

# TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

Monthly Publication of Telluride Association

VOL. XIX, No. 6

ITHACA, N. Y.

APRIL, 1933

W. D. Johnston

Casper, Wyoming, April 7, 1933  
Dear Editor:

It has been a long time since the writer's name has appeared in the News Letter, and, of course, for a very good reason; namely, that I have submitted no information to the editor outside of addresses. Nevertheless, I cherish the name of Telluride Association, and it still holds a binding interest to me that is almost impossible of explanation. I look for the News Letter regularly, as to this day it still carries names of many of my most intimate and valued Telluride friends, pals, and acquaintances. Were it not for the News Letter, it would be impossible to keep informed as to the whereabouts and activities of these many dear friends and former associates.

I note from the last News Letter that you plan to issue a reunion number, or somewhat of a roll call number. Certainly I cannot permit this opportunity to pass of having my name identified with those Association men who still have a deep and heartfelt interest in the Association and all that it has always stood for.

Whenever the word reunion is mentioned in connection with Telluride Association, I am reminded of my initiation into its activities in the fall of 1909. About thirty days after I had arrived at Grace, Idaho, from my home in Wisconsin, I was invited by Mr. Nunn to attend the Telluride Reunion at Olmstead. This invitation was for the purpose of providing an opportunity to meet Mr. Nunn as I had not yet had that pleasure. It was at that reunion with its attendant banquets, dances, sociability, that I first came to know the spirit of Telluride. My heart and soul were won over to the institution at that time, and it remains in the very same status to this very day. I only wish the world were small enough to permit of another reunion of our many Telluride associates scattered as they are over the entire world.

To come back to earth, I have only to report that fortunately I am still among the ranks of the employed. I am one of the few Telluride people who are still identified with the electric power business. As Wyoming Division Manager of the Mountain States Power Company, I have wandered away from the engineering phases of the industry and have found the administrative field most interesting.

Our operations in the State of Wyoming have expanded throughout the past few years until at the present time the Wyoming Division embraces electric or natural gas service to twenty towns, with division headquarters

(Continued on page two)

## Biography Goes to Press

In accordance with the notice on the subscription slips sent out by the L. L. Nunn Biography Committee last fall, the committee has sent the manuscript to the printer, the subscriptions already totaling more than three-quarters of the estimated cost of publication.

In order to finish the work before convention, the committee must have at least forty additional subscriptions at the original figure of \$3.50 per copy. The committee is grateful for the co-operation of the many subscribers who made it possible to start publication now, and looks forward to immediate response from others.

## Finance

A brief resume of events since the last issue of the News Letter may be in order. First, as to the Union Trust Company:—Reorganization of this institution is under way. Its liquid assets and those of the Guardian Trust Company, another large closed Cleveland institution, are to be taken over by a new First National Bank of Cleveland. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation will furnish \$5,000,000 if a similar sum can be raised privately for capital funds for the new institution. When and if the new First National begins business, it will release 35% of the deposits of the Union Trust Company. How much of the remaining 65% will be paid, and when, will depend on the results of liquidation over a long period of time.

The Association, along with other depositors, has been asked to subscribe for stock in the new bank with some of the 35% of deposits freed under the above procedure. So far, nothing has been done in response to this request.

We have written to the Union Trust Company urging that our Trust Fund account be treated as a trust fund, as it is, rather than as a commercial or current account.

The immediate need for operating funds has been met by a payment from Pacific Coast Building Loan Association. This is being used as operating funds, and Liberty bonds to an equivalent amount have been transferred from the operating funds to the Trust Fund. At present we are using the Walker Bank and Trust Company, Salt Lake City, as depository for current funds.

As I write this, "controlled inflation"

seems definitely on the way. The custodians do not have sufficient power to rearrange investments, or take some other measures to meet these new conditions. We will try to have as complete information as possible to present to Convention. Personally, I am hopeful that next year will see the Association's income and financial position improved. But in planning the budget for next year, even more economy will be necessary than at last Convention.

S. R. LEVERING

Joe Nunn

Dear Al:

For the last six months I have been near Azusa, California, and have been working on a road job in the San Gabriel National Forest. For the benefit of those who do not know Southern California intimately, I will add that Azusa is about half way between Pasadena and Pomona.

For most people, there is a very close association between road construction and penal labor. In my case, the work is a matter of choice and not necessity. I am working for the contractor, Guy F. Atkinson Company, on a million-dollar road job. We, all three hundred of us, are building seven miles of a road around two flood control reservoirs being built in San Gabriel Canyon. For the last few months the Canyon has been about the busiest spot in the country.

I started in as a night timekeeper, checking up on every man at work between four p. m. and seven a. m., and am now attempting to sell equipment that was worth a quarter million eight months ago. My days and nights have been filled with the routine work necessary to familiarize myself with the details of a project as large as this. There seems to be no limit of hours for the office force, in fact, I have had very few Sundays off.

I have spent two Sundays in San Diego with P. N., and one afternoon with our Chancellor. These have been my only opportunities to get any news of Telluride or Deep Springs. I hope to spend an evening with Bill Biersuch and George Lyon soon.

My time has been so full of work that I have had little chance to dream of College Days, in spite of a keen interest in all things Cornelian. I hope to make the trip to Convention this year, if the work will allow. So, please give my regards to the men in the house, and tell them I will be glad to hear from any who care to drop me a line.

Sincerely,

JOE NUNN

## TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

Published Monthly By  
TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION  
ITHACA, N. Y.

Editor .....ALBERT E. ARENT  
Business Manager.....CHARLES M. GILBERT

Assistant Editors  
PARKER BAILEY HUGH W. DAVY  
Asst. Business Manager.....JOHN H. BURCHARD  
Deep Springs Corresp.....WALTER BALDERSTON

APRIL, 1933

## Editorial

On April 1, Mr. P. N. Nunn's term as executive trustee of Deep Springs came to a close, after a year of remarkable service to the school. He took charge at a time when there was talk of closing down the place for a few years and leaves it in a condition which has brought forth enthusiasm from all who have seen it in operation. The financial problems still remain, but they are being faced with more courage and determination because of the progress being made in the educational work.

Notable improvements have been made in the operating efficiency of the plant, and by means of the cost accounting system and periodic inventory of physical property initiated by Mr. Nunn, a check on lax operation has been provided for the future. On the educational side, the interpretative talks given by the director on L. L. Nunn's letters have been of great interest to the student body.

Mr. Nunn's salary was one dollar, which is exactly one dollar more than the salary of Father Meehan, whose presence at the ranch has been a second important factor in its harmonious and constructive operation. To him the student body is indebted for instruction in English, French, Latin, and history—which originally was left out of the curriculum because funds to hire an instructor were not available.

The loyalty of these two men to Deep Springs, together with the able efforts of Dean Crawford, has made hard times a good thing for the institution.

## W. D. Johnston

(Continued from page one)

at Casper. The expansion of our operations has taken place gradually since 1925, at which time the Mountain States Power Company took over the Natrona Power Company at Casper. Mr. E. P. Bacon, General Manager of the Natrona Power Company, left Casper at that time, and having been with Mr. Bacon for several years previous, I was appointed Division Manager of the new organization. The work has been most enjoyable, and business was good up to the time of the recent depression. Like all industry, we have been fighting the depression for the past couple of years but are still swimming with our heads above water still looking for hope

"around the corner".

Many of my old Telluride friends, such as Nic Dinkel, will sympathize with one of my mental weaknesses; namely, exploration and mountain climbing. The screw is still loose, and I am still guilty of indulgence in such pastimes. New and interesting fields for such activities in this respect were disclosed to me in the great mountain regions of Western Wyoming, notably the Teton Mountains south of Yellowstone Park. So for the past two summers I have taken my spite out on the more lofty peaks of this region, and finally succeeded in reaching the summit of the Grand Teton, one of the loftiest and most precipitous peaks in the United States. I had just previously fallen victim to a new but rather expensive hobby—amateur movies, and I enjoyed the distinction of having filmed the first complete ascent of the Grand Teton.

I am forwarding, under separate cover, a recently published account of this climbing expedition, which you will find beginning on page 8 of the Third Section of the Annual Wyoming Edition of the Casper Tribune Herald, together with various photographs of the region covered. The article is a reprint of the original which was published in the November, 1931, issue of the Voice of the Sportsman, copy of which is also included under separate cover, and in which you will observe the picture of yours truly.

Any of my mountain-climbing Telluride friends who would care to indulge in a real workout, will find a ready welcome with me at Casper, but should come prepared for a seven or ten days expedition. All of my other Telluride friends will always find the latch string out at our home in Casper where my good wife and two boys will help extend a welcome.

Cordially yours,

W. D. JOHNSTON

(Though the meagre response to our appeal defeated plans for a Reunion Issue, a letter like this makes us rejoice in having made the attempt.—Ed.)

## Notes and Clippings

The New York Herald Tribune for March 25, carries a brief account of "Mirrors to Trap 'Black Light' of Stars," describing the mirrors of evaporated chromium and aluminum developed by Robley Williams and George Sabine in the Cornell Physics department. George and Robley assert that the journalistic account is grossly inaccurate, so the News Letter will take care not to compound the inaccuracy.

We take the liberty of quoting the following paragraph from a letter of Tom McFadden to Mr. Biersach:

"Ralstone R. (Shorty) Irvine is receiving congratulations for his work with William J. Donovan in connection with the case of U. S. vs. Appalachian Coals, Inc., in which the

U. S. Supreme Court has just handed down one of the most significant opinions in a generation. The name of Horace R. (Hod) Lamb also appears on the brief. In holding that it is not a violation of the anti-trust laws for a group of competitors to establish a common selling agency, the court has encouraged competitors in all lines of business to co-operate more closely to stabilize industry."

## Washington Branch

The first quadrennial meeting of the Washington Branch of Telluride Association was held at one o'clock Friday afternoon, March 31, 1933, at the Tally-Ho Tavern, behind the big tree on 17th Street, in the Nation's Capitol. Those present were Cabot Coville, Esquire, of the State Department, Mr. James S. Holmes, whose business is a matter of life and death, and a person named McFadden.

Mr. Coville, recently returned from Manchuria, was dressed in Oxford gray and wore a stiff collar but no spats. Mr. Holmes wore a modish bowler. McFadden was also dressed more or less suitably for the occasion, and reported that he held the proxy of Ralstone R. (Shorty) Irvine.

Diplomat Coville ordered clam chowder, tongue and cheese sandwich (toasted), deep dish apple pie and milk. Holmes said, "I'll take the same." McFadden said, "Me, too, except for the tongue. This is Friday!"

After luncheon a combined public speaking and business session followed. Several resolutions were passed, including the following (Note: each resolution started "Be it resolved.")

(1) That a committee be appointed to investigate rumors that the Reverend J. E. Meehan has gained forty (40) pounds (lbs.) during his stay at Deep Springs. (The investigators will also inquire into possible cases of malnutrition among other residents of the ranch.)

(2) That, in the interest of economy, Telluride Association should cancel its 1933 Convention. (The Washington Branch believes that, in lieu of a convention, the usual business can be transacted by asking the Secretary to cast one ballot in support of the usual motions. Thus all reports would be received with thanks and filed. Most of these reports can be found in the association archives, including the standing complaint about deplorable conditions at Cornell branch. To follow precedent, the Secretary would cast his ballot to vacate the office of chancellor. He would note that the steward's report estimated the average cost of meals at 27 cents. He would table the motion to establish a new branch, and would adjourn himself sine die, (with an anglicized pronunciation.)

After tabling the motions to investigate Deep Springs and Cornell Branch, the Washington Branch adjourned sine die.

T. J. McFADDEN  
Reporter

## Teaching in a Reformatory

Here at Princeton, one of my chief interests is work at the State Home for Boys, at Jamesburg. It is nominally Sunday school teaching, but considering all the brands of religion and irreligion dealt out by the twenty students who take part, one may doubt the applicability of the term. At any rate, we all assemble on Sunday morning for a sumptuous and homecooked breakfast (possibly the chief attraction), and then drive the sixteen miles to the Home.

The institution consists of five hundred acres of farming land and grounds with school and administration buildings. From thirty to forty boys are housed in each modern, comfortable cottage, and there are over five hundred boys in all. Their activities include part time farm and general work and schooling (shades of Deep Springs!) plus organized sports. Except for the sense of restraint coupled with not over gentle masters and none too excellent food, the boys lead a fairly pleasant life.

One's immediate reaction when confronted with his first class is complete surprise at the type of boy in it. Most of mine remind me of the companions I knew in grade school; they seem like normal, pleasant boys. One soon feels, however, in addition to scholastic backwardness, a weakness in their makeup which explains their presence. The only positive opinions I have heard expressed on the efficacy of good works were that "Doing right doesn't pay," and "You get in Dutch trying to help others." The fellow who expressed these ideas has recently spent several weeks in "Segregation", the penal cottage. Moral discussions leave most of the group apathetic, and it is discouraging to anyone who hopes to instill an intelligent faith in decency.

The chief hope of these boys is, naturally, to get home.

Occasionally a more or less violent realization is attempted; last week, for example, two fellows "pulled out," stole a car, and wrecked it in an attempt at a speedy getaway. One of them was caught at the scene of the wreck with a broken nose, while the other managed to escape and get to Washington before being caught. Occasionally boys with good records are allowed to spend a weekend at home, and whether it is that or a final release, it is the first thing they mention in conversation. "This time next week I won't be here." Often the prophecy has to be repeated several times before it comes true, but the boy is always proud of saying it. It gives one pause when one realizes that the home environment for which they long is the chief factor in their presence at Jamesburg. Society has devised no better method for correcting these youngsters than to segregate them with weaklings of their own

kind, to whom they will be drawn in friendship, and then to send them back to the homes that caused their downfall.

For some weeks, we have had in my class a rotation of the duty of saying the final prayer. Sometimes the prayer offered is a memorized selection, but the following original prayers are illustrative of the boys' thought:

"O Lord, we thank thee for this gathering. Help us to be good through the coming week so that we may go home quick."

"Our Father, we thank Thee for the blessings we have. O Lord, help us to do right so that we may go home and help our father and mother. God, make it easier for us when we get home to do right. Amen."

The boy who gave the latter prayer is probably the most interesting in my group. In school work, he is on a par with the rest, but his age (twenty) gives him a certain superiority. He reads a good deal—newspapers, football stories, and the like, and talks interestedly about what he has read. He has, for instance, definite, if not accurate, views upon the Manchurian situation. Indeed his main interest is military affairs and his ambition is to get into the army or navy next fall when he leaves Jamesburg. I think he would be a good, if a rather simple, soldier.

My first experience at the Home was with a group of younger boys, ages eight to twelve. They were very responsive and a few seemed really bright. The next Sunday, when I started in on my present class, I found them reticent, stolid, almost morose. Winning confidence was a difficult task, and I never feel quite successful. One thing one finds is that the boys open up more when modern examples are used than when they hear Bible stories. Dr. Grenfell, Livingstone, and Lincoln mean far more than Peter, John, or Stephen. The Bible stories are all right for the youngsters, still almost in the fairy tale age, but the boys in my class (about sixteen years old) know too much of the modern world to be satisfied with saints. There is one strong reaction, though, that nearly all of them have to the Bible. In a discussion of the character of Christ, they all said they thought of him as "just a common man," "an everyday man." No doubt they have been taught this somewhere, but the fact that it sticks when all the rest slips by is perhaps significant. I doubt whether any of them have much Christian faith, but all, except one, base what little they have on the sacrifice of a man instead of a divinity.

In an attempt to capture interest and confidence, our discussion often strays far afield. Recently, for instance, the possibilities of war were brought up. Immediately, every boy was leaning forward on his chair with

marked attention. Equal interest is shown at the words "suicide" or "electrocution." Naturally, the teacher does not mention such subjects, but the boys often twist a discussion in order to get to them, and related topics.

All in all, I very much enjoy the time I spend at Jamesburg every Sunday. It seems obviously that the problem of aiding these young people is one of the biggest confronting modern society. Although our work here is amateur, I hope through these contacts to get some first-hand information on the problem, and I am grateful for the opportunity.

TOM FAIRCHILD

## Cornell Branch Notes

With the coming of spring to Cornell comes a series of contests; with these contests comes a series of prizes, and to the House, at least for this year, there has come much honor. To Phi Beta Kappa were elected William Kuder, John Burchard, and Donald Read, Mr. Edward A. Filene, the noted Boston philanthropist, conducted two essay contests, in one of which Burchard won a fifty dollar prize, and in the other, Sibbett won a forty dollar prize. The Sibley prize for the most outstanding engineer in the upper classes also went, with thirty dollars, to Sibbett, and this gentleman is now in the finalist group for the Puertes Prize awarded to the winner of an oratorical contest for engineers and architects. Burchard and Read have qualified for the Woodford Public Speaking Stage.

The House enjoyed the visit of Dr. Sidgwick for a few days before and a week following the Spring Recess, and we sincerely hope that he will continue these annual trips which bring him to this country. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer, with their son Bill, spent a day with us recently. Mrs. Sawyer, as many of the older members will remember, is the sister of Jack Hoyt, and Bill is an applicant for Deep Springs. Sid Walcott came down from Buffalo for several days to get the outlook of our Cornell economists on the situation of the country, and we enjoyed seeing him while he was here.

Since the publication of the last News Letter there have been entertained two complete strangers to the House. One was Mr. W. Arnold-Forster, an English pacifist, of international renown, who brought new ideas on a subject close to the heart of many of our members. Our latest guest, and one who arrived this morning accompanied by the mayor and a police escort, is Senor Alfaro, ex-president of Panama and present minister to the United States from that country.

H. W. D.

## Deep Springs Notes

The ranch has practically recovered from the heavy snowstorm of January and the subsequent six weeks of sub-zero weather. The snow has entirely disappeared from the ranch, but still lingers on the high mountains. The water pipes that froze have nearly all been thawed out and relaid when possible to avoid this trouble in the future. The pipes leading to the settling tank for our domestic water froze, and it was necessary to make a connection with the fire system to get water to the main building and kitchen. As it was, we suffered a two-day drought until the change was made. During the first days of the storm, the ranch was filled with hundreds of juncos and other winter birds that were forced out of the mountains by the snow. The extreme cold and difficulty proved fatal to the majority, however. The quail and rabbits seem to have survived as well as possible.

We had a four weeks visit from Chancellor Elmer Johnson starting February 21. He lectured every evening on the English novel, first treating the general phases of the subject and then discussing individual writers. He took authors from Defoe to Hemingway, spending an evening on each person. In addition he had daily classes with the Second and Third year students in English composition. In these, papers written by the students were discussed with especial emphasis on building an adequate vocabulary.

Mr. H. R. Waldo has secured over 250 new phonograph records for the school collection. These are divided between the vocal, instrumental, and orchestral groups, in both acoustical and orthophonic recordings. Records by Rosa Ponselle, Sigrid Onegin, Galli-Curci, Chaliapin, Gigli, Martinelli, McCormack, and Schipa are only a few of the artists which we have gained. In addition there are many fine violin and piano pieces including many new Rachmaninoff and Kreisler pieces. The new records have filled out the collection in those sections where we did not have many good recordings so that we have a much more adequate vocal and instrumental representation. In addition to the increase in the permanent collection, there is a large quantity of popular music of dubious age and character.

We are very glad to report that the earthquake of March 11, 1933, that devastated southern California was not felt here at the ranch. We are very much relieved to hear that none of our families and friends in the affected zone suffered more than slight property damage. Shocks were felt at the ranch during the winter, a particularly hard one being just before the Christmas vacation, that were severe enough to cause a great commotion, but had no permanent results. These shakes were said to be connected with activity centering in

Nevada south of Reno and are independent of the coastal shocks.

Old Deep Springs students will mourn the death of "May", the work-horse who has taught generations of boys how to drive. We have also lost Ragnar Mellin's dog, Toby, who was at least fourteen years old.

The annual spring trip will be taken by the Student Body the first week in April. The trip this year is to Yosemite National Park. The route is via Walker Pass and Bakersfield, and the party expects to be gone a week. Probably about fifteen will go and camp out as usual. The Yosemite trip is a novelty in spring vacations, and will certainly prove very interesting.

Mr. and Mrs. Roderick McKenzie and Roderick Jr. spent a week at the ranch the last part of March. Mrs. McKenzie is Mrs. H. R. Waldo's sister. They own a ranch near Canon City, Colorado. Sherman Watkins, a Deep Springs student of three years ago, visited the school during his spring vacation at Menlo Park Junior College. We have also had the pleasure of having Dean Crawford's family visit us over a couple of week-ends.

On March 19, the geology class took a hike on the west side of Deep Springs Valley, studying formations around Birch Creek. They hiked back by way of Sanger's stamp mill and Mr. Suhr's mine.

Ward Fellows has been made the office man for the last half of the summer and fall term. Frederic Laize and Bonman Campbell will be the summer caretakers for the first and second half respectively.

The Student Body is discontinuing the use of the "Ballot" as they feel that the criticism and comments that form this paper can be better obtained in a more informal manner that will be of more value to both the students and trustees than the old method.

## Books Given to Deep Springs Library 1932-1933

Harvey Mansfield  
 Clarence Yarrow  
 Studies in the Theory of Human Nature ..... Giddings  
 The Story of San Michele .. Munthe  
 Life of Pasteur..... Valley-Radot  
 131 Best Short Stories .....  
 Social Change ..... Ogburn  
 Aeschylus .....  
 Principles of Sociology .. Giddings  
 Understanding Human Nature .. Adler  
 China Yesterday and Today .....  
 The Public and its Government  
 Frankfurter  
 Gold in them Hills .... Glassdock  
 Ted Jarrett  
 The Stars and their Courses .. Jeans  
 Man and Culture ..... Wissler  
 Mr. Gilbert  
 Week-end Library .....  
 Dr. Edmund Burnett  
 Letters of the Continental Congress  
 Burnett  
 Comm. and Mrs. S. F. Bryant

Florence Nightingale ..... Cook  
 Babbitt ..... Lewis  
 Goethe ..... Ludwig  
 Cosmic Consciousness ..... Bucke  
 What We Live By ..... Dimmet  
 20,000 Years in Sing-Sing ... Lawes  
 Ten Greek Plays ..... Murray  
 Rev. John E. Meehan  
 Modern Short Stories .....  
 History and Monuments of Ur .. Gadd  
 Death Comes for the Archbishop  
 Cather

Mr. O. B. Suhr  
 The Price of Freedom .... Coolidge  
 The Outlawry of War .... Morrison  
 The Passing of the Great Race ... Grant  
 New Challenges to Faith .... Eddy  
 The Mind in the Making .. Robinson  
 Manual of Mineralogy ..... Dana  
 The Psychology of Power .. Hadfield  
 Morris Rheingold  
 California Poets .....  
 Mr. H. R. Waldo

Disraeli ..... Maurois  
 Wellington ..... Guedalla  
 Mexico ..... Chase  
 Emerson ..... Van Wyck Brooks  
 Mr. Waldo has also lent the following books from his library

Living Philosophies, A series of  
 Intimate Credos  
 The Meaning of a Liberal Education  
 Martin  
 Persecution and Liberty, Essays in  
 Honor of George Lincoln Burr  
 Roads to Knowledge ..... Neilson  
 Franklin ..... Fay  
 Queen Victoria ..... Stachey  
 Mr. George W. Day gave Dean Crawford \$50.00 to be used for the purchase of books for the library. The following have been purchased with a part of the gift

Psychology ..... Angell  
 Principles and Problems of Right  
 Thinking ..... Burt  
 The Art of Straight Thinking .... Clarke  
 Experiments in Psychology .....  
 Foster and Tinker  
 Great Experiments in Psychology  
 Garrett  
 Applied Psychology .. Hollingsworth  
 and Poffenberger  
 How to Use your Mind .... Kitson  
 Psychology by Experiment .. Kline  
 Psychology, the Science of Mental  
 Life ..... Lund  
 The Mind at Work ..... Lyman  
 Outline of Abnormal Psychology ..  
 McDougal  
 Outline of Abnormal Psychology ..  
 Conklin  
 Textbook of Experimental Psychol-  
 ogy ..... Myers  
 Fundamentals of Psychology .....  
 Pillsbury  
 Experimental Psychology .. Titchener  
 Elementary Experiments in Psy-  
 chology ..... Seashore  
 Social Pathology .. Queen and Mann  
 The Stories of Utopias ... Mumford  
 Human Nature in Politics .. Wallace  
 Unabridged Dictionary ..... Funk  
 and Wagnalls  
 Some psychological and aptitude  
 tests of Stanford University have been  
 purchased from this fund.