TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

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--- STAFF ---

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--- CONTENTS ---

NOTICE TO ALUMNI . . . . . . . . 2
EDITORIAL . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2
MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE
   S. S. WALCOTT . . . . . . . . . . 3
   GEORGE C. LYON . . . . . . . . . 3
   BARCLAY M. HUDSON . . . . . . . 4
   BRADFORD YAGGY . . . . . . . . . 5
   JOHN G. LAYLIN . . . . . . . . . . 6
   LOCAL COLOR . . . . . . . . . . . . 8
   EDWIN S. JARRETT, JR. . . . . . . 9
   FRANK MONAGHAN . . . . . . . . . 10
   JOHN E. MEEHAN . . . . . . . . . 11
   SIMON N. WHITNEY . . . . . . . . 12
   MORE LOCAL COLOR . . . . . . . . 14
CORNELL BRANCH NOTES . . . . . . . . 14
CORRECTED ADDRESSES . . . . . . . . 15

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NOTICE TO ALUMNI

The 1926 Convention of Telluride Association will be held at Deep Springs, California, beginning June 21st. On account of the limited facilities it is necessary to advise the Trustees of Deep Springs in advance of the Convention how many will attend. Alumni who expect to be at the Convention should notify J. A. Boshard, Secretary of Telluride Association, Provo, Utah, as soon as possible.

EDITORIAL

It is an opinion rather widely held in Association circles that only those men who have had previous Deep Springs or Branch training should be considered for membership in our organization. The first argument advanced in support of this position is that the qualifications of idealism and ability sought for by the Association are best developed under Telluride tutelage. The second argument, which, quite in passing, involves a refutation of the first, admits that while obviously as fine if not finer men exist outside the sphere of influence of our organization as within it, these men will do much in the world under any conditions, and there is therefore no necessity of securing their affiliation.

The above view, to our way of thinking, involves a fundamental misconception of the purpose of the Association. By its noblest aspects, the great work of our organization lies in the future, not in the present; while in college we are merely being trained by whatever means we may secure, whether by a Telluride scholarship or in some other way, to later justify the existence of our Association by accomplishment in the world of affairs. Training, in itself, is an incidental aspect of Telluride work. Its primary task, at least according to the vision of Mr. Nunn, is to gather together, to marshal, to organize a group of able men with common ideals who will labor, as a group, to forward the best interests of intelligent citizenship. We stress the word “marshall”; greatest accomplishment in such work as we have to do comes only from conscious, sympathetic, co-ordination of effort. The more men of the desired type that Telluride can bind together by the ties of actual affiliation, the more effective an instrument will it create for the realization of its aims. Our Association is at present so concerned with problems of internal reorganization and administration and personnel, is struggling to hold, if the truth be told, to maintain itself through this inevitable “critical period,” that we are forced to deal more with the obstructive details of the present than with the visions of the future. Yet for all this we should not forget that our chief purpose is “to marshall talent to more worthy work.” To marshall talent—

If the desired types of men cannot be found within our own ranks or those of Deep Springs—and even an optimist must confess that such exist, if at all, in a pitiable minority—there are three alternatives open to us. The first alternative is to accept men from other sources who have not had Ranch or Branch training. The second alternative is to re-organize our own educative systems. The third alternative is—failure.

H. G. H.

CUSTODIANS REPORT

My Dear Editor:
The Custodians invested the cash of the Association in bonds which came under the general authorization of the last Convention, and I believe the yield on the total sum is somewhat better than 6%. Up to the present time the market action of the bonds has been entirely satisfactory and most of them show an appreciation of a few points. We found that it was very difficult because of the geographical distributions of the Custodians to take any action and this resulted in more delay in getting the money to work than we had anticipated.

It is difficult to secure an authorization to a bank in Ohio which has to be signed by seven different persons located in about seven different cities from Los Angeles to Boston. The money is working, the bonds are on deposit in a safekeeping account with the Union Trust Company and I believe that the principal is secure.

Some steps should be taken at the next Convention to make it a little more convenient to invest funds of the Association or to sell present holdings in case such a course seems advisable.

Very sincerely yours,

S. S. WALCOTT.

THE RANCH AND THE BRANCH

If change meant doom, long ago, we would have been holding tapes around the open coffin of Cornell Branch. Already, we have seen a change of Branch interest from Engineering to other colleges. Last term, there was not an engineer at the Branch; parasitic lawyers and arrogant doctors held the center of the stage, and, although the Branch is still sometimes referred to as an Engineering Society or a Mormon Frat., both remarks smack of quai nness.

Another change, almost completed, is in the membership of the Branch. As this is the change we want to discuss, we will start with the figures. Of the fourteen members of Telluride Association at the Convention, eleven have been at Deep Springs. Further, of the seven Telluride members who are spending their first year at the Branch, all but one have been at Deep Springs. While this change is fundamental and might cause some to mutter their harps and sing of impending disaster, we will content ourselves with a few of the results of these facts.

First, they show, that whatever the official relation between Telluride Association and Deep Springs may be, more and more the fates of the two institutions are being linked together. For the immediate future we are almost entirely dependent upon Deep Springs for new members.

This change produces some difficulties, chief of which is that the same group is thrown together for too long a period. New experiences are gained by coming in contact with new groups, not by living in the same group for seven years, through three years of Deep Springs and four years of college.

Another difficulty produced by this change is one which Deep Springs men must always experience, but which is particularly painful to the old men of the Branch, who hate to see the prestige of the house dragged down by men from the open spaces, where men are men and social finesse is something written about by Emily Post. The change from the Ranch to the Branch is a startling contrast, and, often, bewilders or produces a strong reaction from Deep Springs life.

A positive effect of this change has been a slight rise in the scholarship of the Branch. It is significant that the two men at the Branch who had the highest scholastic standing last term were freshmen from Deep Springs.

GEORGE C. LYON.
RANCH PROGRESS

Every year Deep Springs is different. Those of us who have been associated for only a few years, and those who have been here longer agree that Deep Springs changes every year. The new year brings new problems and new men to meet and deal with these problems. But the difference between Deep Springs this year and last, or between any two years, is not, I believe, so much due to the new men as due to the changes that have taken place within the institution itself. Deep Springs is changing in appearance always—some convenience or improvement added here or there, but these are not the changes I would discuss now, but rather the change that comes in the spirit of the institution as a whole, differences in the entity and personality. Those who have been close to Deep Springs within recent years have heard us speak of the swinging of the pendulum, or have heard, “The pendulum of interest swings too far toward the scholastic side.” Or, “The pendulum has swung so that we are over-emphasizing the outside work.” These expressions serve to show how close Deep Springs men are of this constantly changing spirit. It is an internal factor, however, not the pendulum swings even when there is practically no change in the personnel (as instances last year and the year before). Deep Springs changes from year to year within itself.

Why does Deep Springs change? Not because we have new men. Not because the student body of its own accord takes up a new point of view, but because the man who was directing Deep Springs was carrying on an experiment. Deep Springs is, and always has been, an educational experiment of unique character. Mr. Nunn was striving always to hit upon the combination of influences that would bring the highest educational results. He has been accused of inconsistent and conflicting policy, but who ever arrives at an experiment without many mistakes, and many trials which beforehand had in them the all probability of failure? Constantly Mr. Nunn was testing in his personality some new idea, some new element—at times with doubt, and forebodings, and yet, as a matter of fact, it worked. But that director ceased to direct actually about three years ago, and last year ceased entirely.

Since Deep Springs to all appearances has moved on smoothly. The Directors have assumed charge and though the end of a not unsuccessful year is at hand, it is difficult to realize that we are scarcely out of the past, much less launched for the future. With a new future before us and only eight years of past to draw from, it is not impossible to imagine that we have been Deep Springs. Good experiment must be weeded from bad; temporary adjustments may be sifted from permanent principles; but by whom, and when, and how must this be done?

Obviously the major part of the work of deciding the future policy of Deep Springs is the work of the Trustees, though there are many things on which they will need help; and these things, it seems to me, will be more apparent if the present state of Deep Springs precedent and principle is explained a little.

Since this institution is an experiment, many facts of our history are valuable only in that they are clearly wrong. A maze of policy and method surrounds almost every phase of Deep Springs work, yet surely the principle of the institution, the goal of its founder is, and has remained fixed, as far as we were concerned. It would be assuming the great deal to say that one comprehended completely the ideal of Deep Springs; the ideal may not have been perfectly understood by even Mr. Nunn himself. But because the end of our road is not apparent, it does not preclude the possibility of one seeing the road and endeavoring to follow it. And the principles of Deep Springs are its road. Once determined to progress along that road, the great problem of how—a method—must be solved. Here all the experiment was applied, here lies the confusion, here the work for all. Methods were many of them decisions for the moment, though some were of rather lasting value. There is not a great deal of tradition at Deep Springs. Of course, regulations about jumping through windows, smoking, etc., do obtain, but these will have little to do with the future of the institution, and in the field of such things the experiment must continue; the experiment must continue to seek a proportion and balance of scholastic and outside activities, as a part of our past, and small as its genuine inheritance, the near future will have much to do with what Deep Springs did and thought from 1918-1926, and a true interpretation of those years comes best from those who made them, and worked here. An understanding of the policy then can be aided by help from those who made it, and lived under it. Most of the men who can help best with this work are in Telluride Association, and Deep Springs needs and wants their cooperation.

It is a healthy and encouraging rumor that tells us some alumni want to come back and put Deep Springs aright, though we must not fail to see that those who would herk back to the old days are Deep Springs’ greatest enemies, for when change ceases Deep Springs is dead; when a status quo is established a noble ideal will have perished.

Telluride Association Convention for 1926 is to be held at Deep Springs, and everyone will find the place different from what it had been expected or imagined. First, visitors will know that imagination is seldom accurate, but alumni whose memories are certain will find a more difficult adjustment; by who every experiment is an essential enough part of Deep Springs to warrant sympathy and understanding from those who knew it in other years. A week or two after school has closed will show little or nothing but expected of the real Deep Springs, though I do happen to expect that much of the highroad is visible to warrant faith, and sufficient of our difficulties apparent to invoke understanding, and cooperation.

BARCLAY M. HUDSON

DEEP SPRING NOTES

From the last week of March extending onto the first week of April, a majority of the persons at Deep Springs, including the entire student body, are planning to make a trip into Death Valley. A similar trip was made two years ago and was voted successful enough to be tried again. Mr. Suhr will be the pilot of the course which leads through the craters of Death Valley wash, the depopulated town of Rhyolite, Nevada, Death Valley proper and out the southern end of the valley and back over the Amargosa desert in Nevada. The trip will be the spring vacation and will cover ten days of the most interesting travel.

The Lecturers

Lecturers never before have taken as active a part of the Deep Springs work as they have taken this year. They have given us subjects varying from drama to travel and geology. Some of the courses were given in a week's time with two lectures a day, containing the equivalent of a half to a whole semester of university work and in order to make the lectures seem more than an enormous amount of accumulated knowledge, considerable time was given for studying along the line of the talks. In this way the talks became more than a sideline. The personal contact with the lecturer, his concentrated knowledge, and the studying of his subject, all lead to the goal of acquiring knowledge for wisdom's sake.
The group of speakers contains some of the most eminent persons in their respective fields. Dr. B. A. Baumgardt, the traveller, opened the season. From the Southern Branch of the University of California came Frayne Williams, who opened new lights on drama. Dr. D. R. Bain, professor of medieval history, and Prof. A. P. McKinlay, a Latin scholar, were the other two. Mr. D. A. Lambright, of Chicago, spent the month of November here lecturing on Ethics and Ethical Builders of History. Dr. W. M. Davis, head of the Geological Department of Harvard, recently spent a few days with us. The season was ended but a few days ago with the addresses of repute on American Literature, by Dr. A. H. Reinhardt, president of Mills College. The remainder of the year will be devoted to regular work.

BRANDFORD YAGGY

Dear Ed.—

“Harvard Branch” has little news to offer. In the beaten way of reports that do, however, it might suggest:

(1) Members. The old members include Davis of Harvard, Davis has been some five years at the Branch. There are two new men, Putnam of California, and yours, late of Ithaca.

(2) Plan. The work is divided into two shifts. For six days we labor and do little but law; on the seventh we do our best to do anything but law. And may the Lord be blessed for the Sabbath.

(3) Entertainment. The list of distinguished guests boasts the names of C. Coville, H. Mansfield, and yourself, Dear Editor. A brief note apprised the Entertainment Committee that the world was out of town. If any other Telluride riders have been near these parts and failed to try to let us know we demand them in the interests of friendship, now, to forever hold their peace.

(4) News Letter. Orthodoxy and honest opinion demand a reiteration of the familiar refrain: “In the future we must use the News Letter as a means of promoting ‘better understanding’ among Branches.” Indeed, Dear Ed., we hardly did appreciate your publication before retiring to the isolation of this supposed sufficiently provincial; and we must add our congratulations for the quality if not the quantity of this year’s issue. In the interests of the latter we come.

Not the least curious of this year’s experiences has been that of living, for the first time in five winters, outside of a Telluride group. And since the question of comparative value of Telluride education in a Branch and out has been a bone of continual contention, mention of an observation or so on the subject may not be the least pertinent padding I am in a position to offer.

The question really involves a weighing of the opportunities of the different schools where one will study, but who would dare venture on such a subject? This may suggest, however, that as every person has his own good reasons for preferring different schools the whole question of Branch versus no-Branch may have as many solutions as there are different personalities. There is also the problem of the immediate interest of the Association involved. But theoretically the Association will improve according to the improvement of its members. So if we consider what course will give the members the best possible Telluride education we should the discount (theoretically) what will finally conduce to the Association’s best interests. That there can be such a thing as a Telluride education outside of Telluride has been shown too frequently in the past to require an attempted demonstration now. But it does remain to be proved that the members who have taken their work outside of a Branch profited more or less than if they had taken it in connection with one at their school. The chances are high that it will long remain to be proved.

There is much talk of the mutual help arising from Branch life. “Stimulate and encourage one another” is an injunction that all who have lived in one of our groups know well. The question is more one of Springs than Ithaca is a fac! all know quite as well. But until one has lived in the Ithaca Branch and left, he does not realize how much remains even there. Now it is certain that it does exist, but is it so certain that its existence in an occasional good? Isn’t there a possibility that some of us are helped altogether too much? It is at least arguable that there are instances where there is a less supporting and a little more walking on one’s own feet. We may become too weak if we ride too long upon the encouragement provided from outside. Of course, our theory is that we prove ourselves healthy hikers before we be admitted. Then an occasional lift should make it possible to get along so much further. All the facilities of the Branch are provided with that end in view. But the lift it provides is more than occasional. It is continual. And the best hiker of all needs some exercise in preparation for the time when he is going to have to continue his walking alone.

So far we have emphasized (and exaggerated) only one side of this doctrine of “Mutual Help.” There is another which is more valuable, and which one misses when away from a Branch. The receiving side is tempered with real disadvantages, but the other side has more in its favor. Away from a Branch one takes such pains using his own legs he is tempted to leave others their own pains for themselves. The center of the Branch life is the room shared by all. The center of non-Branch life is one’s own little room, shared with none. This may not be so true in many schools. It is certainly true at this Law School. It is: every man for himself and the devil take the take the final forty percent. Needless to say this is not “in accord” with the Telluride ideal, or the ideal Telluride method. From the first day at Deep Springs we are led to believe that one gains only by giving. In the old Branches we prove that theory that one learned to operate the power plants by operating the power plants. And was it not Mr. Nunn’s idea in favoring the form of our organization that, among other things, we should learn to become valuable trustees of the interests of nation and civilization by being good trustees of the interests of the Association? Of course, there are limitless opportunities anywhere for that sort of meaning—full action which goes by the meaningless word of service. And many members outside of Branches, like many men who have never heard of a Branch, have certainly shown they intend to learn to be of service by being of service. So it is true that many men in our groups have learned to take of themselves by not depending on all the props provided. This is interesting in itself, but beside the point. The point of the present discussion is the point that, what sort of Telluride education tends to encourage what qualities. And in spite of many exceptions the tendency still remains. The tendency is to sit back at a Branch, to become ego-centric out of others, to develop the virtue of Individualism when “out,” and the feeling of association and social responsibility when “in.” And we leave you, Dear Editor, with the obvious observation that Telluride should not be entirely satisfied with its method of education till the advantages “in and out” be combined.

Faithfully,

JOHN LAYLIN
"THE LAND THAT GOD FORGOT"

On mountain-top I stand alone,
Where sweeping storm-winds softly moan
Across the crags, raw, bare, and bleak,
Here on this lonely desert peak.

On ice-capped summits far away
Hang low the clouds, now thick and grey,
Save where thin streaks of color show
The wintry sunset’s burning glow.

Off to the South is Whitney’s head,
Snow-white against a sky of lead.
And to the East stands weather-scarred
A massive rock, Death Valley’s guard.

Through juniper and pinon pine
The rising storm-winds softly whine,
As up from rugged canyons deep
To rocky summits swift they sweep.

From heavy skies around me drop
The Spirits of this mountain-top;
I hear the rustle of their wings
Now when the snow-wind coldly sings.

They wandered free, long, long ago,
With wind and rain and swirling snow;
Yet still they haunt, here far from man,
Grey deserts, as when Time began.

Some say that in this wasted land
There is no God—just burning sand.
But in these hills which round me tower,
I feel His strength and sense His power.

"This is the land that God forgot,"
Is what they say who know it not.
For on a barren mountain peak
Is where a man His God must seek.

The desert knows no size nor place,
But empty Time and boundless Space.
Here man’s proud soul will be subdued
Where speaks his God in solitude.

In deserts wild I hope to stay
To live sincerely every day;
Alone, I wish to cast my lot
Here in "the land that God forgot."

HUNTINGTON SHARP.

Princeton, N. J.,
March 21st, 1926.

Dear Editor:

Being the only Tellurider at Princeton, perhaps it may be both advisable and interesting for me to give a few minutes of my impressions of the University. Of course nearly every college student becomes quickly peremptory with the idea that his particular set of scholastic activity is the ne plus ultra of institutions of learning. I judge that I am no exception to this rule, so please make allowances for any unnecessary tooting for old Nassau.

To begin with, freshman year is of course considered as a necessary evil, an elementary process, a period of transition from the schoolroom system to manhood and the broader scope of upperclassmanship. In some courses I find very little advance over prep school methods, while in others the professors and instructors seem to be making an effort to conduct their courses with the definite aim of opening up the lines of the academic system and helping the student to reach as soon as possible his finished status as a free intellectual agent. The restraints in the former class are probably unavoidable in some courses of a rather exact nature, but they serve to cast a shadow over the preliminary stages of one's college career, secretly dreamed of as being more rapidly idealized. As to the present freshman class with which I entered, it has so far met the trials very successfully, and has lived up to its record of being the most brilliant, if past records can be taken as a criterion, that has ever passed through Princeton's ancient portals. Incidentally it is the largest entering class—numbering 641. I myself have found the step a great one from the quiet (?) companionship of eighteen students at Deep Springs, to the bustling, many-sided life in a large, modern university such as this.

The Upperclass Plan of Study, known as the Four-Course Plan, is one of the most interesting features of the system under this plan, each upperclassman selects a certain department in which he wishes to specialize, and from whose list he chooses two courses as his majors. Outside of this he is to choose two additional elective courses for a total of four. The time that would ordinarily be occupied by a fifth course is left to the student, during which it is expected that he will pursue extra lines of outside work in his department under the influence of his own initiative and direction. He is held responsible for what work he has done thus, in a comprehensive examination at the end of the year. This is the student's sole accountancy for his efforts, the value of which for himself depends upon the earnestness with which he attacks his work and the extent to which he pursues it.

This innovation is in its experimental stages as yet, this year being its second of trial. The authorities have been highly encouraged by the earnest zeal with which the students have entered into the spirit of the plan, and are assured that it will ultimately prove itself an important and valuable forward step toward true scholastic attainment. It is also their real hope that it will spread its influence beyond Princeton.

As present the University is carrying on an extensive building campaign to provide adequate facilities for all phases of our religious, scholastic and social life. A beautiful new chapel is now in process of construction, and plans have been completed for a new building for the School of Engineering. Other projects which are being aimed for completion in the next few years are a new chemical laboratory and research building, a larger and improved library, a Student Union building and one or two additional dormitories. The present rooming facilities are sufficient for more than seventy-six students.
per cent of the students, but it is the ultimate ambition of Princeton to be able to house the entire undergraduate body on the campus.

Princeton has been often forced to face the accusation that large sums of money have been repeatedly spent on physical equipment, such as buildings, to the neglect of the faculty. This charge is partially true. We do possess a distinguished group of scholars of great abilities and achievements; but we need more men of the same high order of scholarly attainment and teaching ability, and we need to be able to retain those that we have by making the conditions attractive for them. This is steadily being done, as the endowment permits, and, if I think, with an endeavor to keep up with the rest of the program. This will be aided by the decision of the authorities that the undergraduate body, which now numbers 10 per cent, above the theoretical limit, will not be increased next year, and will possibly be reduced.

Although not universally effective, the high standard of honor amongst the members of the University has impressed me as a distinct mark of Princeton. The Honor System, under which all examinations are conducted, which was inaugurated by the students, and is administered by a committee of the students, has widened into the spirit of the Honor System which pervades every phase of the campus life. I think it has an admirable effect on straightening the way for undergraduates and for producing a standard of men worthy of Princeton and its traditions.

With sincere greetings to all Telluriders,

EDWIN S. JARRETT, Jr.

The University, Manchester, England
March 7, 1926.

Dear Haynes:

When I last saw you in Ithaca I had no idea that I would be spending the next year in England. But several days after I left Ithaca I discovered that I had won a fellowship of the American Council of Learned Societies, and I would be able to spend a year in Europe. Much as I wanted to return to Cornell I felt that a year in Europe would do me much good and that I would greatly increase any value that I might have for the House and the Association. I think that this year has been the most fruitful one of my education and that it has fitted me to profit by those opportunities which Cornell and (I hope) the House may provide this next year.

I saw Aird before he returned to America last summer, and was with Bruce some weeks at Christmas. I recently located Olmsted at Oxford and have written him. To date he has not replied. Bruce tells me in a recent letter that he is thinking of returning to America for the Convention at Deep Springs. When we were in Paris at Christmas we were both bewailing the lack of a News Letter. An American staying in Paris finds a thousand things to interest him, but I am sure that he still welcomes the "Letter."

Myself, I have been very busy doing some research work on "Elizabethan Boroughs and Parliamentary Elections." It's a much disputed point and little of much worth has been written of the matter. Beyond that I am jotting off a younger and smaller thesis on Thomas Jefferson. I have found little else to do in Manchester but work, read, and write a bit. I keep a newspaper in Pennsylvania supplied with several columns a week. Manchester has the world's worst climate and social life at the University simply does not exist. However, I have been moderately successful in debate. Spoken three times: once in Manchester, once in Glasgow (at the smoker afterwards two delegates got so drunk that they fell off their chairs. A sad reflection on the good men of Scotland!) and the last time in Exeter. I am one of the front-bench Liberals and will assail the Conservatives on their expenditures on Singapore naval bases and the simultaneous cuts in educational expenditures. England needs schools, not naval bases.

Bruce kind and send me a few of the "previous" issues of the News Letter. What a delight it will be to have you in my prayers along with Johnson, Oolie, Bob Aird, and the lost Newell.

Very cordially,

FRANK MONAGHAN.

College Albertinum, Fribourg, Suisse
11 Mars, 1926.

Dear Henry:

Your appeal for news was a new experience for me, as I have never been honored with such an epistle from an editor of the News Letter before. Ordinarily, I think they might have preferred to send me a muzzle. But as I am a good Californian, I feel bound to say that this has been an "unusual" year, and hence I have not written. It's the old excuse this time, and with a vengeance, for I have been busy and then some.

The greater part of the summer vacation, I spent in the quiet old town of Le Mans in France, vegetating. I made three trips to Chartres and Paris. In the latter, I met many friends and did some shopping. When we were in Paris at Christmas we were both bewailing the lack of a News Letter. An American staying in Paris finds a thousand things to interest him, but I am sure that he still welcomes the "Letter."

Myself, I have been very busy doing some research work on "Elizabethan Boroughs and Parliamentary Elections." It's a much disputed point and little of much worth has been written of the matter. Beyond that I am jotting off a younger and smaller thesis on Thomas Jefferson. I have found little else to do in Manchester but work, read, and write a bit. I keep a newspaper in Pennsylvania supplied with several columns a week. Manchester has the world's worst climate and social life at the University simply does not exist. However, I have been moderately successful in debate. Spoken three times: once in Manchester, once in Glasgow (at the smoker afterwards two
Dear Editor:

The traditional gay student life of Germany was not destroyed by the war, but it was hard hit. The children of families which lost their savings in the inflation must work their way through against obstacles far larger than those in America. Their experiences have made many of them democratic, while the more well-to-do students, the fraternity members, are nationalistic and conservative to a man. It is these that wear the brightly colored caps and bands of their Corps or "Burschenschaft," and that spend their time in cafes, on excursions to the mountains or on the river, or in the fencing hall. This balanced disposition of their time is made possible by the complete absence of censorship, not even weekly choice of tutor in the manner of the Oxford system, being required. Everyone must pay for at least three lectures a week, but he need not attend, so that a professor can never tell whether he will face twenty or a hundred students in a lecture. He is not free to speak his mind, but he is told that the women who have been coming to college in increasing numbers under the republic are the most conscientious. All the Universities are co-educational and are run by the government, which interferes with academic freedom, on the style of the private benefactors in America.

The life of not even the fraternity students can be said to be "care-free," as it was in former days, or as it is today, to a certain degree, in France, England, and the United States. For almost every one of them is dominated in his whole being by the thought of the rebuilding of Germany. The events since 1914 are not half forgotten, as elsewhere, but are well remembered, and the memory of them is terribly active. And if many students and professors, as well as a lesser proportion of the non-academic classes, see no way out but another war, one has no right to condemn them out of hand. Germany is a land which has been wronged so deeply that it would have justified thoughts of "revanche" in any age before that of air warfare and poison gas. Millions of her citizens have been placed under foreign rule, which has meant in most cases foreign oppression, for at least yearly for decades to come. And the millions of money as "reparrations"—to England, to Italy, to the United States! Have a third group formed by the Catholics—who have their own political party in Germany, including both radicals and conservatives—who are now largely nationalistic. The effect of the post-war years in the Universities has been, in short, to stifle the reviving spirit of 1848 and firmly establish the spirit of Bismarck. Yet that minority of the academic classes remains, and an overwhelming majority of the workers is at its side, which is willing, in spite of all, to accept the hand of friendship if it should ever be genuinely offered from abroad. To the idealism of the great German scholars and writers, with their dreams of a united Europe, one cannot pay too high a tribute. If Germany should be fairly treated the future would lie with them, and the prospects for Europe would be bright.

These questions mean infinitely more in the life of the defeated than in that of the victorious nations. One can realize only on coming over here how tragic is the heritage left by men like Clemencen and Poincare. Versailles and the Ruhr quickly destroyed the German respect for France as an honest opponent, worthy of their steel. Against America, fortunately, there is now no hate feeling, there is not so much blood made by the affair of the fourteen points was dispelled again by the relief work, especially that of the Quakers. America is regarded simply as the land of money, nothing more nor less. Young Germans look with a feeling resembling horror for riches on the other side of the Atlantic, and are determined not to "Americanized," as they call it.

One can learn much from these young Germans. For loyalty to duty is a great educational, if not something higher, one need not look further than the typical nationalistic student: but I believe the democratic students have discovered a better ideal, better because it is not abstract, but concrete. It is not so much to the Vaterland as to the Volk that their devotion is offered. Whether they spend the vacation in the darkness of a mine or tramping the sunny countryside in their Wanderwolz costumes, they are keeping in touch with, and mean to keep in touch with, the toiling masses of the German people.

Another difference between the two Germainies stands out—the question of Prussianism. The express aim of the fraternities is to train their members to obedience and to share in the common will. "Denkt und frantidt deutsch" corresponds to "Be 100% American." In the phrase used by the most influential German thinker of the day, the need is for training and discipline, not for education, exactly as the "need" in government is for a strong executive and less party pluralism. Those young people who have gone back to pre-industrial and pre-blood-and-iron ideals, on the other hand, assert their right to live their own lives, in their own way, according to their own beliefs. Creeds or traditions that they may inwardly reject they outwardly refuse to accept, nor are they willing to let their minds be "moulded" so as inwardly to accept them. They hold to liberty as well to fraternity. It will not do to surrender to Prussianism in America any more than in Germany.
One German custom must be severely condemned. Instead of closing “seminars,” “exercises,” and “lecture courses” decently at the beginning of June, the professors keep hard at work until the first of August. One should not get the impression that the college year is excessively long, for the three or four healthy vacations and the habit of beginning the semester two or three weeks after the official date make it about six weeks shorter than in America. At any rate I shall miss the gathering of the class at Deep Springs. To compensate I urgently advise any reader of the News Letter whom this summer finds in Europe to make the Rhine trip in July, when he will find me keeping the watch. My address is now Staatsswissenschaftlichem Seminar, Universität, Bonn, Germany.

SIMON WHITNEY.

IMPRESSION

The sun goes down. The hot and sullen hills
That rim the Desert round are shadowed o'er
With tints of rose and gold. The valley floor
Glow, cooler, as a softer radiance fills
The distance with a flood of amber light.
The mountains change from gold and rose to blue,
The blue becomes a purple, and black night
Sweeps from the eastern sky. In brave review
A moment yet the crimson hosts of day
Plaunt in the West their banners, then are gone,
While in their place the vestal stars are born.
And, robesd in velvet darkness, hold their sway.

H. G. H.

CORNELL BRANCH NOTES

March 2, 1926.

The Advisory Committee brought in its first term report at the last meeting of the Branch, and presented the grade for the scholastic work done by the members. The Branch average was 81.64 as contrasted with 80.07 for the first term of last year. H. C. Mansfield led the Telluride scholars, in point of marks, with 16 hours of A and 3 hours of B. It may be of interest to some of our members to know that for the last two years the University has compiled and published the scholarship averages of the various fraternity groups here, and that in these records (which include about seventy-five hours) Telluride has always led by an appreciable margin.

Within the last two weeks Dann, Irvine, Nunn, H. Mansfield and Schnaaff have been confined to the Infirmary, having succumbed to the epidemic of grippe which is going the rounds here. Several other members have been rather ill.

With the opening of the second term the Branch began a program of intensive entertainment. Besides the usual six or seven guests for Sunday dinner at Johnson's suggestion we are beginning a series of student teas on Sunday afternoons—Irvine to the contrary notwithstanding.

Judge H. H. Putnam was our guest again for a week during his stay in Ithaca to give a course of lectures on Admiralty and Maritime Law before the University. Members of the Law Faculty and a few of the Judge’s friends were invited for an evening during his visit.

Edward Davison, English poet, who lectured here on March 1st, stayed with us one day, and was given an informal reception.

The members of the California debate team stayed with us during their invasion, as did the Oxford representatives earlier in the year.

The Dean had a number of the local applicants for Deep Springs meet him here at the Branch while he was in Ithaca, and several of the members helped (?) in looking them over.

Roger Dann, McFadden, and you, my dear editor, have done us the honor of visiting the House this term, in addition to those Association members before recorded.

Schravesnande has abandoned Cornell and returned to Michigan to complete his course. He left at the close of the first term; and has since been back for a week-end to report that the Prodigal Son’s return party had nothing on his.

Newell was elected Branch Secretary to fill Schravesnande’s office for the remainder of the year.

Huntington Sharp has been awarded his Freshman numerals for track. He was the third (in seven) on the yearling cross-country team, and made the trip to New York with the harriers. J. Mansfield has also been in training all year, but he is not yet eligible to compete for Cornell on the track.

Isham Bailey has broken into activities circles in passing the trials for the Dramatic Club, and will appear for the first time with the amateur Hamdens this month.

Telluride has somewhat of a monopoly on the Law Quarterly staff, with Irvine at the helm, and Dann and Thompson in tow.

C. H. SCHAAFF, 2nd.

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