



**ESTHER GOULD'S
TRAVEL
CORNER**

**WHY NOT BETTER?
"AMBROSE HOLT AND FAMILY"**

By Susan Glaspell
Frederick A. Stokes Co.

In "Ambrose Holt and Family" Susan Glaspell has employed a device well known in literature, for example in the plays, "The Servant in the House" or in "Death Takes a Holiday," examples which first come to my mind. You have a group of ordinary people and among them one character is introduced who has such a different point of view, background and ideals, that it is as if he spoke Greek as far as the other characters are concerned.

There is always one character, however, who understands him, that gives him, as it were, someone to talk to. And that character is usually ostracized by the group for his or her understanding.

All this is really a device on the part of the author for telling us, the ordinary people, what he thinks of us and our way of living. Sometimes he is complimentary, much more often not.

Mrs. Glaspell, in her novel, has not, as in the plays I have mentioned, used any of the supernatural elements in her "extra" character. He is Ambrose Holt who wandered away from his family twenty-seven years ago, leaving his wife and infant son to shift for themselves, because he felt that life as it is usually lived is a wall built between us and reality, and he had a fancy to get behind that wall. When he wanders back, his son meanwhile having grown up, become a poet and married a rich man's daughter, he finds in his son's wife the one person who can understand. Blossom whom everyone, including her husband, has thought a pretty little fool, is the only one who talks the same language as Ambrose.

But alas, none of these characters is entirely convincing. Ambrose Holt isn't, he doesn't make you feel that he was quite sincere in going off or that he gained enough wisdom to justify his doing so. His son, the poet, isn't, he is much too much the spoiled small boy to convince you he is either a charming man or a poet of consequence.

It's odd, but Mrs. Glaspell in her novels reaches out for but always misses something. Isn't it sentimentality which is responsible for her failure?

**COMIC RELIEF
"1066 AND ALL THAT"**

By W. C. Sellar and R. J. Yeatman
E. P. Dutton & Co.

"1066 and All That," a humorous history by W. C. Sellar and R. J. Yeatman, is a ridiculous book. It is even rarer than that in being genuinely funny. It is a take-off on the sort of hodge podge of misinformation, vague impression and conjecture, which might stick in one's mind left over from the ordinary high school history course.

For example: "It was Williamamary who first discovered the National Debt and had the memorable idea of building the Bank of England to put it in. The National Debt is a very Good Thing and it would be dangerous to pay it off, for fear of Political Economy."

In a list of English wars, there is "the 2nd Burmese War. Cause: There had been only one Burmese war. Burmese cut to pieces. Burma ceded to crown. Peace with Burma. . . . War against Zulus. Cause: the Zulus exterminated. Peace with Zulus." In each case the end is the same, inhabitants exterminated, peace made with the inhabitants.

The whole book is a rollicking burlesque, every page of which ought to be quoted. We will content ourselves with giving one or two of the "test questions" at the end of the chapters. "What convinces you that Henry VIII had VIII wives? Was it worth it?" or "Why on Earth was William of Orange? (Seriously though.)" Or "Contract, expand and explode (a) The Charters and Garters of the Realm," etc. "N. B. Candidates should write on at least one side of the paper."

AN ORDINANCE

Amending Sub-section (b) as amended of Section 5 of ARTICLE I of Chapter XXVIII, being Section 976 (b) of the Highland Park Code of 1919.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK:

That Sub-section (b) as amended of Section 5 of Article I of Chapter XXVIII, being Section 976 (b) of the Highland Park Code of 1919 be and it is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(b) Whenever application is made to install any tank or tanks for the storage (for other than household use) or for the sale of any of the liquids mentioned in Section 973 of this Chapter, such application shall be accompanied by the written consent of the property owners of a majority of the frontage in the block or square in which it is proposed to locate said tank or tanks, and also the written consent of the property owners of a majority of the frontage on the opposite sides of the streets surrounding said block or square, and also the written consent of the owners of a majority of the frontage within 300 feet on each side of the proposed site of said tank or tanks, and also the written consent of the owners of the majority of the frontage on the opposite side of the street or streets upon which the site of the proposed tank or tanks is located, and directly opposite the property 300 feet on each side of said proposed site, before a permit may be issued.

In construing the provisions of this Section, the following rules shall be followed:

- (1) Frontage shall be in terms of lineal feet.
- (2) In case a lot upon which it is proposed to locate said tank or tanks is a corner lot and/or situated at an intersection of streets, the written consent must be obtained of the owners of a majority of the frontage within 300 feet of said lot and said 300 feet shall be measured along each side of every street at the said corner or intersection.
- (3) Each 300 feet herein mentioned shall be a separate unit and the applicant must secure the consent of a majority of the frontage of each 300 foot unit.
- (4) All city streets and rights of way shall be ignored in computing the distances herein and each 300 feet unit shall be exclusive of any such street or right of way.
- (5) Should any section or provisions of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.
- (6) All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed, provided, however, that this ordinance shall be construed as a continuation and explanation of the provisions of Section 976 (b) as heretofore amended.

**Claim Much Land in
State Should Be Used
For Growing of Trees**

More than 620,000,000 board feet of lumber annually, enough to support 400 sawmills furnishing employment to 3,500 men, could be produced if all suitable land in southern Illinois were put back into forests again, according to L. E. Sawyer, extension forester of the Illinois State Natural History Survey and the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.

There are six million acres in southern Illinois which are not paying a profit under the present systems of management, and a large part of this area was originally productive forests, Sawyer said. The entire 2,756,720 acres of rough land and 660,000 acres of flat land has an impressive subsoil originally supporting heavy stands of timber.

Efforts to establish two national forest units on a part of this land are being made through the co-operation of the soil survey division of the college, the Illinois State Natural History Survey and the U. S. Forest Service.

"The land is not raising grain at a profit and in an unfavorable year will not grow enough grass to pay taxes," Sawyer declared, "However if it was

reforested with the proper kind of trees and given the right care it would produce at least 200 board feet of saw timber a year. Almost 4 per cent of this 3,416,720 acres is in timber at the present time, and in the remainder of 1,867,706 acres were reforested the total possible production would be not less than 625,000,000 board feet a year.

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of this chapter and all prosecutions begun under said Section as heretofore amended shall in no way be affected or abated by the passage of this amendment to said Section 976 (b) and all violations of said Section 976 (b) as heretofore amended shall in no way be condoned or abated by the passage of this amendment to said Section, and said Section 976 (b) as heretofore amended shall continue in full force and effect as to any and all violations committed prior to the passage of this amendment to said Section 976 (b).

These provisions shall not be applicable to the installation of a tank containing any of the oils referred to in Section 973 of this Chapter, when such oils are to be used in connection with existing garages or existing manufacturing plants where such oils are incidental to the business conducted."

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and due publication.

EMIL B. METZEL,
Mayor

Attest:
V. C. MUSSER,
City Clerk.

Filed—April 13th, 1931.
Passed—May 18th, 1931.
Approved—May 18th, 1931.

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