

ceeds through the decades, she discusses various illustrious teachers, sports achievements, student activities, noted alumni, literary accomplishments, administrative decisions, and other matters concerning the day-to-day functioning of the school.

Early high school teachers were often accomplished scholars as well as versatile teachers who took upon themselves a variety of roles. The well-remembered Laura Donnan, for example, taught six classes, including history, civil government, political economy, Latin, and geometry; she also read proof for the student daily newspaper, the *Echo*, served as principal of the night school, managed the girls' basketball team, presided over the Senate, and much else. Not all had such a crushing load, but it was necessary for everyone to serve in a variety of capacities. Many of the long-lived teachers became institutions, including Charity Dye, George Hufard, Angeline Carey, and Roda Selleck. For teachers and students success followed success, particularly under the rule of principal George Buck. Shortridge moved into its final home, a glorious structure, in 1928.

Change, inevitably, came in the 1960s. The school became progressively more black although it remained integrated until its closing in 1981. Shortridge also lost some of its academic luster although Gaus continues to list student academic, as well as athletic, accomplishments. And the building disintegrated. Without an adjacent residential area, which was long gone by the decade of the '60s, the school was finally judged unnecessary by the school board.

Basing her work almost exclusively on material in the yearbooks and student newspaper—long a daily—as well as letters from and interviews with alumni, Gaus stays close to her sources. The numerous photographs add significantly to the detailed discussion of school life. This is not a critical study, however. There is no analysis, based on reading in the secondary literature, of such topics as the changing curriculum, the evolving nature of the student body, or the impact of the depression, World War II, and Sputnik, to name but a few. Must reading for all alumni, it adds little to an understanding of the larger meaning and role of the high school in American society. Shortridge was mostly a highly academic school that appears to deserve the nostalgic sentiments of its former students and teachers.

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Hoosier Home Remedies. Compiled and considered by Varro E. Tyler (West Lafayette, Ind.: Purdue University Press, 1985. Pp. xiii, 212. Illustrations, appendix, suggestions for further reading, index. \$17.50.)

In his book *Hoosier Home Remedies* Varro E. Tyler documents an important part of Indiana's medical history—folk medicine. By

utilizing folklore materials, published histories of folk cures, and the techniques of oral history, Tyler has amassed over 750 home remedies. He has organized and presented these remedies according to the disease state that they were purported to cure, and in a commentary section under each physical condition he has noted the relative popularity of these cures, as well as their actual therapeutic value. The author also includes an appendix of botanical and scientific names and suggestions for further reading.

Tyler has approached the study of folk cures from the viewpoint of a pharmacologist rather than a historian. While his commentary on the actual therapeutic value of these domestic remedies is interesting, Tyler's presentation of the material unfortunately adds little to the much-needed scholarship on the subject of Hoosier home health care. The author has relied mainly on the techniques of oral history in his research, thus ignoring many primary sources such as letters, diaries, newspapers, almanacs, and agricultural journals that would have offered a wealth of information about the home remedies employed throughout Indiana's history. Furthermore, the author makes no note of which remedies were unique to a particular ethnic group or to a particular region in Indiana. From a historical perspective Tyler's work would have been far more interesting and useful had he taken these factors into account.

Tyler's book will undoubtedly be popular among the general public, who will be entertained by a number of the home remedies included in this collection. One remedy for influenza, for example, was to have the patient drink whiskey until he or she saw two hats. Fresh cow manure applied to cuts on the feet was purported to aid the healing process. A recommended salve for cancer was made by placing a toad in a quart of unsalted butter, sealing the container, and placing the container in the hot sun for several days. Even as a popular book, however, the work has some problems. Tyler's encyclopedic style of listing the cures makes for difficult reading. Moreover, by excluding those remedies connected with superstition and myth, the author has eliminated some fascinating material. Finally, despite the author's warnings about the more dangerous remedies, some readers may be tempted to try some of the cures since the presentation of the material ironically resembles that of an early domestic remedy book.

Indiana Historical Society/ Katherine Mandusic McDonell
Indiana Medical History Museum,
Indianapolis

Hard Times and New Deal in Kentucky, 1929-1939. By George T. Blakey. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1986. Pp. 252. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$25.00.)

New books that analyze various aspects of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal continue to appear. The subject is seemingly inex-