HE-HAW! HE-HAW!

American Legion Attempt to Stop Kate O'Hare Fails Utterly; Miners at Clarksville Hold Monster Meeting Despite Threats.

When Kate O'Hare visited the Spadra coal fields the union miners arranged four mass meetings for her at Montana, Coal Hill, Paris, and Clarksville. The first three were successful, but quite commonplace. All arrangements were made for the meeting to be held in the Court House Square at Clarksville. Then some belligerent gentleman raised his voice and howled and the reverberations shook the whole valley.

Some members of the American Legion objected to Mrs. O'Hare speaking. It seems that the Post would not act, so they sought out some woman's club and induced it to pass a resolution that she should not be permitted to speak in Clarksville. The County Judge and the Sheriff delivered the resolution to the district president of the United Mine Workers and scuttled back to town.

And, as one old miner said, "Hell shore popped in Spadra valley." Trucks and flivvers and automobiles—everything that could be made to run—were rolled out and the miners [continued on Page 2]

COMMONWEALTH CHEESE

Cheese of our own make is now being served on Commonwealth's community table.

Every second morning Zeuch fills the milk-vat with the surplus from the dairy, and in about an hour he turns out a five pound cheese. These are cured for two weeks and then given a thick coating of paraffin and stored in the cellar for future use. The cheeses on the rack in the cellar resemble nothing so much as a stack of marble-iced cakes. They present a very tempting array to visitors who invariably insist on buying one as soon as they see them. We do not like to be discourteous, and once in a while we relent and allow one to be taken along.

There is no artificial coloring used, but since a large portion of whole milk is used they turn out a rich cream color. Fanciers pronounce them of excellent flavor.

Flee, Oh Ye Joyous!

(a fragment)

By H. F.

Flee—Oh ye joyous!

Gather about you your garments of freedom,
O aesthetes!
Wrap securely your dreams and ideals,
And flee.

Flee to new planets, new worlds,
with your visions.
The steady, relentless march
Of death and destruction
Will tear them from you—
Fibre from fibre,
Atom from atom,
Vision from vision—
Leaving you naked,
Bloodless, Alone.
Flee—Oh ye joyous!

TERROR!

To crush the miners of Spadra, Arkansas, a host of thugs and gunmen have been imported from the worst sections of West Virginia, and the jails and prisons have sent their most degraded specimens of humanity; male and female. They camp in the deserted cabins of the miners, and drink and carouse and spew their vile ness and indecencies over the lives of the miners' children.

Some of our radical friends have been deeply concerned because they feared that in the peace and quiet and surpassing beauty of Commonwealth's rural location we would lose sight of the class struggle and become more sentimentalis. No fear of that! There is no place so beautiful or secluded that one can escape the grim tragedies of labor's struggles for the better and richer life.

Recently a battered Ford drove down Pinewood Pike at sunset and two battle scarred veterans of the labor movement came seeking aid and comfort of Commonwealth, and of those who have made Commonwealth the foremost labor college of the land. These emissaries of the United Mine Workers of America told us that in Spadra, semi-anthracite coal fields which have been solidly organized since 1898, a desperate battle was on to destroy the union and put [continued on Page 4]

THE KIRKPATRICKS AS STAFF LECTURERS

Will Spend a Quarter At Commonwealth Next Year

Dr. John E. Kirkpatrick and his wife, Bertha Hyde Kirkpatrick, who spent a month at Commonwealth last winter will return the coming school year to spend a quarter as lecturers.

Dr. Kirkpatrick will give a laboratory course on "The National Period" in United States history and a course of lectures on: "Contemporary Governments" dealing largely with the new governmental forms that have emerged in Europe and Asia during the past ten years. Mrs. Kirkpatrick will give a reading and lecture course on "The Social Significance of Modern Science."

The Kirkpatricks are well-known as educators. Dr. Kirkpatrick is the author of one of the New Republic series entitled, "The American College and Its Rulers." Mrs. Kirkpatrick has had many years' experience as a science instructor. Last winter they visited Commonwealth and became so much interested in the educational experiment that they wished to return to give some time to the furtherance of the project, as well as to study and observe it further in operation.

MURPHIES ALIAS SPUDS

For two days—and a large portion of two nights—ten men and two teams were busy the first week in June plowing out, picking up, and hauling from the fields, Commonwealth's spring crop of Irish pota toes.

The crop this year was fairly good. Six truck loads were taken to Mena and sold to the commission men at four and one-half cents a pound. This is the best price for early potatoes that we have received since we settled in this region.

About fifty bushels were reserved for home use, and to plant back in July for the fall crop. In this section of Arkansas it is nearly always possible to get two crops of Irish potatoes each growing season.

Sweet potatoes will be a good crop this year if present indications materialize. Commonwealth has planted heavily, but our new potato dryer will care for them.
Commonwealth College
Fortnightly

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sas, by Commonwealth College, a school for
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Signed articles express only individual
opinions.

Editors, particularly of labor and farmer
papers, are welcome to make free use of
material appearing in these columns. A line
crediting the Commonwealth College Fort­
nightly will be appreciated.

Vol. III, No. 13 July 1, 1927

WHAT IS COMMONWEALTH COLLEGE?

Commonwealth was organized in 1923 to
provide education for workers on a self-
supporting basis.

Commonwealth is located in the Ouachita
Mts., near Mena, Ark., where it operates
agricultural and other basic industries by
means of 4 hours' daily labor from its
students and teachers.

Commonwealth seeks to develop in its
young men and women of the working
class the capacity to serve the labor
movement.

Commonwealth is a non-sectarian, non-
propaganda institution. It sponsors no
particular religions, political, or economic
dogma. It holds that scientific experimenta­
tion carries the only hope of ad­
justment or solution of personal and so­
cial problems.

Commonwealth is the only educational
institutions for higher education where both teachers
and students earn their maintenance by
part-time labor while engaged in aca­
demic work.

The Meaning of Mistakes in Intelligence Tests

By F. M. GOODHUE

Instructor in Science and Statistics.

I.

How would you answer this? A
man walks west from his house eight
blocks and then east five blocks. How
far is he from his house?

You probably will give the
correct answer without hesitation,
but if you say "Thirteen," as once
did forty-three out of forty-five
grammar school pupils, all old
enough to know better, then you
may felicitate yourself on evidencing
the same reasoning ability that
they did, that is, very poor. There
is no catch in this problem. It is very
simple, and a moment's reflection
solves it.

There seems to be a tendency in
American youth to side-step even a
small amount of mental labor by
blunting out the fully answered
question, striking the idea that
comes to mind and taking a chance
that it will be correct. A psycholo­
gical condition is here indicated,
wholly wrong, and one that should
be corrected. If the individual mak­
ing this mistake was capable of even
elementary analysis he certainly did
not use that faculty, and to permit
such carelessness to appear is but
a forerunner of a further weakening
that will in time perhaps result in
its extinction.

Many educators and psychologists,
studying the general problem,
have invented what are called intel­
gence and grade tests, of various
forms, covering nearly the entire
field of academic and college work.
Perhaps the first appearing in this
work were the Edison and the Army
tests. They certainly focussed pub­
ic attention upon this new phase of
investigation.

As a practical educator, the writ­
er, while not taking issue with the
tests, or their purposes as such, is
focusing on the errors made by the
parties tested than in the
grades or ranks established. What
an individual knows he knows,
and while it is admitted that his standing
in general is indicated by the
quality or number of questions he
can answer, it is also held that a high
degree of illumination as to his men­
tal abilities, or perhaps their quali­ties,
is given by an analysis of his
mistakes. Of course questions or
problems not attempted hold no im­
portance, except the minor imputa­
tion that the pupil evaded them as
being too difficult, and the issue is so
dimly indicated as to this that it is
to better it drop entirely.

A study and analysis of these mis­
takes will indicate to a high degree
what a pupil lacks, and therefore
needs, in his ability to correlate or
co-ordinate, deduce or analyse, the
meaning of his comprehension or ob­
servation, his understanding of the
meaning of words and sentences, etc.
Of course, some of these are but dif­
ter aspects of the same thing, but
such a differentiation will probably be
found helpful. The extension and
explanation possible in this study is
almost without limit, but practical­
ly, at least for the time being, the
divisions here indicated are believed
be sufficient.

The practical application of all
this, is that if an individual shows by his
mistakes that he does not under­
stand the meaning of words and
phrases he should be advised to return to the elementary
studies until he shows that he does:
if careless or haphazard in his ob­
servation he should certainly be
trained to be more careful; if lame
in analysis or deduction the remedy
is indicated.

III.

Perhaps a practical demonstration
will serve better to explain what has
been said. The following problem
is an actual example taken from a
well-known test: "If these words
were rearranged to make a good sen­
tence, with what letter would the
last word begin? 'Nuts from squirrels
trees the gather.' " If the exami­
nate submits as an answer the word
"trees" it is evident that his analysis
is correct, but his observation fa­
ulty; if an n or r or s or d or e or
analyzes was not good and careless¬
ness in arrangement is evident, and so
on.

Take this instance: "Food is to
the body as ? to an engine? wheels
fuel, smoke, motion, fire." Any other
answer than "fuel" show at once a
deficiency in correlation.

It is believed that enough has been
said to show the meaning of this
article. Perhaps a statement of the
actual results of an examination
fifteen pupils, all over fifteen years
of age, may serve to show the prac­
ticality of an analysis of their mis­
takes.

In the examination referred to the
average number of question correctly
answered was seventy-six; average
number incorrectly answered,
twelve and one-half; - a fairly high
degree of attainment, as to intelli­
gence and mentality, as the per­
centage of correct answers is eighty-six.
But, as in other matters, the imper­
fections shows where improvement
can be made. For instance, where
pure analysis was necessary there
were four and one-half (average)

[Continued on Page 3]
Mistakes In Tests

[Continued from Page 2]

mistakes to the pupil. The individual making the highest number scored twelve, one had one, several had two, other single individuals had three, four, five, eight, and nine each. Is it not evident that the twelve, nine, eight mistake, pupils need more practice in careful thinking of a definite trend or characteristic? Enough has been said to illustrate the point and a statement of the errors to the pupil will close this article.

Number of errors: Comprehension, average 1.5-5; highest, 6; lowest, 0. Correlation, average, 3.94; highest, 7; lowest, 1. Arrangement, average, 1.4-6; highest, 7; lowest, 0. Deduction, average, 1; highest, 2; lowest, 0.

What possibilities this offers to the educator can not but be feebly visioned. An entire class can be almost exactly placed as to its capability and needs in contrast with a similar class; schools can be compared, and individuals may be better understood and advised through this power of the Onpower washer. Enough has been said to illustrate the point and thanks, friends.

Society Notes

[Continued from Page 1]

Rub-a-Dub-Dub. The rub-a-dub-dub days are over at Commonwealth. It is now swish-a-swish-swish. The old fashioned wash tub and wash board have given way to one of the Hang Onpower washers. Last wash day Kate and Stein put through a wash in two hours that would have taken at least a day and a half or two days under the old method. The Onpower washer will put through about sixty pounds of dry clothing an hour. Two students tending the machine two afternoons a week will in future be able to take care of the Commonwealth laundry during the school year. This will be a great labor-saving.

We anticipate that there will be considerable competition among the students next year for the laundry job.

Ducks. Professor Goodhue has been completing the surveying for the power plant. Dr. Zueh has been acting as aid. It is a "sight for sair een" to see these staid instructors wading about in the creek. At times Zueh will be standing neck deep in a pool holding the rod while Goodhue, up to his waist in water, will be peering through the transit and wig wagging his arms in signals; as it would be difficult to make his voice carry above the roar of the rapids. When they return to the campus with their wet clothing clinging close as bark to a tree they are more or less animated proof of the falsity of that old canard that Commoners practice as a sign of leisure.

Aufwiedersehen. Mildred Koch and Claire Jaiven, who have been students at Commonwealth, the former for three years and the latter for two years, started recently to hitch-hike to their homes in Cincinnati and New York City respectively. Cards sent back enroute report plenty of hitches, many interesting experiences, and much fun. Mildred expects to go into industry. Claire will return to work in the garment trade.

Snakes. With the coming of the rains and the warm days the snakes have been making their appearance on the campus more often than usual. Victor Aronson, who knows not the snakes of this region, picks them up by their tails and carries them about at arms length from cabin to cabin until he gets them named and classified. Then he leaves them loose, for they are harmless and valuable snakes. Occasionally Prof. Goodhue brings in a big rattler from the mountains, or a neighbor down in the valley may kill a good sized copperhead, but we have never yet found a poisonous reptile in the village.

Thanks, Friends

Prof. Charles A. Ellwood, Columbia, Mo., two books.
Mary B. Horton, Arkansas City, Kansas, $5.00.
V. R. Lovell, Fargo, N. D., $10.00.
Albert F. Green, M. D., Cleveland, Ohio, $5.00.
Robert J. Halsey, Needles, Calif., $5.00.
C. Stimson, Holly, Colo., $5.00.

He-Haw!

He-Haw! and their families were piled into them. Every man that could toot a horn or pound a drum was rounded up and loaded on trucks. Damrosch or Sousa might have criticized the quality of that band's music, but none could deny the quantity. At the head of more than three hundred cars, loaded to their last inch of running-board space, and headed by the tootigest band ever assembled, headed for Clarksville with flags flying. They packed the Court House Square while the band tooted defiance.

Mrs. O'Hare was introduced, and as she started speaking the County Judge interrupted and stated that the American Legion objected to the meeting being held, and that he now ordered Mrs. O'Hare not to address the crowd. The operators' representatives and the scabs and gunmen were on hand, but so was about three thousand miners and their wives. As soon as the Judge made his announcement he skittered off like a scared rabbit, and it looked for a moment as though a riot was coming. But before the angry crowd produced a leader, or a gun-man had nerve enough to make a move, Mrs. O'Hare quietly stepped forward and put the matter to a popular vote.

"All in favor of supporting the constitution of the United States and protecting the right of free speech stand up." And the crowd stood up and shouted until the Court House Clock tried to hide its face with its hands. "All in favor of permitting the American Legion to decide who shall speak and what the citizens of Arkansas may listen to, stand up."

No one stood up, and Mrs. O'Hare continued her speech without further interruption. When she finished the parade formed once more, circled the Square, and paraded the streets with the band tooting defiance. Two donkeys who thought that their bray could frighten three thousand hardened, hard-boiled coal miners who wanted to listen to a speech.

The miners report: "It was sure some speech." And it must have been, for when they drove home, sunburned to the delicate timbre of a boiled lobster, she was as hoarse as a frog with a sore throat, but she wore the satisfied grin of a cat that had just dined on a canary.

Even in hell the peasant will have to serve the landlord, for, while the latter is boiling in a cauldron the former will have to put wood under it.—Russian proverb.

To live is like to love—all reason is against it, and all healthy instinct for it.—Samuel Butler.
Terror!

[Continued from Page 1]

the field on an open-shop basis. The fight has been on for several weeks. It has been long, nerve-wracking struggle and some of the more hard pressed miners were beginning to lose heart. "Would Miss Kate please come over and hearten the women folks a bit and put some pep into them?"

Miss Kate would. The Chrysler was given a drink and Kate O'Hare and Lady Lou sallied forth to the coal fields; stopping overnight at Fort Smith, the guest of the president of the Arkansas State Federation of Labor, Jack Adams.

It is a marvelously beautiful trip from Commonwealth to Spadra. Round the nose of old Rich mountain, through the Forest Reserve, across the Poteau river, over the Huntington hills and into Ft. Smith. From Ft. Smith the road winds through the hills and into the rich peach and grape lands about Ozark. There is a stiff climb over a mountain range, and the road drops down into the valley of coal. This valley, too, was once beautiful, but man's greed for the wealth hidden under the smiling hills has soiled and scarred the natural beauty. The streams that once ran crystal clear over the shining pebbles are now choked with great "Culm" piles, and filthy with the black water pumped from the mines. The great tipples leer like mammoth gibbets, and the ugly company shacks are stuck about on the hillsides like warts.

And the class struggle is relentlessly waged there in that shut away valley in Arkansas with all its grim, yet sublime, tragedy. Stern faced, somber-eyed men trudge through the coal blackened dust of the highway, or rattle by in ancient flivvers; always alert, uneasy and hurried. They only leave their homes when necessity compels. They watch theIr solemn-eyed men trudge through the way, or rattle by in ancient flivvers; and, flourishing their weapons, enter the high gate of the mine yard. They only leave their homes when necessity compels. They watch theIr solemn-eyed men trudge through the way, or rattle by in ancient flivvers; and, flourishing their weapons, enter the high gate of the mine yard.

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The "Straw bosses," or scab herd­ers, roar up and down the highways in their high-powered cars with a grammar at the wheel and sawed-off shotgun prominently displayed. The strike-breakers swagger about with great "gats" dangling at their hips, and make indecent exposures of their persons, and fling vile insults at the wives and daughters of the miners as they pass.

In the road, beside the mine that has been chosen by the coal opera­tors to establish the open-shop conditions, the pickle line begins to gather at five-thirty each morning. The fire is kindled under the great iron kettle to boil the coffee. Some of the older women arrive with meat and bread for sandwiches; and then the young girls bring the cookies and the cup-cakes they have baked; and the community takes its breakfast there on the pickle line. Garnled old men with powder marked faces and mutilated hands, wheezing with miner­ists, give young workers the technical training that will turn them out as labor organizers, labor journalists, labor statisticians, labor teachers, or labor lawyers, but it aims also to give them such training in the field of the social studies as will give them an understanding and appreci­ation of the chief cultural streams that have enriched our common life. Commonwealth feels that no person is fit for service in the labor move­ment who does not have a solicitous sympathy for as well as a compre­hensive knowledge of cultural values. A highly efficient though uncul­tured proletarian in a place of lea­dership could hardly be trusted to conserve our cultural heritage.

Those who are interested merely in an inexpensive education are not the people that Commonwealth wishes to serve. The teachers at Commonwealth are giving their time and energy to promote education for a labor purpose. They believe that the greatest need in the labor movement is an efficient and cultured group devoted to the furthering of all labor activities. The Commoners wish to minister to that need and that need alone.

Good and Welfare

The Last Order of Business

By NAZARETH DAWN

A Labor School.

Commonwealth receives letters almost every day from people who have the mistaken notion that it is just an inexpensive school for poor students. This idea has been spread because of syndicated newspaper feature stories about the school which failed to state the reason for its existence.

Commonwealth has one chief pur­pose and that is to train young work­ers for efficient service in some branch of the labor movement. Commonwealth is not particularly con­cerned about what branch of the la­bor movement its students wish to serve so long as such service is in line with their convictions. In the student body are persons with all sorts of labor backgrounds and all sorts of labor purposes. Each is trying to equip himself more fully for the things he wants to do.

Commonwealth aims not only to give young workers the technical training that will turn them out as labor organizers, labor journalists, labor statisticians, labor teachers, or labor lawyers, but it aims also to give them such training in the field of the social studies as will give them an understanding and appreci­ation of the chief cultural streams that have enriched our common life. Commonwealth feels that no person is fit for service in the labor move­ment who does not have a solicitous sympathy for as well as a compre­hensive knowledge of cultural values. A highly efficient though uncul­tured proletarian in a place of lea­dership could hardly be trusted to conserve our cultural heritage.

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The class struggle? Oh yes, the class struggle rages in Arkansas; and there is no danger that we will be permitted to forget it.