Book Review

By Saunders Redding

LIFE PLUS 99 YEARS, by Nathan F. Leopold, Doubleday and Company, 575 Madison Ave., New York. 381 pp. $5.50

Those who pick up **Life Plus 99 Years** in the titillating expectation of a revival of that sensationalism brought on by the commission of an overpublicized crime in 1924 are in for a disappointment.

Mr. Redding

There is no hellreek of sadistic behavior, no drawn-out disquisition on sexual perversion such as filled the news - papers for months, and no maudlin hammering on the confess and repent theme that marks so many prison-written books.

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THERE IS only just enough about the "crime of the century" properly to introduce the many - faceted subject with which Nathan Leopold is principally concerned — the problem of crime and criminality and the rehabilitation of criminals.

It is not explored as a personal problem in the sense that Leopold concentrates on his own rehabilitation.

It is a social problem of frightening importance — and thus the author treats it.

There is no sounder proof than this that the callow boy who had a part in the murder of Bobby Franks is not the catholic - minded man who wrote this book.

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MEASURED by several standards **Life Plus 99 Years** is an extraordinary book.

As autobiography it traces the most fascinating of all phenomena, the evolution of a human being. The drama of this — though without the dramatic structure — runs through every page.

It is a quiet drama, but very moving, and there is only one theatrical moment in it: the prison - murder of Leopold's partner in crime, Dick Leob.

This was a great "emotional shock," but when the shock passed Leopold realized that he had reached "a definite milestone in my growing up."

He does not talk about his "soul," and the idea of having found his soul would probably repel him, but something very like this must have happened; for after the death of his friend the volunteer work Leopold had been doing became something other than the means to pass the time, to expend an excess of intellectual energy, and to save himself from "stir-madness."

He worked for objectives beyond himself.

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THE STORY of that work is itself interesting.

Some of the work was teaching, and for this a few of the resources of certain midwestern universities were at his disposal; and some of it was scientific and technical, and after a number of years this resulted in his qualifying as a medical technician, an expert in roentgenology and bio-chemistry. --

But by far the greater part of Leopold's volunteer work was in sociology — the science of penology; the complicated problems of parole and rehabilitation — and in some phases of this work he pioneered, earning the respect, the cooperation and the friendship of the most outstanding men in the field.

So important were Leopold's contributions to penology that his studies were used in textbooks on the subject, and read before learned societies, and experts journeyed from abroad to consult with him.

Now that Nathan Leopold has been paroled, no one can distort either the purpose or the meaning of **Life Plus 99 Years.** It can stand as what it is — the moving autobiography of a recreated man.

Legal Advisor

I have been living with a man for 13 years. We are not married and now he has started running around. We have the house almost paid for.

My name is on the deed and he wants to make me move. Can I get anything out of the house if he sells it or can I stay there until he gives me something?

ANS.: If your name is on the deed, then you are entitled to a one-half interest. Also if your name is on the deed, its your house so he can't force you to move out of your own home.

Before a purchaser of the house can take title, you would have to sign a deed conveying your interest and of course you wouldn't sign unless you participate in the proceeds.

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I married this past April knowing little about the man. The day after the wedding he left for Massachusetts saying he was going to get some money.

I paid for the ring and all matters pertaining to the wedding. He left his son with me but later came and got him.

I went to Massachusetts and he only talked with me in the station. His father was a leading sports writer and when he died read it in the paper.

I was never notified. This man has never recognized me as his wife. I would sincerely like an answer in writing from you.

ANS.: From your elaborate description of this situation, I think your best bet is to have the marriage annulled since it appears your husband really never intended to be married.

If you can win him back fine, but if you can't (and it appears this was an attempt to get money from you only) see an attorney about an annullment for fraud.

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I am drawing Unemployment Compensation and have been doing so since August, 1957. I will receive my last check the third week in this month. Since this is 1958, would I be eligible to draw money made in 1957? If so what procedure should I follow?

ANS.: You will be able to file in August, 1958. When you receive your last check, they will send a slip giving you the exact date you can file if you are still unemployed.

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My husband and I are separated. We both work, and I have the children. My husband and I are discussing what he is to pay for the support of the children, and he keeps insisting that my salary should go for things for the children. Does the court consider this too?

ANS. The Court, in a suit with respect to support and maintenance of minor children, is primarily interested in the welfare of the children and the needs of the child and the father's ability to care for these needs.

In the event the husband has legitimate expenses of his own which makes it impossible to meet the needs of the child, the Court will then consider the wife's ability and responsibility to help out.

The TV-Radio Scene

If you're interested in mental telepathy, or believe in psychic phenomena, you'll be happy to know that starting June 28 a new show, called "ESP" bows on NBC-TV in the 11:00 p.m. spot.

It's to be based on extra sensory perception. Creators of the show is the same man who devised the $64,000 question.

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STEVE LAWRENCE and Eydie Gorme (Mr. and Mrs. in real life) may get a show of their own. They are being considered as summer replacement for the "Steve Allen Show."

Two shows that didn't "make it" will be back this summer as replacements. "Panic" and "Noah's Ark" have been scheduled for the 7-8 time slot Sunday evenings on NBC-TV starting around the first of April.

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NEWEST celebrity turned disk-jockey will be Wilt (the Still) Chamberlain, basketball all-American. He will emcee a show called "Flip 'er with Dipper. University of Kansas will take the show. 'Twill be on a sustaining basis—no sponsors.

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NELLIE LUTCHER returns to the television scene this week with a spot on the CBS-TVer "The Big Record!"

American TV will soon be going behind the Iron Curtain since a deal has been completed granting USSR outlets TV rights, for three years, to 13 episodes of three TV series.

Shows will be "Sea Hunt," "Science Fiction Theatre," and "Favorite Story."

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GODFREY'S "Talent Scouts," new format and all, moves to Wednesday night 8:30 starting September 24. It will replace "The Big Record" which, already cut to a half-hour, will be dropped after the summer. In the Monday 8:30 slot will be "Father Knows Best.

Our Readers Write

If you have a problem, let us help. Make letters short. Address AFRO Magazine Section, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 1, Md.

NAVAL HEROES

Washington, D.C.—Again we write in appreciation for the contribution to the 'literature' as frequently made through the Magazine Section of the AFRO.

It happens that we were engaged in tracing some naval historical data when we received the article by John Jasper, "Seven Minutes to Die" in the March 4 edition.

Constantly, though, we are reminded that other people are making inquiry and research and application on obscure historical materials which are of primary import to our people.

May the effort continue to bring to light the great contributions of earlier days which have unfortunately and sometimes unfairly been obscured during the intervening years.

JAMES C. EVANS
Office of Asst. Sec. of Defense

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Baltimore, Md. — This is to commend the AFRO Magazine Section for the series of articles portraying the contributions of the colored peoples of the world to world civilization and the special contributions of U.S. citizens to American life and progress, which are appearing in the magazine section.

Our family has begun a clipping scrapbook composed of these excellent articles which bring our history up to date.

These articles are so skillfully written that they make interesting reading to school children. They are meeting a great need for simple, readable, up to date facts of the colored man's history which our children get no place else.

J. J. MITCHELL

STRUGGLING WRITER

Orange, N.J. — I'm a poor struggling writer. I have written several book publishing companies. In turn, they have asked for collateral in reviewing and checking my work.

In as much as I am without capital, I find it hard to comply with these companies. Can you refer me to a place where I could have my work read and checked for possible publication?

JOHN PETERKIN

Most books these days are submitted to publishers through writers' agents. The agents perform the arduous tasks of screening material for possible publication.

They usually charge a reading fee before taking a writer under their wing, but if they accept you, you've got one foot in the door. Check Writers Digest magazine.

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DANCE TEAM

Newark, N.J. — Please tell me if the famous four sisters of the Whitman Sisters dance team are living and if so, are they still in show business.

They were living in Chicago years back, names: Mable, Essie, Bert and Alice.

GENEVA MORAN

We couldn't find them listed anywhere; maybe some of our readers might know more about them.

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BOOK REVIEW

Marshall, Texas—Thank you very much for your kind review of my book "Revelation Today," which ran in your Feb. 22 Magazine Section. God bless you and the fine work you are doing for the advancement of our race.

DR. JAMES R. PINN

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ADDRESSES

Philadelphia, Pa. — Can you help me get in touch with the singers Ray Charles and Chuck Berry?

RUTH WALLACE

You can reach all recording artists by writing to the companies for which they record.

* * *

Richmond, Va. — I would like to know how I can get in touch with song writer Andy Razaf. Can you supply his address?

MARTHA WARDSWORTH

He may be contacted through ASCAP (American Society of composers, authors and publishers) Los Angeles, Calif.

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FLAGS

Philadelphia, Pa. — Just how long would the American flag be flown at half-mast at the death of the President?

EAAL DAWSON

In March 1956, President Eisenhower by proclamation designated that the flag remain at half staff of 20 days for a president or former president ; 10 days for a vice president, chief justice, retired chief justice, speaker of the house and from the time of death to interment in certain areas for a cabinet member, former vice president, senator, representative and Supreme Court associate justice.

DR. JOHNSON

Baltimore — Thanks to the AFRO and especially to John Jasper for the very sympathetic way you reviewed my brochure on the late Dr. Harvey Johnson.

You may be interested to know also that in the lobby of the Harvey Johnson Center at the Union Baptist Church, we have assembled a "collection" on Dr. Johnson, and while not complete, there are several interesting items.

A. B. KOGER

Your Prayers Are Asked

For a very sick woman who needs understanding . . . For a sick daughter whose mind may be healed. . . . For Marie Smith. . . . For Willis who is sick in the mind. . . . For Annie and Lottie. . . . For my daughter Ida that she will feel better from her leg trouble and kidneys. . . . For Oletho Edward. . . . For a Brother Robert that he may gain weight and be healed. . . . For Kenneth and Chris that they may be reunited for the sake of their daughter. . . . For Loretta and Puddin that they may prosper as entertainers in show business. . . . For a mother that she may be completely healed and be able to return home. . . . For the removal of evil influences. . . . For a son's life. . . .

And for all sick and suffering people wherever they may be, that it may please God to heal them, And that Peace may prevail in the world.

Looking For Someone

If you want to locate missing friends or relatives, enclose $1 in an envelope along with a description of the person, where and when he was last heard from. Send it to Missing Persons Editor, AFRO-AMERICAN Magazine, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 1, Md.

Persons with information concerning these missing people, address all correspondence to Missing Persons, C/o AFRO-AMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw, St., Baltimore 1, Md.

Irene Smith of New York is looking for her brother Edwin Tucker whom she has never seen before. The people who took him in might have changed his name. His mother, Irene Tucker is in a mental hospital in Petersburg, Va. He should be around 30 years old.

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Valerie Watkins of Earleigh Heights, Md. is looking for her uncle, William Watkins, whom she has not seen for several years. His last known address was Ellsworth Street, Baltimore, Md.

He is dark brown skinned, small in stature and was an amateur artist. He should be about 25 years old. He is the son of the late Alexander (Pat) Watkins.

* * *

Florence Johnson of Richmond, Va., is looking for Henry Younger, age, around 46, height, about 5 feet 6. Short and light brown skinned.

Last heard of, was employed at the Maryland Insane Institution.

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Agnes Walker of Plymouth, N.C. is looking for Nania M. Valentine, a dear friend of hers. Last heard from on January 24, 1955.

* * *

FOUND

Frank Harris, brother of Willie Harris, can be located at 302 Robert St., Baltimore, Md.

AFRO
MAGAZINE SECTION
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-Newest

(Continued from Page 1)

only a sovereign people are paid attention.

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"THE WEST INDIES," which is not a wealthy area, will be called upon to translate political independence into bread and meat, milk and medicine, clothes and shelter, profitable crops and commerce, and ever-expanding opportunity for the oncoming generations.

Over the "West Indies" will fly a new flag, recently designed by a Jamaican project.

It has blue and white bands, representing the sea, with a blazing golden sun in the center.

HERE IS MILDRED

Make Up Your Mind

Our girl Mildred dons a new chemise dress for a date. She pops up with the neatest description for those new pointed-toe shoes. Says they are made for women with one toe.

By ALICE CHILDRESS

Girl, I know I look good! This is the chemise-look.

Of course, I believe these pointy-toe shoes are made for women with one toe but every once-in-a-while I go in for followin' the fashion, no matter where it leads me.

* * *

I HAD a date with Larry this evenin'—and went all-out for lookin' my best.

We had a nice time, but I don't think he's the person for me to spend too much time with.

Oh, he's very nice but I don't know how he keeps goin' on from day to day.

He is a man in torment. Marge, he has found the surest way to keep himself in misery.

He called the other day and asked, if I'd like to have dinner with him and take in a show after.

I didn't play hard-to-get or tell him I had to look in my date book or anything like that; just went on and said "Yes." That threw him for a loop.

* * *

"WHICH WOULD be better," he says, ". . . Friday, Saturday or Sunday?"

I told him Saturday evenin' would be fine.

He went on to explain that he could also make it Friday or Sunday and it didn't matter to him in the least, but I must suit myself.

Again I picked Saturday, so we left it at that.

HE SHOWED up tonight a half hour late because he didn't know whether it was best to take a bus or a subway to my house and finally had to take a cab.

Well, I was glad to see him and was all ready to leave when he says . . . .

"What show would you like to see?"

"Anything," I says, ". . . whatever you have in mind will be just fine."

No, he didn't have anything in mind, so we got out the newspaper and began to look up shows. 'I picked one out, and he went on to explain, that I didn't have to go and see that unless I really wanted to, because he had no preference in the matter.

I picked something else and he had the same thing to say about that, so I stuck to the first choice.

* * *

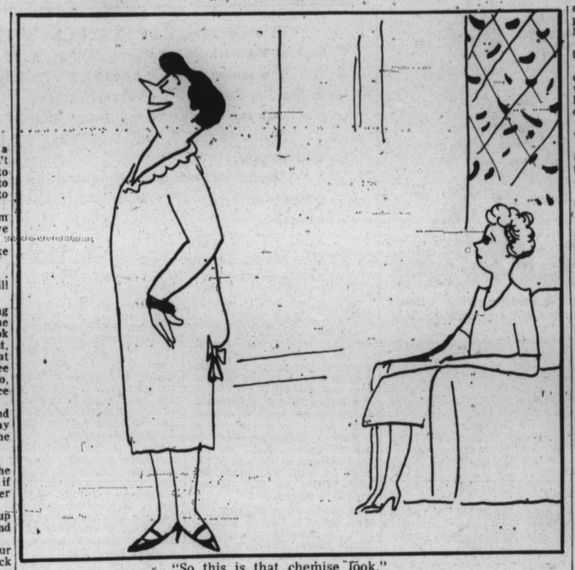
WHEN WE got out in the street, he wanted to know if there was any place I'd prefer to have dinner.

I told him it was strictly up to him and I wouldn't mind bein' surprised.

He mentioned three or four places and wanted me to pick one.

I gladly settled on The Green Room.

He called a cab and we started off but oh he was goin' through a strain wonderin' if The Green Room would really be as nice as it used to be when he was there last.



"So this is that chemise look."

I told him that nice or not, I'd just as soon go there and be done with it.

* * *

AS SOON as the cab rolled up in front of the place, he changed his mind and asked the driver to take us to "The Purple Chicken."

All the way there he kept tellin' me that I didn't have to go there if I had something else in mind. I didn't, so we kept on ridin.'

Marge, he was most distressed when we reached The Purple Chicken, got all flustered and upset 'cause the place was all run-down since he was there four years ago. . . .

That's right, we went back to The Green Room.

While we ate he kept wonderin' if the picture-show would be any good and if we had really picked out the best one to see.

By this time I began to feel worried too . . .

You know, kind of sad and distressed for no reason in particular.

* * *

DURIN' THE coffee and cake we combed back over the shows again, and I'm tellin' you we fretted ourselves crazy tryin' to make sure that we had the best thing without a mistake.

We narrowed it down to two and I picked one.

Larry looked like he'd lost his last friend because he all of a sudden remembered that he read in a paper that this show was not very good.

We went to another picture and while we looked at the screen, he kept wonderin' where would be a good place to go for a drink.

Girl, it felt like the weight of the world was restin' on my shoulders. I have never gone through so much worriation about havin' a good time.

* * *

I'M GLAD it's all over now, Marge, don't you feel sorry for that poor man?

I can just see him gettin' up in the mornin' and sittin' on the edge of his bed tryin' to figure out, which shoe he should put on first!

Poor Larry, he's so afraid he'll make a mistake . . . 'til he can't move at all!

I think he'd be better off bein' wrong sometime, than bein' nothin' all the time.

A man like that, makes a woman feel so bossy.

Pearl Buck and her youngest daughter, Henriette, who was adopted by the famous author and her publisher husband, Richard J. Walsh in 1953. Henriette's mother was German, her father a colored soldier who was killed in action.

MORE BROWN BABIES BEING HELPED BY

Welcome House

Welcome House, an adoption agency founded 10 years by noted author Pearl Buck, is bringing 16 Japanese-colored children to this country for adoption.

"Today's 'forgotten children' are the part-colored GI orphans in Asia," stated Pearl Buck when she announced plans for the expansion of the work of Welcome House, the adoption agency in Doylestown, Pa., which serves in all 48 states in the placement of children of Asian-American parentage.

"About two-thirds of the children available for adoption in Japan and Korea are part-colored, as nearly as we can determine. And officials in Japan and Korea ask embarrassing questions when American welfare agencies select only the white American-Asian child to place for adoption.

"Since Welcome House has pioneered in the problem of race with relation to adoption, we feel we must now accept the challenge of this particular group of dependent children.

* * *

"HENCE THE Asian-American orphans whom Welcome House will bring to America for adoption this spring will include about six part-colored children who will be placed in both white and colored homes.

"I am adopting one of these, a little Japanese-colored girl of eight.

"Of course in my own family, this will not seem so unusual for our youngest daughter, Henriette, whom we adopted in 1953 is of mixed German-colored descent.

"And my sister and her husband who live in Washington, D.C. are adopting a little Japanese - colored boy who is crippled from polio.

"Two other colored-Asian children will be adopted into the home of white Mennonite neighbors of ours in Pennsylvania. We expect to place at least two of these children in American colored homes.

* * *

"MOST OF the children we are bringing over for adoption, however, will be of white American-Asian parentage, and for the babies and pre-school children we have a waiting list of approved adoptive parents.

"We still need homes for some of the school age white American-Asian children, and of course we want to find as many homes as possible for colored-Asian children. (Inquiries should be made to Welcome House, Box 562 Doylestown, Pennsylvania.)

"At best, only a small number of the GI orphans can be brought to America for adoption, however, and it is important from a political as well as a humanitarian view, to concern ourselves with the futures of those who will remain in Asia. For it will be hard for them to get educations, employment and otherwise compete in countries that are poor and overcrowded.

"If they are left without help and guidance, they will be the natural diddents in coming years and prey to the worst Communist propaganda.

"Thus, even for selfish reasons, we must assume responsibility for these children who were fathered by American soldiers and are called 'Americans' in their native lands."

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WELCOME HOUSE recently sent a member of its Board, Dr. Genevieve Bowen Shaw, to Japan and Korea to arrange to bring a group of GI orphans to America for adoption and to set up permanent Welcome House committees in Tokyo and Seoul.

She has helped to organize a Welcome House Day Care Center in a Korean village near "the parallel."

Dr. Shaw is particularly well qualified for this assignment, having been in Japan shortly after World War II to help reorganize the Japanese public school system. She is now on leave of absence from her post as Curriculum Advisor for the Penna. Board of Education at Harrisburg.

Her expenses on this trip are being covered by accumulated royalties in yen on Japanese editions of Pearl Buck's books —funds which must be spent there.

Mr. and Mrs. James Michener, also members of the Welcome House Board who have been in Asia recently, have been active in organizing the Tokyo Committee for Welcome House.

* * *

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN 2nd is the active president of the Welcome House Board.

Founded ten years ago to break down prejudice against American born children of mixed Asian-American blood who were then classified as unadoptable by welfare agencies, Welcome House has seen this mission accomplished, for today most adoption agencies place these children for full adoption.