Librarian Talks On New Negro Literature Cleveland Call and Post (1934-1962); Apr 8, 1944; ProQuest Clevel pg. 7B

> of Richard Wright. River-Bottom Boy by Harold Matthews is a mov-ing commentary on the plight of the Southern Negro sharecroppers. In White Face Carl Offord dram-atizes the theme Richard Wright handled so effectively in Native Son. Both novels show the vicious influences on personality of a hostinfluences on personality of a host-ile white world but White Face lacks the power and force of Naile tive Son.

Benjamin Appel's Dark Stain pro-jects in a sensational manner the disruptive activities of fascist ele-ments in Harlem. The killing of an insane Harlem Negro by a young Jewish policeman sets off a train of events and creates a situation which an American Fascist group attempts to turn into a race riot. These writers are all part of the challenge of a newer Negro liter-ature. Out of them it is to be hop-ed not only lasting Negro litera-ture but lasting literature will be born."

Librarian Talks On New Negro Literature

"Is There a new Negro Litera-ure?" The question was answer-ed by Miss Lacretia Matthews of the department of Adult Educa-tion of Cleveland Public Library in a talk at Woodland Branch li-braran on Wednesday, March 15. "There is definitely a newer Ne-gro literature". Miss Matthews said. The work of such figures as Zora Neale Hurston, Richard Wright, and William Attaway shows that fiction by Negroes has come 'of age. What these writers have done has been to take the lower type Negro and give inter-metation to his life. Let us hope that they will reveal greater stay-ing power and growth than many of our older writers. Too many Negroes have pitifully brief car-cers as authors. They write a few mood poems, publish several vol-umes of verse, maybe write a no-vel or two, and then they are fin-shed.

"Recent by Negroe first-novels. in continue the tradition ot social) realism, often showing the influence

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