The following letter from Mr. L. L. Nunn in Provo, Utah to Mr. P. P. Ashworth at Ithaca is so closely in touch with several of the vital issues immediately confronting the Association, especially in light of the coming convention, that we have secured permission from Mr. Nunn to reproduce it in the News Letter, as a statement from him.

His letter is dated June 2 and follows:

"I greatly appreciate the honor you do me by requesting in your letter of May 18th my views as to what matters should be taken up by the coming convention.

Members of Telluride Association, as trustees of its property, are irrevocably pledged to use its resources for the advancement of individual freedom and wise self-regulation as means to the main end of "promoting the highest well being".

The preamble of the constitution has been called vague. It is not vague. It states in philosophic language, just the above. "Well being ", which is a term well understood by all thinkers, is stated as as the purpose, and freedom and self-control as the means by which such purpose is to be attained. To be sure, the preamble adds,
broadening the field of knowledge and increasing the adoption, as the rule of conduct, of those truths from which flow individual freedom. But knowledge is necessary to wise self control, and the adoption of rules of conduct consistent with freedom is essential to the obtaining and maintaining of freedom.

To reply definitely, then, to your inquiry. The coming convention should investigate the Association's doings of the past year and ascertain the efficiency obtained by the trustees from the funds of the Association in promoting the declared purposes.

The convention, immediately after the report of the committees on credentials, should go into executive session and consider the results of the year and numerous problems that will arise in reference to the future. After this, which will take several days, the various committee should be formed and committee work done in the light of the information obtained by the general discussion.

In considering efficiency, reference will undoubtedly be made to the past as well as to future opportunity. In the early days of the Association, a quarter of a century ago, it led in progressive work not confined to its members, but of value to the world. It was prominent in the application of air to remote transmission of power; it was conspicuous in the use of water under high pressure; it introduced many new mechanical devices and methods in mining and milling; it became conspicuous in pioneer alternating electric current work. But such matters were only incidental results of the progressive spirit which was widely felt.
in more important ways within the limits of its operations. It pro-
tected labor against disease and undue danger; it advanced education
it breathed a democratic spirit into all classes in the communities
in which it operated, so that harmony prevailed where strife had
previously existed between employer and employee.

The convention adopting the constitution did not declare
that the purpose SHALL be, but that "the purpose IS to promote well
being." The Convention had a quarter of a century of history and
tradition to guide it, and the Constitution was more a declaration
in writing of what was and what had been for a long time the un-
written law of the Association, than new rules for the future.

There are those among the old veterans who had made the
Association, or the Institute as it was then called, conspicuous
for honorable and noble achievement, who feel, and perhaps correct-
ly, that the present trustees of its honor and its funds are not
fulfilling the obligations of their trust. Attention is called to
the fact that little is being done to promote general well being
outside of the Association, that in too many instances the members
themselves are not examples of freedom and manly self-control, and
that expenditures in their behalf do not produce efficient results.

To be more specific: Failure to control one's finances
results in disastrous bondage - undermines character and destroys
the power to discern equities. Some of the most startling instances
have occurred in the past year of members actually thinking them-
selves ill treated when they were required to pay their honest
cents. The income of the individual has little to do with the
matter. It is plainly a question of self-government. This subject should be investigated and action should be taken by the Convention. Perhaps the Association should require members and applicants to keep accurate, systematic accounts and render monthly balance sheets to a financial committee. Such balance sheets should not show expenditures in detail or reveal private affairs, but simply show totals of perhaps a dozen accounts, such as travelling, amusement, books, etc. Such a practise would be of the greatest help to new members and would relieve them from much embarrassment and many mistakes.

The Association should investigate the subject of the use of intoxicants and the effect on the efficiency of the Association and the individual. Why should an institution claiming to be in the advance ranks ignore a matter of such vast importance which has received especial attention from the principal governments of the world, including England, Germany and our own? Permitting intoxication by the members violates the fundamental trust of the Association, and the convention should consider whether the use of intoxicants should be permitted.

The use of tobacco and its effects on the Association and the individual should be investigated, and the Association should be governed by the results of such investigation. If tobacco destroys the moral sense, reduces the scholastic standing, destroys the ability to reason clearly and correctly, injures the judgement of the members in their life work, and endangers the Association
through the general conduct of its affairs, its use is surely con-
trary to the declared trust.

The reason for the low scholastic standing should be investi-
gated and the question of efficiency should be considered therewith.

General deportment should be considered and an effort made to
secure more uniform results. There must be some reason for the de-
plorable moral vision shown in a number of instances, such as the
justification of improper experiences by the asserted desirability
of knowing how one feels after having indulged. The same argument
might be urged in favor of committing forgery, rape, or any other
act, but I will not refer to instances. They will be brought up
by the scores if the Convention goes into the subject of efficiency
in order to determine who should and who should not receive approp-
riations. In many instances it would be found that a dollar has
not done the work which fifty cents should have done; that profer-
ments have too often been the result of personal sentiment rather
than principle; that an attitude of lawless unitism, better adapted
to the savage who recognizes no obligation to the community in which
he lives and relies on his brute force or cunning, than to members
of an association under the obligations assumed by the execution of
the declaration of trust, has too often been indulged in.

The impulsive selection of officers without due consideration
as to their fitness by reason of their experience and general qual-
ifications should be checked by by-laws or tradition.

The degree of self-government which should be extended by
the Association to its different branches should be considered.
The failure of various Branches to enforce business integrity
and the fulfillment of personal promises on the part of its members
should be taken up in connection with the problem of Branch
government.

The above suggestions refer to members. The whole problem
of perpetuating the Association by carefully selecting new members
from the large number of applicants should be provided for by the
appointment of a committee to act in conjunction with the Chan-
cellor and the Dean.

I beg you not to misunderstand what I have written or
has the spirit which prompted it. I have no desire to exercise any
influence over Association affairs beyond the power of my single
vote and my appeal to the judgement of my fellow members. I am not
losing faith in democratic 
principles as adopted by the
Association, but I recognize a certain wabbling and the necessity
for more ballast to protect the ship in the storm. The failure of
popular governments in the past has been occasioned by the lack
of the exercise of high moral principles by the people, and in our
own little affairs the tendency to usurpation of power has grown
out of popular errors and well intended effort to correct them.

( signed ) L.L.Mann.

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E.A.THORNHILL; DEAN.

BOISE, IDAHO.

"A recent visit to the University of Cincinnati suggested
some unusually interesting and progressive wave of doing things."