

WORLD OF BOOKS

By LOUISE P. DUMETZ
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

MY BLACK FISTS. By Lawrence O. Hight. Philadelphia: Dorrance and Company. 48 pp. \$3.

Emotional intensity is the forte of this collection of poems which make stirring pleas for justice for the American Negro. This volume pictures him as a good man; a compassionate man, who has seen too much cruelty and evil to stand silent any longer.

Although his voice is filled with righteous anger and disgust, he does not forfeit his humanity by sinking to the level of his persecutors.

MY BLACK FISTS will probably be profitable and inspirational reading for all those who believe men are brothers or who wish it were so.

Hight, a Chicagoan, is now working on **WEE WINKIE DONKEY**. This is a story of the donkey which carried Mary to Bethlehem, written especially for children.

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MOVING ON UP. By Mahalia Jackson with Evan McLeod Wylie. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc.

Today's headlines add an ironic touch to the tender dedication of this story of Mahalia Jackson. It says, "...I dedicate this book to my husband..." By the time this is printed, the vibrant singer may be divorced and the joyful moving up she expected when she became a bride at the book's ending, may join the sorrowful memories which give such depth and meaning to her rendition of the stirring words...

"I been 'buked and I been scorned.

"I'm gonna tell my Lord

"When I get home.

"Just how long you've been treating me wrong."

Mahalia Jackson has had her share of troubles and met them head-on. She does not flinch from telling of the bad times of hardship and heartache caused by poverty, racial prejudice and an unhappy early marriage. She has always faced life with equal amounts of good humor and iron determination. And, armed with her dedication to her religion, she has come through it all singing.

Joy is the keynote of her story--and she communicates this on every page.

L.A. Times Honors Ella

LOS ANGELES - (NPI)--Ella Fitzgerald, hailed as one of the greatest jazz and popular singers of our time, was among nine prominent women who received awards from the Los Angeles Times for "Distinguished Service to the Community in Various Fields." The distinguished women received silver cups during ceremonies in the Harry Chandler auditorium of the Times Building, attended by 500 civic leaders and friends of the honorees.

Presidential Appointee

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--Marian Anderson, famed contralto, has been named by President Lyndon B. Johnson to the National Council of Arts. Miss Anderson, of Danbury, Conn., was among eight new members appointed to the 26-member group which was created by Congress in 1964 to assist in encouraging the development of the arts.

"My Black Fists" Author



LAWRENCE OTHELLO HIGHT, author of "My Black Fists," is now working on a book to be entitled "Wee Winkie Donkey," the story of a donkey which carried Mary to Bethlehem. The book, written especially for children, does not have a Christmas orientation. His first novel, "My Black Fists," strikes out poetically against injustice and oppression. (NPI Photo)

School Board Accepts Integration Action Plan

Board of School Trustees of the Clark County School District has issued a formal statement of position on integration in the local public school system following its last regular business meeting of the year Thursday night (12/22) when a policy on this subject was adopted.

THE OFFICIAL statement noted that it is the intent of the Board and the Superintendent of Schools of the Clark County School District to carry out its newly-adopted Integration Policy through the "Action Plan for Integration" which includes eight broad approaches to the solution of this social problem.

The Board clearly pointed out what the District will do to integrate its schools. However, it cannot define a specific time schedule and details as to how the plan will evolve since this is related directly to the financial ability and student population increase of the District.

The Policy statement on integration is a positive position of what the Board plans to do in the years ahead and has been endorsed by the District's Planning Council and Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Integration, following a series of revisions.

Any differences between the several groups assisting in the development of the policy and the Board were a result of emphasis within the policy, not a disagreement in philosophy. The Board has consistently maintained its belief in the neighborhood school concept and feels that transportation is not an effective solution to the integration problem.

These positions are not held from a negative standpoint, but from a realistic assessment of what the District believes to be educationally sound for the children of Clark County. "We sincerely believe that the Action Plan will effectively integrate the School District," said Board President Clare Woodbury. "The Board is pleased with the policy and will support fully its commitments as spelled out in the Action Plan."

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