

# TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

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Ithaca, New York

December, 1940

## DEEP SPRINGS NOTES

November 15, 1940 by John U. Anderson

Deep Springs made an accurate count of its beef herd on November 1, at which time it had 741 head. Our calf crop was 299 or 77%, and according to cattle men in the Owens Valley, a 75% crop is good for this country. In addition, our range loss of 6 head was surprisingly low. Normal loss is considered to be 5%; 22 head in our case. Mr. Uhlmeier sold 200 calves on November 15 at \$33 a head. He will retain the remainder, some for later sale and some for raising.

The general work crews and farm labor have completed the slaughter house and a cattle guard at the lower ranch, which are now ready for use. The chicken man is raising a fine bunch of chicks in a brooder house he built this fall with general work assistance.

The student body took a trip to Saline Valley on the weekend of November 2. Eighteen of us surrounded a young jackass and Olin tackled it. We named it Babu and we hope to raise it to be a pack ass.

We did not get around to celebrating Hallowe'en until November 16. Proposed dates for the festival varied from October 8 to December 25 with several suggestions for abolition. The entertainment committee eventually sponsored a costume banquet followed by some amusing skits.

Deep Springs is enjoying Mr. E. M. Johnson's lectures on biography. The increased pressure caused by Johnnie's lectures and classes, however, is marked by the doubling of our coffee consumption since his arrival. The average person now drinks a little more than four cups of coffee a day. Individual averages run from 0 to 12 cups a day.

We plan to celebrate Thanksgiving in the usual manner on November 21. It will be a vacation period for the institution and a number of guests have been invited to join in the festivities. The student body will present three plays: *Curse You, Jack Dalton*; *Affair of Dishonor*, and *The Jest of Hahalaba*.

Mr. Silvio Lavatelli was with us one weekend late in October when he gave us an enjoyable 'cello recital. Mr. Donald Grant, a Scotsman sponsored by the Institute of International Education, was here for several days in the week of November 10 to give us a picture of the war and its background. Professor E. T. Beil, head of the mathematics department at Cal Tech, came the following week.

The student body has decided that the *Deed of Trust* is part of its official literature. As it feels that a knowledge of the deed is essential to an understanding of the student body's status, a number of copies are to be printed with a preface and appendices. These will be given to each student along with the traditional *Letters of Mr. L. L. Nunn to the Deep Springs Student Body*.

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## CUSTODIANS MEET

By Robert Sproull

On November 16 the Custodians met in New York City with members of the newly-created Permanent Financial Advisory Committee. The group was especially fortunate to have the advice of Parker Monroe, Si Whitney, and Harvey Mansfield. Others present at the meeting were Jim Withrow, Bill Henley, Fred Bullen, Ed Cronk, and all the Custodians except Mr. Biersach.

The effect on Telluride investments of possible armed intervention by the United States in Europe or Asia was discussed at length. The problem of creating a partial "hedge" against inflation was again considered. It was felt that the eventual collapse of the present armament-inspired boom was the greatest single threat to our investments. Our portfolio was thought to be a poor list with which to enter the expected depression.

Specific securities were discussed in some detail. It was decided to sell our Carborundum holdings; this stock is not one we should like to carry through a depression, and the present level (slightly above our cost) seems to offer an attractive opportunity to sell. It was decided to buy with the proceeds of this sale and with some trust fund cash, United States dollar bonds of the Dominion of Canada or similar bonds guaranteed by the Canadian Government. The issue subsequently decided upon was Canadian National Railways, 4½% bonds due 1957, and \$20,000 face value of these were purchased. It was felt that if Britain were defeated in the present conflict, the United States and the Dominion would be drawn closer together, and that even considering this contingency the bonds were a reasonably safe investment. In the present bond market the return on these securities is rather attractive.

Before the next Custodians meeting our holdings in American Radiator, Baltimore and Ohio, Pullman, North American, and the real estate companies were to be studied; it was felt that it might be wise to sell some of these securities this winter. It was suggested that the next meeting with the Permanent Financial Advisory Committee be held fairly soon, and that another be held at Ithaca in the spring.

### DEEP SPRINGS COTTAGE FUND

Cost of Cottage .....	\$11,000
Appropriated by Conventions ....	\$6,000
Contributed or Pledged	
by Alumni and Members .....	4,660      10,660
Balance to be Contributed .....	\$ 340



## PUBLIC SPEAKING

In accordance with a resolution passed during the last minutes of the 1940 Convention, Cornell Branch, at the initiative of Chancellor Elmer Johnson, employed for the first three weeks of public speaking the services of Mr. Lawrence Henry Mouat, instructor in the Public Speaking department of Cornell University.

The seven or eight speeches of each evening were followed by exhaustive criticisms of their form, content, and presentation, entailing at times a repetition of certain of the talks, remodeled in accordance with the emendations of Mr. Mouat. In addition, Mr. Mouat found it necessary to hold several individual conferences with most of the House members that he might deal in more detail with certain speech impedimentae, dialectal difficulties, and unfortunate platform mannerisms, and suggest various corrective oral exercises, the echos of which have scarcely yet died out.

Although many no doubt feel that they have benefited from Mr. Mouat's expert advice, the Branch has refrained from taking any formal action, either approving or condemning this experiment as a precedent for future years.

## BRANCH GUESTS

Guests at the Branch have been numerous and varied during the Fall months. Professor Henning Larsen of the English department of the University of Illinois was the guest of the House for a long weekend in October. A Colonel and Mrs. Furlong were surprise guests the following weekend. Colonel Furlong, who was formerly with the Army intelligence staff and is now something of an artist, explorer, author and lecturer, gave a short talk on the Near East.

Jascha Heifetz and Immanuel Bay, his accompanist, were entertained informally by the Branch following the Heifetz concert on November 12. Professor Kemp Malone of the Johns Hopkins University English department spent the day at the House while in Ithaca for a lecture on "Saxon England." Professor H. Lauterpacht, an authority on international law, from Cambridge University, was the guest of the branch during the first week in December. Professor George Calhoun of the University of Calhoun also visited the House during the same week. Dr. Peter Drucker, author of one of the really penetrating analyses of Nazism, was the guest of the Branch for two days while in Ithaca for his December 9 lecture on the Campus Forum Series.

Association members have also visited the Branch. William Spalding took time off from graduate work at Harvard to pay a short visit to Cornell early in October. Mr. and Mrs. James Withrow spent a weekend at the House late in October. William Bowman has ventured forth from Massena, New York and the American Aluminum Company twice to spend weekends at the Branch. Former Branch guest Jack Hoyt visited the House early in November, accompanied by Mrs. Hoyt and their two young daughters. Parker Bailey spent a few days at the Branch late in October, followed in November by a Washington delegation of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Sibbett and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Morrison Rutherford, c/o Cornell University Medical School, 1300 York Avenue, New York City.

W. V. Ellms, 215 S. Fenway, Casper, Wyoming.

## DR. SIGERIST

One of the indisputable highlights of life at the branch this year was the three weeks' stay in November of Dr. Henry E. Sigerist, William H. Welch Professor of American History at Johns Hopkins University, who was the Messenger lecturer at Cornell this fall. Mr. Sigerist's six lectures at the university dealt with various aspects of the general topic, *Disease and Civilization*.

During his visit at Telluride House, the members of the Branch discovered to their delight that Dr. Sigerist had, in addition to an authoritative command of all aspects of medicine and medical history, a vast fund of information and interest about the various particular fields attracting the endeavors of Branch men, such as art, music, literature, government, and economics. Since this was accompanied by a willingness to enter into long discussions with members, the intellectual stimulus of Dr. Sigerist's visit was great and wholly salutary. Conversation at table, as well as the more intent gatherings in the main room, made rapid strides towards the ideal goal. On the whole, the topic claiming the largest amount of attention, naturally enough, was that of the war and the general European economic and social structure, the more advanced political and economic theorists of the house wholly delighted with Dr. Sigerist's views, and even the most backward greeting his analysis with respect.

By the end of the three weeks, the contribution Dr. Sigerist made to house life had assumed such proportions that, although the last evening was made almost merry by the doctor's taking many flash-bulb pictures of the members as they indulged in such typical house activities as listening to records, playing in musical ensembles of piano, French horn, and guitar, and reading in the library, the final leave-taking was accompanied by a feeling of regret, so much so that several contemplate taking advantage of Dr. Sigerist's blanket invitation to visit him whenever any of us are near the city of Baltimore.

The three weeks was excellent proof of the value and pleasure that distinguished guests can bring to Branch life, and its aura of high stimulation, it is to be hoped, will reflect over the rest of the year.

## ATHLETIC PROWESS

The house football team made a good showing in inter-fraternity touch football this year. The team won every game it played in its league and entered the play-offs unscored upon, to be defeated by Sigma Phi, the cup winner, 12 to 0. Cronk, Beal, and Horsfall played in the backfield, and the line, averaging 180 pounds, was made up of Gustafson, Toole, Johnston, Henderson, Sproull, Spalding, Todd, Tucker, and Ennis. Our men could find no fault with the umpires this year, one of whom was asked by an opponent after a decision if he was looking for a scholarship.

## FLY-TRAP LUNCH

The following Alumni and members of the Association ate lunch together at the Fly Trap Restaurant in San Francisco on October 29: Dr. R. B. Aird, E. A. Boyd, Capt. R. LaT. Cavanaugh, W. W. Clark, D. W. Falconer, H. G. Hayes, E. M. Johnson, A. H. Kiplinger, R. N. Kleps, W. C. Layton, Rev. J. E. Meehan.

### THE VISIT OF JOHN JACOB NILES

The weekend visit to Telluride House of John Jacob Niles, American balladeer and Kentucky farmer, proved to be one of the most entertaining periods of the fall term. Mr. Niles lectured at the university on *The English Ballad in America*, and in addition gave a concert of songs at Willard Straight. Mr. Niles is an authority on ballads and general folk-music in America, having had, in addition to several volumes of published songs, an album of his songs issued in the Victor Musical Masterpieces series.

On the first night of his visit, at which time he was accompanied by his wife, Mr. Niles gave an impromptu concert for the gathering in the living room, demonstrating the playing of his four large, strange and beautiful dulcimers, which rare instruments Mr. Niles makes himself. This concert was particularly enjoyable in that Mr. Niles felt able to sing several amusing ballads generally omitted from ordinary concerts. At several other times during his stay, he played and sang several numbers, once giving a preview of the songs in his newest album, soon to be issued by Victor. In addition to his musical contributions, Mr. Niles also enlivened the house with tales of the problems of farming in the Kentucky hills, and of his experiences as lieutenant in the Air Corps during the last war.

### TWO-PIANO WORK BY PARKER BAILEY INTRODUCED IN NEW YORK

Arthur Loesser and Beryl Rubinstein, at their Town Hall recital on October 25, gave the first New York performance of Parker Bailey's *Prelude and Fugue* on the Bach chorale, "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme." This two-piano work was written last winter.

It will be recalled that Andrew and Ida Haigh, formerly of Ithaca, performed a similar work of Parker's at Town Hall in the fall of 1939: his *Toccata-Ricercata-Finale* on the Bach chorale, "Singt dem Herrn ein Neues Lied."

### ARRIVALS AND EXPECTATIONS

The fall of 1940 has marked several additions to the ever-growing Telluride clan. President Robley Williams and wife have become the parents of a child who is to bear the suffix "Junior," and a very small boy has joined the Goldwin Smiths in their Iowa home. More recently, Louise and Ward Fellows announced the birth of Wilfred Louise on November 16.

From California scouts come the following rumors: the Robert Gorrells are expecting the stork rather than Santa Claus around Christmas, while the Henry Gillespie Hayes (III) have great expectations of the month of February.

### CHARLES COLLINGWOOD

Rhodes Scholar Charles Collingwood has been working in the London office of the United Press Service during the recent eventful months. He finds himself unable to understand the seeming nonchalance with which Londoners have endured the daily bombings of the English capital. It is rumored that in the near future Collingwood may return to the United States to continue his studies in law.

### DEEP SPRINGS NOTES

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Leo Lavatelli is now head barber at Deep Springs. He has run all the student barbers out of business and even the dean is hanging on by a bare thread.

The photographic committee has presented a number of commercial movies this fall for which attendance was much better than the movies warranted. People are evidently averse to embarrassing the committee.

Deep Springs is continuing the practice of having a long Christmas vacation which proved so successful last year. When vacation begins on December 14 everyone will probably be quite ready for the respite, and when we reconvene on January 13, we expect to have no trouble settling down once more.

### BRANCH ENTERTAINMENT

Zest and enthusiasm have been characteristic of the Fall entertainment at the Branch, but certain ragged spots have been apparent. The more strictly social functions have been unusually successful, and it is probably safe to say that most outside and faculty guests have enjoyed their visits to the House. Sunday dinner entertainment has been entered into with enjoyment. The more informal entertaining of faculty on week nights proved very satisfactory, although the interviewing of undergraduate guest applicants has presented a temporary "bottleneck."

The two informal dances of October 19 and November 16 were well attended and proved thoroughly enjoyable. A faculty beer and poker party on November 30 was a definite success, with about 15 guests attending. A sleigh ride and evening of dancing at Mount Pleasant Lodge is planned for the Saturday night before Christmas.

Only two Sunday Evening Entertainments have been held since Professor Thompson's talk early in October. Colonel Furlong's remarks on the "Near East" was met with mingled emotions. Dr. Sigerist's analysis of the present developments in Europe was remarkably stimulating and easily the most worthwhile function of the year.

### ARCHIVES AND RECORDS

Received this month from Dr. Henry E. Sigerist were three of his books: *The Great Doctors*, *Socialized Medicine in the Soviet Union*, and *American Medicine*. For the record library he sent also recordings of Brahms' *Fourth Symphony*, Beethoven's *Quartet, Opus 131*, and Bach's *Concerto in E Major for Violin and Orchestra*.

From Dr. Victor Lange, resident at the House last year, the Branch received recordings of Debussy's *Pelleas et Melisande*, Franck's *Prelude, Chorale, and Fugue*, and Prokofieff's *Peter and the Wolf*.

Michel Kunic has given the Branch a recording of Tchaikowsky's *Capriccio Italien*.

Bruce Netschert has given the Branch one of his chimes recordings.

### NECROLOGY

Charles Mack, of Boise, Idaho, died suddenly in mid-October. Mr. Mack was a close friend of the Telluride group during the construction and operation days in the Boise area.