

seems to me that that's much more valuable than somebody's theories of how history ought to be. I just thought this minute of something I hadn't thought of before. You've doubtless heard of a man named Montgomery who graduated from Cornell some years ago. I think his first book was, Where Is History Going? Whether that would give some interesting suggestions, I don't know.

Lady: I'm aware of his books and have not yet read them.

AAM: This particular one I have not read either, but that title made me think he might have some interesting ideas. One thing, how can you teach your children at home? Doesn't the state object to that?

Lady: No.

AAM: Is that a N.Y. law that anybody can teach their children at home?

Lady: It isn't stated that way, but the law allows for children to be educated either at the public school system, or at the discretion of the school in whatever other manner.

AAM: Of the school?

Lady: Yes.

AAM: So you have to get permission from the school?

Lady: Yes. We were completely ignorant. Our original experience with the children had been not too bad, and not too good. I had spent a lot of time going to school. We lived very close to the school. Then we moved and it got considerably worse. My husband had been saying to me for several years whenever I would say, Oh, I'm so disappointed with what happened in school today, he'd say, Why don't you take them out of school, you could do a better job. I never thought I could. But when things got really difficult, he went to the law library at Cornell and copied the pertinent sections on attendance, of the students, etc.

We just called the District Principal and said we were interested in teaching our own children. He said, Frankly, No one has ever put that question to me before and I expect you'll have difficulties. That's what we had expected. We started it in the middle of the year thinking if there were legal ramifications maybe we could work through some plan of agreement by the following fall. He called back in two weeks, and said, I have a letter from Albany that said, There is no reason in the world you can't do what you want to do.

AAM: That's amazing.