Dear Mr. Kuder:

The manuscript of the Biography of L. L. Nunn came to us on February 1, was carefully perused and reset five days forward to J. B. Tucker at Santa Ana according to the instructions of Paul Ashworth.

I most sincerely thank you for the privilege of its perusal. I wish I could have seen it much earlier for personal gratification.

I think it is an excellent one and value it highly for its genuine worth and the true and most excellent estimate of his character. Another reason for my valuing it very highly is, I think it would meet with Mr. Nunn's approval could he see it, because it is a plain and true statement of facts and incidents in his life without flowery overstatements. It brings out so well the noble character of the man and his life work.

By all means I hope you will conclude to have it published as soon as possible and not turn it over to any one to make it a larger or more flowery work of less value in the estimation of those who knew him best.

Again I ask, please do not delay the publication.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH J. NUNN
Dear Bill:

In belated response to your letter about the biography, I think there is nothing I can say that will be too many to anyone at the House. As you know, the committee appointed last June was selected for the purpose of raising money and arranging for the publication, not for deliberating about the wisdom of publishing. During the summer, however, what had been an unceremonious opposition to publication of the biography came to the surface and was reinforced by the opinions of several members who had not read the manuscript until that time. It turned out that a majority of the Association members on the committee appointed were opposed to going ahead.

While the question was in this suspended state, what might be called a "force majeure" intervened. I mean the depression. We were apprehensive about several of our investments in June, and since then things have been getting steadily no better. When I made my trip to Ithaca just after Thanksgiving, there were indeed many uncertainties to speak of, but it seemed that possibly as much as a third of the income we have been accustomed to for years to spend would be in jeopardy next year. With that prospect in view, the committee was unanimous in feeling, and members at the House seemed to agree, that publication of the biography was not a first call on our financial resources, and should be deferred until we were clearer as to how much we shall have to spend next year. There the matter rests for the present. The committee will try to make a more detailed report to Convention, and I for one hope that there will be many more individual minds made up on the subject this time than last when the Convention decision is made.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL P. ASHWORTH

Dear Bill:

You know I just could not help finding myself very agreeably surprised to discover that you have my name on your mailing list. I have now received three successive issues of the News Letter, and must say that it is a refreshing experience. And was even more wonderful to find my name listed among the alumni members of the Association, in your December number.

The trend of the notes from other alumni members seems to be to give some account of themselves and enquire after the pursuits of their one-time associates. There was for me a kind of thrill in looking through the list and noting that despite those perilous times of too much fast driving and gangland activities all of my old cohorts are still alive. Take for instance Chet Dunn. The way he tears around; who ever would have expected him to last this long? I could name a lot of happy surprises in the list; but my main purpose in writing you is rather to say that I appreciate your acknowledgement of my former association with the institution you represent.

I note that the active personnel is practically all now. I am sure that it continues to get better. I hope it will be my privilege to be at the House next year and get acquainted with you, as it is my hope to spend the next school year in New York City, in continued study. Although I came here originally to teach English, my assignment was changed at once to music. As a consequence I have gone to New York, Chicago, or Los Angeles every summer for additional work in music. For next year I am given a Sabbatical leave, and will study in New York.

It pleases me to see the enthusiasm displayed in the articles written by young Telluride men. Keep it up.

WALTER WELTI

E. M. Johnson

(Continued from page one)

would illustrate my point. Also, the mere fact that the Reverend Pinney profoundly influenced the young Nunn is to me less revealing than why he did so.

I once discussed with a young psychologist friend the various aspects of Mr. Nunn's life, and his interpretation of impulses and motives back of the acts of Mr. Nunn's life was indeed revealing. While 1 by no means swallow everything a psychologist tells me, I think there is much that a biographer could learn from one. When I read a biography, in addition to the statistics, facts, and episodes, I want as clear as possible a picture of the subject's inner emotional self; I am more interested in why a man did something than I am in what he did.

The biography strikes me as dull and quite prosaic in spots—somebody said something of the sort about Hornblow—but this is due more to my personal taste, as are most of the things I have here discussed. If one hundred Association members and Alumni were to write your hundred biographies of Mr. Nunn, we would have one hundred Mr. Nunn, or better still, one hundred aspects of the same Mr. Nunn. But when one hundred of us try to write one and the same biography, the result is the same as the soup when a hundred cooks jostle about the pot, each a-following his pet recipe. I have read eight biographies of Christ, and no two have portrayed the Galilean in the same way; Renan, Farrer, Papini, Barton, Schmidt, Found, etc., have flavored their books, each writer according to his own mental and spiritual characteristics. We have a biography of Mr. Nunn, written from Mr. Bailey's slant. It is up to us to publish or not to publish, as we see fit. I am personally far from satisfied with the book; it doubtless is not the definitive monograph. However, I am sufficiently interested in the book to have agreed at the 1931 Convention, when an Alumnus canvassed the group for signatures to help underwrite publication. I would prefer this to having the Association bear the expense.

E. M. J.

Notes and Clippings

Cabot Cowlle, who was at the American Embassy in Tokyo for some years, has recently been assigned Consul at Harbin, China.

An essay by Mr. P. N. Nunn, entitled "Coordination, the Coming Social Order," has recently been published in Ithaca, and will be distributed to those who are on the News Letter mailing list.
Dear Editor:

At a time when we are hearing rumors about drastic reduction in the income of the Association, it might be well to inquire how we may most easily curtail our activities. Although, at the same time, the least danger to our essential purpose. To some answer is apparent, that we should reduce the money spent on scholarships outside of Telluride House, that if this is not sufficient we should pare down the budget in various other places, always with the utmost exception for the appropriation for the maintenance of Telluride House and for the tuition and fees of members. In Telluride Association members are as valuable to it as the larger but sometimes more complacent group of members in the House. We are not increasing the effectiveness of the Telluride Branch by pampering it at the expense of outside scholarships. No one is proposing that economy should go to the length of curtailing activities which now characterize Telluride House, that is, the maintenance of an environment where resident members may live and breathe and have their being while at Cornell. The proposal which this letter is intended to convey is merely that the appropriation for the tuition and fees of Association members in the House should be reduced along with outside scholarships. Twenty-two thousand dollars was appropriated last year for the maintenance of members at Cornell, while seven thousand dollars were assigned for all the other educational work of members. Under this arrangement, nineteen men are not only given the luxurious and valuable privileges of the House, but they are made almost independent of outside finances by having their tuition and fees paid for them. On the other hand a member at some other college is given perhaps enough to cover tuition probably more than is enough for a year's board. I am not yet convinced that there is sufficient difference between the peculiar training offered at the House and the more independent training which a member gets elsewhere to warrant such a discrepancy. The amount spent for the tuition and fees of resident members could be substantially reduced without changing any of the distinctive characteristics of Cornell Branch. It is centralization for financial equality among the members, which can never exist in fact, unless all of their expenses are paid. 

But this does not imply the reduction for outside work cannot be reduced without impairing the variety and vitality of our educational program.

Sincerely,

MORGAN SIBBETT

Julius Brauner

Dear Editor:

As reports from our investments indicate that our income for the year 1931-32 will be curtailed, it may not be amiss to consider the relative merits of the various association activities for which we have appropriated our money in the past years.

Certain items of expenditure such as salaries are essential. It would seem that the only activities which are capable of being reduced are those for Deep Springs, the operation of Telluride House, Tuition and Fees for members of Cornell Branch, and Scholarships outside Telluride House.

I, for one, am heartily in favor of giving all the support necessary to Deep Springs. Without our assistance it will be almost impossible for that institution to continue in operation. It is our only primary branch, and at present most of our best applicants for membership appear to be coming from Deep Springs.

The appropriation for the operation and maintenance of the House at Cornell should be adequate to allow the continuance of Cornell Branch and to cover all reasonable costs of maintaining the House and providing facilities for entertaining as has been the customary practice. It may be possible to reduce the appropriation for the house next year to a slight extent in view of the lower price level. But I do not believe that the reduction should be as much as will curtail the activities of the Branch.

Of the other two items capable of reduction, I should favor awarding preference of tuition and fees to members of the Cornell Branch before any outside scholarships are granted. The Branch is the only place at which the activities of the Association are centralized and maintained during the year. Any diminishing of the preference to members of the Branch might result in making it necessary for some members of the Branch to work during the school year. I think this would be unfortunate as detracting from the possibility of those members getting the most out of Branch and University life.

Julius F. Brauner III

CORNELL BRANCH NOTES

On January 15th the Branch entertained Professor I. G. Maciver, of the Department of Social Sciences at Columbia University. Professor Maciver lectured here on "Civilization versus Culture," apparently a case in which legislation will continue for some time.

Frank Jewett Mather, Jr., Marquand Professor of Art and Archaeology at Princeton University, is delivering the Messenger Lectures at Cornell this year. His topic being "Great Venetian Painters." Professor Mather and his wife have been guests at the Branch since February 14th. We must resign ourselves to the loss of Mrs. Mather's company this week, but fortunately Professor Mather will be a fellow-member here until his series of lectures is over, March 9th.

Mr. C. Douglas Booth, who is on a lecture tour under the auspices of the Carnegie Peace Foundation, was our guest on February 16th and 17th. He delivered a lecture on various phases of the disarmament problem.

Pursuant to the authority granted by the 1931 convention, giving the Branch authority to invite additional students to reside at the House, we are happy to announce that members invited Hugh Davy for the remainder of this year. This action was deemed proper by the members in view of Hugh's excellent record at Cornell during the first term.
I read Mr. Bailey's biography of Mr. Nunn with a great deal of pleasure and interest. Influenced as I had been by another biographer, I was agreeably surprised when I finally read it. In my opinion it fills the purpose for which it was intended, namely, a straightforward account of a man's life. It is certainly not explicit or psychological, nor does it attempt to analyze the man in terms of his environment or his intellectual background. I think it good.

Some of the material contained in the supplement is perhaps superfluous, but this is a matter of no great moment. The quotations from Mr. Nunn's writings are of importance in attempting to delineate his character and enable each reader to bring his own individual powers to bear upon the problem.

I should recommend that the biography be published as soon as possible. In view of the financial position of the Association, it does not seem advisable to publish an inexpensive edition in book form. I see no objection to publication in pamphlet form together with a few of the available photographs in this pamphlet. It could be distributed at cost among those who are interested. Mimeographing is unsatisfactory because it is bulky, illegible, and does not, it seems to me, possess the dignity that a formal publication of the Association should have.

P. H. Reinhardt

We are resting comfortably today in a government chalet at Jeldstaur as they call it in Norwegian. Yesterday Bob and I hiked twenty-two miles up the Tana river in good time, but while the rest of the party was travelling by sleigh and Russian pony. For a good many miles we could keep up with them as we went, along a portion of the river where the ice was very weak. I had to direct the sled while the Lapp driver went ahead with a stick to test the ice. Sometimes it would be so weak we would have to go along the edge on the steep rocky bank. Bob and I would have to hold the sled up from slipping into the water. Twice while on the ice, the horse and sled broke through, but luckily the water wasn't deep. Part of the way we had to climb over a high ridge that came to a cliff on the river's edge. The only trail was that made by a reindeer and pulka (that is the funny little game-like sled that is used with reindeer). The big sled dipped over many times and then caused a lot of trouble on steep downward slopes. The Lapp and we two would have to practically all sit in the snow, groaning as we tried to hold the sled to a moderate rate of speed. The Russian pony is an amazing animal. We have used them several times and every time their endurance and speed for their small size has astonished us.

The Lapps are like creatures out of a weird dream. They all wear the native clothes and pretty much live as they always have. On their heads they carry big hats filled with elde­down. They have four corners and look much like a mortar board hat. With a small marvellous end they corners slip over in every direction. As shirts, they wear a black, closed necked affair that reaches down in back to the back of the knee, in front, to about a foot above the knee. This shirt is trimmed with yellow and red felt. They wear a wide leather or cloth belt that hangs on the hips. From the belt at the left hangs a long home­made knotted knife about a foot and a half long. They all wear a knife. On their legs, they wore reindeer leggings with the hair inside. They are tight and reach from the thigh to the ankle. For shoes, they have reindeer fur moccasins (or they say scalis) that are wide shaped so that the toe of the shoe points upward. The scalis are filled with straw, which makes them comfortable and soft. When it is cold, they wear great slippers (reindeer) that they call peaks. We are using peaks and scalis. Over this they wear a highly colored cape with a hood, that they can pull over their faces in the cold.

These people are usually, from what we have seen, short, stocky, bow-legged, black-haired, slant-eyed, high cheek-boned, drooping black moustached, cheerful, kindly, but avuncular burghers. Some look very Chinese, others Japanese, some like pictures of Hungarian peasants, some with much white blood in them, almost like the Finns and Poles.

But the astonishing thing is that they live so much like their ancestors, and that their numbers are increasing in spite of the ever-increasing proselytization by Norwegian, Swedish and Finnish settlements. We have seen lots of reindeer. The post goes through here once a week and always goes by reindeer caravans. They are a beautiful sight to see. But the trouble with reindeer is that only one person can ride in a pulka and you need two reindeer for each pulka, one in front and one behind. You need extra bag­gage pulkas. In other words for our party of four we would need about twenty reindeer and ten pulkas. Besides all this they are almost unmanage­able except by their master. We will do a good bit of that travel through where we can't use horses in the mountains—but must cover large distances.

My last letter I think was written after leaving North Cape. We have done a lot of travelling since then. From Honningsvag we sighted oddly by boat. We stayed overnight and started out about the next day across the mountains toward Nordkyn.

We had steep climbing and no trail and an icy gale. The second day we went onto a high plateau that, except for the desert, was the most desolate place I have ever seen. Not a tree of bush or sign of animal life all day.

Towards night (1 p.m.) we came down to a little fishing harbor called Mehann. There we got a fishing trans­fer to take us around to a point not far from the fishery, and from there we had an experience in itself to go out with the or North and Mary had lots of flags and things to bring out and take pictures of. There were almost some frozen fingers because of them. From Nord­kyn we took a boat around to Kirkenes and walked up to Boris Kleme for centuries a Russian Greek Catholic church. Then back and across the Varanger fjord to Vadsø.

We stayed there to write letters and get provisions for our present lap. Then we set out up the Tana, river by pulka and sleigh. The river got us about thirty-eight miles on good smooth solid ice. It was a thrilling slid­ ing along the green, vigorous, win­try air, well bundled up in furs, be­ing driven by a colorfully dressed, oddly chanting Lapp. The next stop we were held up for an exorbitant sum, so we set out afoot. There was no way in the Tana and the travel on the birch covered hill sides was not very good. We slept out two nights in the snow. On the third day we came to a little hut. We crossed the river the next day into Finland and spent an interesting time at Tjåkø. The government representative there spoke German. The population of the town is 400-500 Lapps. Then followed the day to our present lodg­ing. Today we rested and got some writing done.

It is two days since I have had a chance to write. In that time we have travelled up the Tana a good way. Bob and I have done it on foot, while the other three have ridden in a sled with our packs. We have travelled up as far as the Kollefjord. When we reached the end of the Tana we struck off up a branch called the Karasjokta and are now resting at the biggest Lapp settlement in Nor­way—Karasjokta. There are about 700 here and perhaps forty Norwegians counting the government officials. Everybody wears the Lapp clothing and speaks a Lapp. We ex­pect to stay here about a week to take movies and see all we can. Then we travel on by reindeer to Kautoke­nus, a four-day trip over the moun­tains to a settlement near the Swe­dish border.

(These are excerpts from letters written by Paul to his Mother in December, before he left Lapland, and are included in the next issue. Get yours EARLY! Just try.—Ed.)