

TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

Monthly Publication of Telluride Association

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ITHACA, N. Y.

DECEMBER, 1932

Mac Parker

2355 Bellfield Road
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Dear Johnny:

Recalling the time you crashed the gate at Napoleon's tomb, when it was 'Defense D'entrer,' I hesitate to refuse your request for a news article about my present work. I had hoped to keep the brothers in the dark until such time as I had become more seasoned in the job and the public had become satisfied that it was what they wanted. He laughs best, you know, who laughs last; I just don't want the laugh to be on me!

To give you a little background, we have in Cleveland a public school system with an annual budget of approximately twenty million. It has a national reputation for its accomplishments. Notwithstanding this, the public became imbued with the idea that the system was operating extravagantly and a citizens' committee was organized to investigate and make recommendations to the Board of Education looking to more economical operation. The committee did its work the early part of this year and reported accordingly. One result was the abolishment of the entire business department with the exception of its director who was under contract, as of July 1, 1932.

Subsequently, the Citizens' Committee recommended the employment of an engineer to reorganize the Business Department and, at the request of the Board, submitted several names, including the choice of the Cleveland Engineering Society. The Board accepted the Engineering Society's recommendation and on July 13, I was duly appointed to the position of Assistant Director, with a free hand to effect a new organization. I took up my duties the following day.

As time was of the essence, the new organization was substantially completed in two weeks. While based on a different plan and with new men in the key positions, this new organization re-employed many of the former employees in the clerical class, thus preserving their Civil Service status and reducing individual hardship to a minimum. Thanks to the splendid co-operation that was received, the essential services were soon functioning again and the hundred fifty-five schools opened according to schedule in September. There had been some apprehension of this being accomplished because of the cessation of work early in the Spring, when the department was under fire.

Public service is a new experience, and I am enjoying it. The Board of Education is a political unit functioning according to codes established by the State. It is independent of the

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Our Christmas Offer

At this season every enterprising publisher of magazines and books urges his subscribers to send the publication to friends as the ideal Christmas gift. May we suggest that, besides sending in your own paid subscription to the News Letter and the L. L. Nunn Biography, you make them a gift to somebody who has shown interest in the Association. The Biography sells at \$3.50. The News Letter has three types of subscriptions: standard—no charge; depression standard—one dollar; deluxe—anything above one dollar.

Julian Steward

Deep Springs, California.
November 10, 1932.

Dear Ed:
A two weeks' visit to Deep Springs, during which I have been giving a few classes on anthropological subjects, is drawing to a close. As last year, I have had an excellent opportunity to observe certain aspects of the functioning of this institution. As there has been much pessimism and criticism concerning Deep Springs, I offer a few impressions for those who may be interested in its progress this year.

I note a vast improvement over last year. This comparison is not intended as a criticism of any specific feature of last year. The situation, the details of which are known to most Telluride men, was then difficult and complex. The important thing is that now Deep Springs seems to be very healthy and functioning with great vigor. The students, who are a fine lot, are, thanks in great measure to the serious efforts of Dean Crawford and Mr. Nunn, ably aided by Father Eddie Meehan, working with earnestness and purpose. It makes teaching a real pleasure. Although I cannot speak for the practical work, it gives much evidence of running smoothly. In short, I got the impression that the institution is driving, with a minimum of internal friction and with an unusual singleness of purpose, toward a definite goal which is as near what its founder had in mind as can reasonably be expected.

It is a real optimism concerning Deep Springs that has led several of us to contribute what little we can. I wish that everyone could have an opportunity to visit here this year. I am sure that he would share the feeling.

Yours,

JULIAN STEWARD

Bill Jarrett

304 Vanderbilt Hall,
Longwood Ave., Boston.
November 20, 1932

Dear Editor:

I feel rather lonesome this year with all the other Telluride Association members gone from the medical school, or rather with the other member gone. Bob Richtmeyer and I are the sole representatives in Boston.

As far as my summer was concerned, I spent a very interesting and instructive one. The first month was occupied in gathering material and writing a sanitary survey of Princeton, New Jersey. I had always entertained the illusion that Princeton was a town pure and above reproach. I learned differently. If anyone wants to know his town from below upwards, do a sanitary survey, and the chances are you will be moving in the fall.

The last three months were spent in a small private obstetrical hospital in the outskirts of Boston, tending to unmarried girls who were about to become prospective mothers. Why they should have such a hospital, and why they picked me for the job is still a mystery to me. It seems that a philanthropic gentleman named Crittenton established a chain of such hospitals over the United States, in honor of his daughter who died at the age of four. I fall to see the connection.

At times it was hectic. I was the only man the premises and occupied my days and nights with some twelve female staff members and some forty unfortunates. The hospital itself was very luxuriant and extremely well equipped. It had three operating rooms over which I reigned supreme, a ward of eight beds, numerous private rooms, a nursery, and cottages for the prospective patients and for the mothers. It worked much on the fashion of the Ford plant. Girls would come in—one end, stay there some two or three months until the fateful time rolled around, deliver in the central hospital, and pass on after convalescence to the mothers' cottage, whence they would emerge once more into the world, sadder but wiser girls.

If ever I got into trouble on a case, I had but to pick up the telephone, and another obstetrician would come out to help me. I believe I had him out there most of the time.

Three months of that, however, were enough. I left there at the beginning of school. Since the year opened I have been back at the books. This year, the third of my course, we get at last some real patients. Most of our time is spent in the Out Patient Departments of the various hospitals

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DECEMBER, 1932

Books Still Needed

As yet, there has been no response to the appeal for books for the Deep Springs library made in the last issue of the News Letter. Books, new or second-hand, can be used in nearly all fields of study, notably in the social sciences. Below are listed a few titles much desired, though not quite as urgently needed as those listed last month.

Chase, Stuart.....A New Deal
Raushenbush, H. S., The People's
Flight for Coal and Power
Soule, George....A Planned Society
Browne, Lewis, This Believing World
Case, Outlines of Introductory Socio-
logy
Overstreet, H. A. ...About Ourselves
Schoen, MaxHuman Nature
Ellwood, C. A., Christianity and Social
Science
Davies, G. R....Social Environment
Devas, C. S. (Longman), Political
Economy
Ryan, James A., Social Reconstruction,
Distributive Justice

Rhodes Scholar

As the News Letter goes to press, a telegram from California announces the appointment of Charlton J. K. Hinman as Rhodes Scholar, representing the Far Western District. Hinman has been an undergraduate guest at Cornell Branch this year and is an applicant for membership in Telluride Association. Although we regret that he cannot be with us next year, we congratulate him and wish him three happy years at Oxford, where he will pursue his work in philosophy.

Perils of Diplomacy

The News Letter is in receipt of a clipping from the Washington Evening Star, telling of the narrow escape of Mrs. Cabot Coville, her infant son Gilbert, and her sister, Miss Carol Grosvenor, when they were hustled out of Manchuria through the efforts of the American consul-general at Harbin.

To quote from the dispatch: "A southbound train, crowded with women and children refugees, left Harbin early in the morning. . . All was placid during the journey until Lienshakwan, midway between Harbin and Changchun, was passed. Then

a hail of rifle fire came from the hill-sides flanking the right of way. Instantly there was a crash of breaking glass, the muzzles of rifles burst the windows of the camouflaged coach and the train shook with the rattle of machine guns replying to the attackers from both cars. . . . Meanwhile the engineer pulled the throttle wide open and ran the gantlet without casualty to anyone aboard the train, though the cars were pock-marked with bullets."

Tom Fairchild

Pirated from a personal letter from Tom Fairchild: "During the fall I have been enjoying myself both in and out of the academic activities. Most of my courses have provided interest, and in addition, I have been doing a little writing for our Press Club and some street corner campaigning for our now-defeated President. Aside from these, which are both now at an end, I have been singing with our Glee Club." 31 South West College, Princeton, November 11th. E. M. J.

Bill Jarrett

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trying to apply our feeble knowledge in the diagnosis of cases. Even if we don't get very far, it is instructive and at least shows us that actual practice is not far distant.

During October, I went down to New York and dropped in to see Jim Mansfield at the New York Hospital. I tried to see Bob Cavanaugh, but he was unavailable.

Bob Richtmyer and I have seats side by side at the concerts of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He has been up to a couple of meals. From what I hear he has been showing M. I. T. what real brains mean.

My best to everybody at the Branch.

As ever,

BILL JARRETT

Mac Parker

(Continued from page one)

local city government and has been reasonably free from "politics." It commands a high respect in the community. The Board meets on alternate Mondays and has committee meetings in between, the committees dealing with special problems.

I get my authority from the Board and am responsible to it alone. The Business Department is charged with the construction of new buildings, the maintenance and operation of present buildings, the purchase and distribution of all supplies and operation of a fleet of trucks and busses.

I carry a lawyer on the payroll to keep me out of jail!

Sincerely yours,

MAC PARKER

Cornell Branch Notes

During the week-end of the Dartmouth game, November 12th, the Branch was not outdone by the other houses on the Hill, for we enjoyed our own 'homecoming.' The returning alumni in this instance were Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Mansfield and Mike Yarrow (News Letter, November issue) and Mr. and Mrs. John A. Whittle, Helen Whittle and Allan Bush. Bob Cavanaugh came up from New York City somewhat later in the month to attend a dinner given for the Knickerbocker scholars, and to spend a week-end at the House.

Only one over-night guest has been entertained this being Dr. Francis E. Lloyd of McGill University, who gave several lectures in botany. However, we have had the pleasure of meeting at dinner Dr. Alexander Souter, a Latinist from Aberdeen University; and Dr. Elemer Balogh, a Lithuanian authority on comparative law, who has been very active in League of Nations work.

Wayne Edmister, our graduate guest from Oklahoma, reports having a paper recently accepted by the National Petroleum News. This article, on petroleum tower foundation designs, is the fifth that Mr. Edmister has had published.

Parker Bailey is now writing music criticisms for the Cornell Daily Sun. The touch-football team of the Branch has just finished a fairly successful season, being eliminated in the semi-finals of the University tournament after having won six games. As very few of the members of the Branch have either the ability or the time to go in for formal athletics, this system of participation in intramural sports is working out very well both from the aspect of exercise and of contacts made. Other teams may be made up to compete in basket ball, boxing, swimming, and, because of the good showing we made last year, certainly one in tennis. A trophy for the intramural championship in tennis last year now rests upon the mantel in the living room. H. W. D.

Stanley Stokes

The November issue of Electrical Engineering (a publication of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers) announced the election of Stanley Stokes, consulting engineer for the Union Light & Power Co., St. Louis, Mo., as a vice-president of the Institute, representing the South West district.

Telluride alumni will doubtless recall that Mr. Stokes was with the Telluride Power Company during the summers of 1910 and 1911. Although he was granted a Cornell scholarship from Telluride Institute, he was unable to take advantage of it, and graduated in 1912 from the University of Missouri with the degree of Electrical Engineer. Since that time he has been associated with his present company or affiliated ones.

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THE TELLURIDE SOCIETY

An Experiment in Industrial and University Life That Is Beginning to Achieve Its Aim

As Others See Us

Not infrequently have conventions of the Association discussed ways and means of acquainting educators and the public (the upper stratum, of course!) with Telluride Association and its educational plan. One of the proposals most regularly offered is the publication of an article in one of the better magazines; and the argument which usually defeats it is the impossibility of conveying adequately in such an article what the Association is trying to do.

If we have not dared attempt such a synopsis, others have. In the December 1 issue of the Cornell Alumni News appears the following article, which we reprint as documentary evidence for whichever side dares use it in future convention discussions. —Ed.

Within the last few years an increasing dissatisfaction with the organization of American university life has led to numerous experiments which have been publicized almost to an offensive degree. In an effort to work out a plan of intellectual orientation that will produce a truly educated and mentally complete college graduate, Harvard has evolved its "house plan," Wisconsin its Experimental College (under the guidance of Dr. Melick Johnson), Antioch its "working student" system. Many other institutions have conducted experiments toward the development of a new kind of collegiate institution. And since 1910 there has been quietly, almost secretly, conducted at Cornell an educational experiment which may some day revolutionize university education in this country.

Since 1910 there has stood on the precipitous Library Slope a building whose true significance is not understood by many students or professors. Although it stands in the midst of a group of fraternity houses, its lintel bears no Greek letters; it is called, simply, yet cryptically "Telluride Association." A long, squat, yellow-brick structure, it is remarkable rather for the impression it gives of physical permanence than for its architectural fitness. The passing student regards the building with some suspicion: He can understand the fraternity houses that stand nearby. But this edifice, obviously not the home of one of the mystic circles, baffles him. The only significance of the name "Telluride" is that it is a small town in Colorado, formerly (he learns from his gazetteer) the center of a prosperous mining region.

What It Is

The student, therefore, dimly associates the Telluride Association with the far western part of the country. He has been heard to describe it as "a Mormon fraternity," "a bunch of mining engineers" and "a millionaires' club." It is none of these things; it is, in the language of its own descriptive publication, "... to be likened to a college in an English university. Within the larger life of Cornell it forms a distinct intellectual and cultural center."

To understand the aims and organi-

zation of Telluride Association, we must look to its history. It owes its existence to Lucien L. Nunn, a man who had his own ideas on the subject of education and who acquired, before the end of his life, the substance with which to give those ideas pragmatic form. After a rather informal, peripatetic kind of education that included in its ambit Oberlin, Göttingen, and Harvard, Nunn arrived in the infant mining community of Telluride, Colorado. From the practice of law, he was drawn into the management of mines, and from this into the construction of power plants. The scarceness of skilled electrical artisans led Nunn to establish, at one of his power stations, an "Institute" which aimed to equip the workers with the knowledge required in their business.

Under the benevolent supervision of a man who combined an imaginative mind and a penetrating interest in education with great wealth, the Institute soon grew into a respectable educational establishment. It became the custom to grant scholarships to the most deserving workmen-students, and to send them back east to the important universities of the Atlantic seaboard. After a while, the founder of the Institute endowed it, and it became known as Telluride Association. Part of the endowment included the building on the Cornell campus now known as the Cornell Branch.

At Cornell

The connection with Cornell came about in this way: In 1909 a group of the Telluride scholarship men had been sent to Ithaca, and the problem of housing them so as to preserve their identity as a group led to the decision to build a house for them. President Schurman heartily endorsed the project and offered a site on the campus. While it was being debated where to locate the house, Nunn—with characteristic zeal—went ahead and picked his own site. Immediately he began the construction of the house after his own plans. Apparently there has never been any official ratification of Nunn's act; the Telluride Association seems to be the tenant-at-sufferance of the University. But it is, also, apparent that the University would never elect to assert its rights to the disadvantage of a tenant whose pres-

ence has been of such value to Cornell.

To the spacious and luxurious house that had been built at Cornell, Telluride Association began to send promising young men, not only employees of the Nunn power interests, but other young men who conformed with the standards and ideals of the Telluride Association came to the Cornell Branch. And these young men came to study not only technical and engineering subjects, but, also, the arts and the professions. In the score of years of its existence, the Cornell Branch has included students in every college and department of the University.

As a "feeder" to the Cornell Branch, Nunn established a ranch school at Deep Springs, California. Deep Springs is a sort of preparatory school and junior college; its students are selected by Telluride Association on the basis of personal merit. All their expenses are paid, and if they satisfy the exacting requirements of the Association, they are given the right to complete their educations at Cornell Branch or other institutions. The advantages of living at the Cornell Branch attract most of the graduates of Deep Springs to Ithaca, but they are free to attend the colleges of their choice—at the expense of the Association.

This Chapter's Aims

How does Telluride Association fit into the scheme of things at Cornell? The group is certainly not identical with personnel of any fraternal chapter. The men are older, more serious, and generally more capable. High-grade academic work is required of the members, and it is a boast of the Telluride Association that its men "have stood scholastically higher than any other organization at Cornell." It must not be thought that the group stands aloof from the student life of the campus. Members have been prominent in various activities of the University, especially in debate and upon publications.

Life in the Cornell Branch is enviably comfortable. The building is spacious and well-appointed; meals are probably superior to those served in most fraternity houses; and the men have an opportunity to meet many distinguished visitors to Cornell, who are frequently the guests of the Association. Such prominent names as Lord Charnwood, David Starr Jordan, '72, Fritz Kreisler, Charles P. Steinmetz, Rabindranath Tagore, and Vachel Lindsay, are inscribed in the Association's visitors' book. Naturally, all these advantages have not been without correlative disadvantages—chiefly social.

Telluride has required of its men a standard of moral conduct that it believes to be higher than the normal standard at Cornell. Drinking is absolutely forbidden in the house—but then this same rule is laid down (if

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The Telluride Society

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not enforced) by practically every fraternity at Cornell. Telluride is quicker to take cognizance of roistering than are many of the fraternities—which take the view that a certain proficiency in applying the carmine brush to Ithaca and its neighboring municipalities is one of the normal attributes of the cultivated college student. Telluride frowns on this expression of the undergraduate consciousness whether contiguous to the house or remote from it. But the character of the Telluride man has changed somewhat in the last few years; the type that earned the side-wise glance from other students no longer dominates. It has been replaced by a type that is more nearly homologous with his fellows in the classroom and laboratory. And Cornell likes Telluride better for its increasing democracy and its acquisition, however, deliberate and studied, of plebeian qualities.

It is, however, the educational, rather than the social features of life in the Telluride House that lend it a special significance. The men are mentally proficient, and in the words of a classically literate adept "the diversity of their interests and pursuits, through the spirit of idealism and the ultimate purpose shared in common, becomes a vitally educative influence. It fosters attitude of tolerance and co-operation, enlarging the outlook of the student and precluding an undue growth of individualism." In other words, simple words, Telluride accomplishes what the English colleges accomplish, what the Greek letter fraternities set out to accomplish, what the Harvard house plan tries to accomplish. It furnishes, within the larger group of the University, an intensive group life to which every member contributes, and from which every member derives that certain comradeship of the spirit that is so desirable

among students—and so difficult to acquire. And, happiest inspiration of all, the student is required to contribute nothing but the vigor and freshness of his mind. Parents seem, especially partial to this aspect of the plan.

Whether the Telluride plan succeeds in its purpose, it is difficult to say. One of the delightful things about endowed associations is that only their own members are called upon to decide whether or not they are pursuing the objectives indicated by their benefactors. Certainly, the Telluride plan is unique in American education and deserving of study by all who maintain that the present organization of university is completely rotten and decadent.

Deep Springs Notes

The ranch work has been progressing during the fall, fourth cutting of hay was harvested soon after school started. The fall plowing is now nearly completed.

The room back of the physics laboratory has been converted into the Deep Springs Museum with Armand Kelly as curator. He is arranging a collection of geological and other items of interest.

Shortly before Thanksgiving, Commander and Mrs. Bryant visited the ranch. Commander Bryant gave four very interesting discussions of world problems particularly in the Far East. He gave a Sunday sermon on "The Elements of Greatness."

We were glad to entertain a large number of guests over the Thanksgiving holidays. Deah Crawford's family, Col. and Mrs. Matson and two of their nieces, Lieut. and Mrs. Faigle, Eliot Marr, and Miles Fellows spent the week-end with us. The usual Thanksgiving dinner was held in the evening. The table decorations were

chrysanthemums from the Matson home. The following night the Student Body produced three one-act plays, coached by Dean Crawford.

We greatly appreciated the course of lectures given by Julian Steward during the first half of November. He talked to the first-year students on the development of prehistoric man. The older group discussed the position of the individual in the development, and particularly that of a Deep Springs man. One evening a debate was held on the question of whether the individual could influence culture, and another night was devoted to speeches on what the individual should do in changing culture.

We are anxiously awaiting news from our appeal for books, but as yet we have had no success.

The officers elected at the regular Fall meeting are as follows:

President	..... Balderston
Labor Commissioner	..... Campbell
Student Body Trustee	..... Matson
Advisory Committee	Fellows, Kleps, Laise
Secretary	..... Brunel
Treasurer	..... Lewis
Assistant Treasurer	..... Bryant
Librarian	..... de Beers
Tool Custodian	..... Henley
Fire Chief	..... Kelly
Sergeant-at-Arms	..... Matson

Harvey Mansfield, Ph.D.

Cornell Branch has received a copy of "The Lake Cargo Coal Rate Controversy" by Harvey Mansfield, Ph. D. issued by the Columbia University Press. The book, Harvey's thesis for his degree, is a study in governmental adjustment of a sectional dispute, centering about the question of whether our government can direct the course of economic development from one section to another by adjusting freight rates.

Friends of Telluride Association

(Continued from page four)

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