

CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN DRAMA

Committee: Kenneth Macgowan, Chairman; Owen Davis, Jesse Lynch Williams, Alexander Woolcott.

Second Group

SUSAN GLASPELL

The Inheritors. SMALL, MAYNARD.

The Verge. SMALL, MAYNARD.

Plays: Including *Trifles*; *The People*; *Close the Book*; *The Outside*; *Woman's Honor*; *Bernice*; *Suppressed Desires* (with George Cram Cook); and *Tickless Time* (with George Cram Cook). SMALL, MAYNARD.

An expert technician in her shorter plays, in her longer efforts she has become rather turgid and involved, even though there is power in these inchoate psychological, almost psychopathic dramas. "The Glory of the Conquered", a novel, was her most successful book.

Susan Glaspell was born at Davenport, Iowa. She took her first degree at Drake University, and later postgraduate work at the University of Chicago. She has been much interested in the Little Theatre Movement. Most of her plays were originally presented by the Provincetown Players company. George Cram Cook — author, playwright, producer — is her husband.

"These eight plays have a literary quality and a somewhat philosophical viewpoint that make them as readable as stories. Miss Glaspell writes in a crisp, descriptive style and she shows keen insight into the underlying

human motives. 'Trifles' is a really great play." — INDEPENDENT, December 11, 1920.

"The publication of Miss Glaspell's collected plays at last lifts them out of the tawdriness of their original production and lets them live by their own inherent life. That life is strong, though it is never rich. In truth, it is thin, only it is thin not like a wisp of straw, but like a tongue of flame." — *Ludwig Lewisohn*, NATION, November 3, 1920.

REFERENCES:

Susan Glaspell. Ludwig Lewisohn. NATION, November 3, 1920.

Miss Glaspell's Vision of Life. M. H. Hedges. NATION, April 4, 1923.