

MYSTERY to HISTORY

By
GLENN HASSELROOTH

City, Athena.

State, Oklarada.

Time, the last 25 years.

Characters, Americans.

"What People Said," by W. L.

White is a novel, no fairy tale, even if its locale is given a fictitious name.

You'd like Athena if you could see it, drive down its wide streets that are clean and well decorated with shrubs and flowers. You'd like its white houses sitting quietly with smug ease in the centers of green lawns. When you drive past the churches into the business district, you will naturally see the building of the Sun, one of the best known newspapers in Oklarada. And of course you'll see the bank. You may park your car and sit back and watch the people, walking by in undisturbed, jovial harmony. All in all, Athena can make a fine impression on you.

But the air is warm and you feel thirsty for a drink. You get out and start looking for a soda fountain, and finally wind up at Davie Hughes' drug store. Things seem busier in there than on the street.

While you're sipping your coke, you'll hear things—things you may like to hear and things you may not. Some of them will be brazenly spoken; others will be whispered almost imperceptibly. But you'll hear all of them. As you pay for your drink and walk back to your car, the streets won't look so clean and wide, the cheery smiles on the people's faces may take on a slightly sneering turn, you'll notice the little sticks that have blown from the prairie across the fresh, green lawns.

You think you'll leave Athena and never return. But when you get about to the city limits where the Lions club sign tells you to come again, you decide not to go. You might hang around; with all those things you've heard, something might begin to happen. All the ends of those stories don't seem to fit together, but if you knew just a bit more...

Mr. White can tell you all about Athena. He knows folks in those parts inside out. He'll tell you how they look, what they think about, how they talk, what they work at, and what they do after office hours.

In the argot of the Middle Westerner he speaks to you. Not in a very loud voice, not always a pleasing tone, but he'll keep you listening. Back before the war things were very different in Athena. Charles Addington Carrough was editor of the Sun, and the most famous novelist in all Oklarada. Everybody knew and liked Mr. Carrough, and Mrs. Carrough, and their little boy, Junior.

Then the Norssexes came to Athena. Isaac Norssex also had a wife and a boy, Lee. Nobody in Athena knew anything about the Norssexes, but after Mr. Norssex had been in the bank a while and become a friend of Mr. Carrough, and their two boys had become pals, Athena took to the Norssex family.

The war came and was over, business slumped and boomed, depression came. Each period

'Man of Steel' and His Bride



Freddie Steele and wife... on a marriage license issued last June they were listed as Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Earl Bargett.

265 Students Doing NYA Work; Scholarship Up

Of 265 U. of O. students now working on NYA, 49 were on the honor roll for fall term, it was disclosed yesterday by Karl W. Onthank, dean of personnel. Six of these students received straight A's, he said.

For campus NYA work during the last three months of this school year, students will receive more than \$9,000. All of this work has been assigned.

Undergraduates working on NYA receive from \$9.80 to \$19.95 per month, the dean said. Only graduate students are permitted to receive more than \$20 monthly, by government regulation.

New students in the undergraduate group (those who entered college or university for the first time this school year), number 105. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors total 152. There are eight graduate workers.

Of the total 265 on NYA, there are 164 men and 101 women.

had a definite effect on the characters of the Athenians, mostly not for the better. Little by little the hidden qualities, cooped up for years by pleasant bourgeois manners, are revealed. We see them in closeups, unmasked.

More than 600 pages long, "What People Said" is told in Mr. White's clipped, "talkable" style. Although he occasionally pulls his punches, Author White usually refuses to be compromising in dramatic situations.

The novel has undeniable story values, but we enjoyed it more for its detail, its conversations which sometimes seem to be taken down verbatim from life, such as the advice that Lee, who had attended the state university for two years, gave Junior, a freshman. Or the reports that Henny gave some of the town busy bodies, when they asked questions. And others.

Mr. White may yet turn into the novelist Sinclair Lewis might have been.

In June, W. L. White will be 38 years old. The son of William Allen White of the Emporia Gazette, he may be said to have been born for writing. He has worked for his father, a Washington newspaper, the Republican party, and now, Fortune magazine. Besides being schooled at the University of Kansas and Harvard, he has the advantage of several European trips to his credit, a term in the Kansas legislature, and a wife.

Send the Emerald home. Your folks will enjoy reading it.

Volchok Is Guest On Emerald of Air

Zollie Volchok, assistant educational activities director was last night interviewed regarding his work by Paul Stewart, Emerald of the air reporter.

Volchok was the first to be interviewed this week. He will be followed tonight by Dale Malli-coat, who is well known on the campus for his exceptional art work.

STUDENTS INTERVIEWED

Walter Sullivan, personnel director of Pacific Fruit and Produce company, was at the employment office for a few hours Wednesday afternoon interviewing seniors for permanent jobs. Sullivan who came on short notice was able to interest only 14 students.

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Low IQ of Teachers Due to Laxity In Standard Explains Prof. Smith

Recent reports from a survey made in Pennsylvania by the Carnegie foundation for the advancement of teachers disclosed the fact that the majority of college seniors who are prospective high school teachers do not know as much as the pupils they teach.

Professor S. Stephenson Smith, of the English department, attributes this condition to the fact that the standards for teachers have been lowered because they are not required to prove their academic qualifications.

"Students should be asked to pass rigid subject matter examinations administered by the major departments in the state system of higher education before they are allowed to teach," he said. "It is true that their hours of education have been increased, but their academic knowledge is not broad enough."

Professor Smith believes that teachers are not held in high social esteem, so consequently many of the better students do not go into the teaching profession. Since leadership of the community rests in the hands of businessmen, bankers, and editors, and since the monetary returns from teaching are much lower than from business, he said, many enterprising young men and women seek these other fields.

Campus Calendar

Skull and Dagger will meet this morning at 10 in the College Side.

There will be a regular meeting of the Christian Science organization tonight at 8 o'clock in Geringer hall. All friends and faculty members are cordially invited to attend.

AWS Carnival directors will meet this morning at 9:30 at College Side.

Meeting today at 4 o'clock upstairs in the Side for house representatives for AWS Carnival booths.

Backseat Driver

(Continued from page two)
est and the situation began to take on the character of a major crisis we both quietly collected our belongings and marched out of the store in silence.

"Well," Alice Toots grunted at last after several blocks of homeward trek had been covered in silence. "It was only a gesture. A new spring hat would have looked pretty silly with your last year's clothes, anyhow."

And so, dear friends, if Easter morning dawns behind a screen of wintry clouds, don't be too difficult, for remember... there is one who is rejoicing.

Coed of the Week

(Continued from page three)
father edits a newspaper, brought forth no special enthusiasm. It seems that she never gets homesick, writes home infrequently and has not spent more than two weeks at a time home since she left there five years ago. She thinks it's a good thing she doesn't get homesick because she plans to work on the coast after graduation.

Plans to Teach

She has a job teaching dancing and dramatics in Wildwood Girl Scout camp, near Portland. After that she wants to teach dancing in either a public or private school.

In recalling amusing things that have happened to her she laughingly told of her trip to Los Angeles from Indianapolis on the bus. She had been riding comfortably along near the front of the bus with her shoes off when the engine burst into flames. She hastily scrambled out in front of the other passengers in her stocking feet. And in her stocking feet she remained until the fire had been put out.

Lives in Co-op

La Von lives in the University Co-op and works in a local dance studio. Cooperatives were another thing she had never heard of until she came to Oregon. She thinks they are grand for girls going to school on limited finances. She was affiliated with Kappa Kappa Gamma at Butler. She considers living in a cooperative a very valuable experience and commented on the harmonious spirit found there.

The interview was brought to an abrupt end when La Von discovered it was time for her to be on life guard duty at the pool.

Ratcliffe to Speak To Sigma Delta Chi

Guest of honor at a Sigma Delta Chi banquet at the Anchorage tonight will be S. K. Ratcliffe, British author and journalist, this morning's assembly speaker.

The noted journalist will speak informally on European journalism, and will answer questions on that subject and others.

The banquet is scheduled to begin at 5:30.

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