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It was founded in 1909, less than a year after two Negroes, one of them eighty-four years old, were lynched in Springfield, Ill., not far from Lincoln's tomb and even closer to the Great Emancipator's historic home.

The Springfield outrage, with race rioters surging through the streets and looting and burning Negro dwellings and seriously injuring some seventy of their occupants, was vividly described in the pages of the *Independent*, by William English Walling. So vividly, in fact, that one reader, Mary White Ovington, thereafter devoted her life to remedying the deplorable state of race relations, North as well as South. Out of her resolution in 1908-09 came the organization whose initials are printed many times every day in many parts of the country.

Yet as this is written, Governor Kerner of Illinois has announced a meeting with Dr. L. H. Holman of Joliet, president of the Illinois conference of the NAACP, as a result of beatings of six integrationists by white men at a Cairo, Ill., skating rink. The rink was closed and so was a swimming pool where there had been demonstrations and other trouble.

And so you wonder about "all deliberate speed" when citizens are still getting their heads cracked and bloodied in Lincoln's state more than



Langston Hughes: "We want 'what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming.' We want 'my country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty.' We want everything we ever heard about in all the 4th of July speeches."

a half century—fifty-three years to be exact—after the Springfield riots that so deeply disturbed Vachel Lindsay.

Langston Hughes, poet, novelist, and playwright, who tells the story of the NAACP, makes it plenty clear how the Sit-in Kids and the Freedom Riders react when some Washington officials tell them to wait a while. They want to know "what while"? He speaks for them:

Their daddies waited a while, their grand-daddies waited a long, long while. To the great-grand-daddies of these young Negroes today the white world owes *beaucoup* back money—lots and lots—for working and waiting a *while*—back pay for free labor, slave labor, hopeless expectations—payments long overdue—since 1619. Where is that money? Where is that freedom? And where is *this* freedom today? Those who are young want it now, before they get as old as those who will probably never have anything before they die. "All deliberate speed" is not *now*. If one cools off today he might be stone-cold dead tomorrow—and still no ballot, still no hospital to get well in or die in, still no hot dog at that bus station lunch counter.

Hot dog? Are you kidding? We want "what so proudly we hailed at

the twilight's last gleaming." We want "my country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty." We want everything we ever heard about in all the Fourth of July speeches ever spoken. Don't say it—because you might be declared subversive—but we want freedom.

Langston Hughes knows what he is writing about. He has been through sixty years of it since his birth in Joplin, Mo., in 1902. In Lawrence, Kan., he could not go to the movies. He could not buy an ice cream soda. He could not even swim at the YMCA.

But he would be the first to say that a lot of ground has been gained and largely due to the NAACP. Few organizations have had such distinguished backing at the outset. Jane Addams opened Hull-House to the cause, and other supporters were John Dewey, John Haynes Holmes, Stephen S. Wise, Lincoln Steffens, Mary E. Woolley, Ray Stannard Baker, Lillian D. Wald, Brand Whitlock, Oswald Garrison Villard.

What Woodrow Wilson called "pitiless publicity" has glared down on the lynchers, and here is the record the NAACP has worked so hard to make possible.

YEAR	LYNCHINGS
1909	90
1920	65
1930	25
1940	5
1950	none
1962	?

Next year will be the 100th anniversary of the promulgation of the Emancipation Proclamation. This book, with its reports of the bitter racial persecutions in World Wars I and II; the great work of James Weldon Johnson, who once developed a four-year high school for Negroes in Jacksonville, Fla., by keeping the eighth grade class a ninth year, and then a tenth, and so on; the later contributions of Walter White and Roy Wilkins—this stirring book by Langston Hughes will help make that historic centennial far more meaningful than it otherwise would have been. Somebody ought to put it in every library in the country!

#### LITERARY I.Q. ANSWERS

1. ETAMINE. 2. POPGUN. 3. SCANTIER. 4. COTERIES. 5. NEAT-HERD. 6. LATESCENT. 7. HOSTILE. 8. TREATIES. 9. AGRESTIC. 10. INTEGRAL. 11. ORIENTAL. 12. FRECTION.

SR/September 29, 1962



## Criminal Record



**FINAL VERDICT.** By Adela Rogers St. Johns. Doubleday. \$5.95. This huge (512 pp.) book details cases handled by one of the greatest of American trial lawyers: Earl Rogers of California, the author's father; most space is given to defense of Clarence Darrow on charge of jury bribing; hero of this history was a dedicated alcoholic. A classic.

**THE TICKING CLOCK.** By Frances and Richard Lockridge. Lippincott. \$3.50. Many-chambered upstate New York house, inherited by young lady literary agent, nearly proves the death of her when big-time crooks move in. Salutations to the authors of their semi-centennial tale!

**COUNTERWEIGHT.** By Daniel Brown. Holt, Rinehart & Winston. \$3.50. New Broadway musical's first night is jolted when stage manager takes final count, but show goes on as cops inquire. Stage lingo and *mise-en-scène* nicely authentic.

**DEATH IN COLD PRINT.** By John Creasey. Scribners. \$2.95. Roger (Handsome) West, Yard biggie, explores killings involving vast provincial printing plant; gets answer as monotypes cease chatter. Usual good job, but more populous than most.

**TWO FOR THE MONEY.** By Jeremy York. Crime Club. \$2.95. English lass, arriving at Nice airport, tizzies when Yank "cousin" turns out to be tough *hombre* (real cousin has been canceled out on page 8). Damsel's distress is communicable.

**THE CRABTREE AFFAIR.** By Michael Innes. Dodd, Mead. \$3.50. Ancient retainer, returning to stately English home, meets violent end; Sir John Appleby, Yard V.I.P., discovers corpse, follows through. Lightly literate.

**THE SATAN BUG.** By Ian Stuart. Scribners. \$3.95. Death of security officer at English microbiological center has violent repercussions, but Investigator Pierre Cavell stops all the noise. Frank Merriwell lives again!

**THE WORLD OF TIM FRAZER.** By Francis Durbridge. Dodd, Mead. \$3.50. British engineer turns semiofficial intelligence agent when partner lams trailing forged checks; deaths not infrequent. Excellent baffler.

**DEAD WEIGHT.** By Ruth Fenisong. Crime Club. \$3.50. Proprietor of New York reducing salon excites interest of nice Police Captain Gridley Nelson; hit-and-run case blossoms out. Carries through pleasantly.

**THE CRY OF THE OWL.** By Patricia Highsmith. Harper & Row. \$3.95. Exing wife sets out to make trouble for Pennsylvania aeronautical engineer and succeeds in big way as corpses accumulate. Plenty of action plus emotion.

**WHEN I GROW RICH.** By Joan Fleming. Washburn. \$3.50. Youthful Turkish philosopher turns practical when Istanbul dowager gets involved in dire doings; there are dead (also a nice live English girl). Excellent picture of life on the Bosphorus.

**REPENT AT LEISURE.** By Rae Foley. Dodd, Mead. \$3.50. Blackmailer who effected two New York deaths (sculptor and his widow) is target for Hiram Potter, gentleman eye; some of action is in rural Connecticut. Placidly exciting.

**THE WILL OF THE TRIBE.** By Arthur W. Upfield. Crime Club. \$3.50. Detective Inspector Bonaparte of Australian police tackles case involving human bones in meteor crater. Nice treatment, as might be expected, and interesting cast.

**THE DOORS OPEN.** By Michael Gilbert. Walker. \$3.50. Murder of assistant cashier is first blow in campaign that threatens Britain's security and involves Yard, Intelligence, stock exchange, and canny villains. Nice one to take your time with.

**ELLERY QUEEN'S 1963 ANTHOLOGY.** Edited by Ellery Queen. Davis Publications. \$1 (paperback). Three short novels, three sub-short dittoes, and thirteen short stories make up this fourth-in-a-row annual bargain, still 320 pages strong. Name authors predominate.

**NO SAFE ROAD.** Bruce Munslow. Walker. \$3.50. Demobbed English lad sets up haulage business in Port Said (time 1956) and runs into difficulties on two fronts. Plenty of rough stuff here, also fine sense of locale.

—SERGEANT CUFF.