CUNNINGHAMS ARRIVE, TAKE UP RESIDENCE

Instructor in Journalism and Wife Settle Down in Commonwealth Cottage

William and Clarice Cunningham, Oklahomans born and bred, hitch-hiked in the latter part of August, took possession of Luna Lodge on the edge of the precipice, and set about adjusting themselves to the life of our educational guild.

William or "Bill" who will take charge of the course in Journalism is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, and during the past ten years he has done a variety of things aside from taking a formal university education. He has been a farm hand, editor of a small town newspaper, dishwasher, high school teacher, teaching fellow at the university, editorial assistant at the Haldeman-Julius plant, and editorial assistant on the staff of the Illinois Miner. He has published a number of poems and magazine articles, and several Little Blue Books.

Clarice, who has done all sorts of

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ZEUCH SPENDS WEEK AT HILLSDALE CONFERENCE

A week at the educational section of the annual conference of The Fellowship for a Christian Social Order, held at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan, was the main objective of Director Zeuch's seventeen-day absence from Commonwealth. He left August 17th with Dr. E. C. Wilson, of Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia, and Chester Ramsay, in Dr. Wilson's automobile. They arrived after three days motoring at Hillsdale, where Zeuch remained until August 24th. During that time he addressed the conference on the Commonwealth idea of education, and took part in the general discussion.

After leaving the conference, Zeuch went with John E. Kirkpatrick to Olivet, Michigan, where he visited at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick over the weekend. Proceeding to Chicago, he spent four days with friends of Commonwealth College. He returned September 3rd.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Sometimes we who are behind the scenes here at Commonwealth wonder if those whom we ask to share with us this adventure in labor education, are actually seeing the really human and interesting activity which takes place "back stage."

For instance: at the present time the show bill runs: "You friends of Commonwealth, please send us your check for $50 as a supplementary student scholarship for one student for one year, or $25 for a half year."

This doesn't sound very interesting does it? But now come with us back stage, to the college office and files.

From one of last year's most promising young trade union women students who has spent the entire summer attempting to save this fall's tuition we have a letter dated, June 22, 1927.

"To my regret I must admit to the failure on my part for not being in a position to obtain the necessary amount to take me back to Commonwealth College. Conditions for the working class have never been good, at present I should judge they are worse than ever. At least, in my trade, one can hardly earn a living."

Hoping some friend would realize such a need, and furnish a

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KATE O'HARE STIRS LABOR DAY CROWD

Delivers the Labor Address at the Louisiana State Fair

"From a labor organization standpoint, probably the best speech of the day was delivered by Mrs. O'Hare, for it was an organized labor talk," says the Shreveport Daily Times of September 6th in its front page story of her Labor Day address at the Louisiana State Fair.

"Mrs. O'Hare," continues the same paper, "tall, magnetic, and the possessor of a splendid speaking voice and with a full knowledge of her subject, "The Curse of Cheap Labor," had her audience right with

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STUDENTS COME BY TWOS AND THREES

Syracuse Girl Makes Commonwealth In Six-Day Hike

Singly and in twos, by hitch-hiking and by trains, students are coming to Commonwealth. The opening of school may still be three weeks off, yet old-timers and new initiates are already showing up on the campus; the old-timer impatient for the old swimmin' hole, the Arkansas square, and, not least of all, the "old folks down on the farm;" the new initiate uneasy for fear that Commonwealth may turn out to be simply a puckish figment of his imagination.

While the new student rarely has failed to become a Commoner almost immediately upon his arrival he has not hitherto been known to achieve that state of camaraderie upon acceptance of application. Charlotte Moskowitz, a Syracuse newcomer, no sooner was informed of her acceptance than she instantly got in touch with old-timers and induced one

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MOORE FINDS CONFIDENCE GREATER THAN LAST YEAR

A new attitude of confidence in the college is apparent to an outsider, according to Dr. S. H. Moore, of the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, who recently visited Commonwealth. "It is plain that you no longer regard your institution as a temporary thing," he declared.

Dr. Moore first visited Commonwealth a year ago and at that time was impressed with the spirit and the aims of the school. However, the eight or nine buildings and the meager equipment in other respects was not taken as sufficient evidence, he thought, to convince an outsider that the institution was permanent. Returning a year later, he found more than twenty buildings and a similar gain in equipment. This growth in the physical plant, he observed, has been paralleled by a growth in confidence and self-confidence of the individual students responsible for Commonwealth.

"Your attitude displays your

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From Democracy To Responsibility

By WILLIAM EDWARD ZEUCH

I

There is a growing feeling that democracy has failed. There is an increasing realization that somehow democratic theory is basically unsound. The rebirth of political democracy a hundred and fifty years or so ago was hailed as the hope of the world. Today it is doubted and discarded. Soviet Russia flouts "bourgeois" democracy as a curse to the working class and embraces a dictatorship of the proletariat, a dictatorship that is really an oligarchy made up of a relatively few Communist Party members and which exercises the sovereignty in the name of and presumably in the interests of all and in all the nations there are dictatorships as absolute as that in Russia administered by fewer persons and in the interests of other classes. No one has greater scorn for democracy in theory and practice than our Mussolinis.

Historically, democracy has never been much more than a sham. Small groups with like interests or with interests that were not antagonistic have run the State despite all the democratic forms evolved. As a matter of fact little inside cliques run all so-called democratic organizations. This is as true of Trade Unions, Rotaries, D. A. R.'s, and Chambers of Commerce as it is of the Democratic Party in New York, the Republican Party in Pennsylvania, and the Socialist Party in Milwaukee.

II

The advocates of democracy have assumed that for all practical political and economic purposes the individuals who make up the State, a fraternal society, or an industrial organization are of a somewhat equal mental endowment. There was some excuse for that error a hundred and fifty years ago when there was little general education. The protagonists for democracy could not see then that the differences they observed were not all due to differences in opportunity. They thought that democracy would wipe out artificial differences due to inequalities of opportunity and that then every citizen would be the equal of every other in his capacity for democracy.

But the inauguration of democratic forms did not lead to the idealized democracy in practice. The grant of political power to the masses did not lead to their appreciation of that power and to their using it to rise to political supremacy. An intelligent, self-seeking minority ran the democratic state as it had run the monarchical state. The forms of democracy did not bring the substance.

III

Very early in the era of general public education educators began to realize that there were great differences in the innate mental capacities of individuals who were called normal that no amount of education could wipe out. Differences were not only a matter of opportunity.

Modern psychology, in so far as it has spoken at all on the subject, for the most part has affirmed the existence of inherent differences in the intellectual capacities of individuals. What the educator found out from his teaching experience the psychologist has been trying to measure. For all practical purposes it makes little difference as to the causes of these innate differences in mental capacity. The important fact for our democratic theory and our political state is that they do exist. Such being the case it is little wonder that real democracy has not materialized. It is a further wonder that anyone fully realizing the insurmountable innate differences in the capacities of individuals would expect democracy to materialize.

IV

The alternative to democracy is some form of responsibility. While our Mussolinis, Horthy, Riveras, and the Bolsheviks would solve the problem of responsibility by dictatorships, with at best a very restricted electorate, it is probable that dictatorships are too inflexible and too incapable of making a place for capable men to become a permanent form of government by responsibility.

The problem of getting over from our present sham democracy to a socially responsible government is a difficult one. In the first place we have no adequate governmental form yet worked out for a socially responsible government. We have been experimenting with commissions, delegated managerships, etc. There is a sort of blind social groping for right methods or forms so as to make the shift from a basis of democracy to a basis of responsibility.

There seems to be little doubt but that the scientifically trained technocrats will exercise control for social welfare in any government based upon responsibility. It will be

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Robert Earl Bellman, who arrived at Commonwealth Friday morning Sept. 16th at seven o'clock, is the first person able to claim Commonwealth College as his birth place. He is the son of Earl and Helen Bellman, Executive Secretary and Music Instructor, respectively.

Robert Earl, who will be called Bobbie, weighed eight pounds upon arrival, but has set about in a determined, hungry manner to increase his size. He already seems to have cinched the title of college pet, one student insisting that "he belongs to every one, and should not be considered private property." It has also been suggested that his four hours a day of industrial work be "hanging by his hands from a bar for the psychology class." Mrs. Bellman is convalescing nicely, and expects to meet her classes when college opens.

"Teacher Is Guest." Miss Constance MacCorkle, now teaching at Fairhope, Alabama, and formerly an industrial secretary of the Y. W. C. A., was a guest at Commonwealth for several days recently. At the conclusion of her visit she was taken part way on her trip to Fairhope by Kate Richards O'Hare, who was motoring to Shreveport, La., for Labor Day.

The Marshalls Are Visitors. Ferguson Marshall and his wife and son, Herbert, are working guests at Commonwealth at the present time. They have lived for the past year at Washington, D. C. Prior to that their home was at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. They plan to buy a farm somewhere in this vicinity.

Miss Jule Seibel, after a visit of several weeks with friends at Commonwealth, returned to her home in St. Louis, September 12th. Altho hardly out of her 'teens, Miss Seibel calls herself "an old-maid school teacher." We know that she is a school teacher, and that she is reckoned as a good one. That she ever will be an old-maid is inconceivable. While here she won the hearts of all the males about the college, any one of whom would gladly rescue her from the possibility of spinsterhood. Come again, Miss Jule. We like your style.

"To Save the Babies." Minnie Siegel, registered nurse from New York and Boston, has come to Commonwealth to learn to be of greater service in the labor movement. But incidentally she promises to be of service to afflicted Commoners during the winter. "I did not come here to do nursing," she says, "but if anybody gives birth to twins or triplets I promise to take good care of them without charge. As to other sickness I am not well, if anyone dares to get sick in THIS healthful environment, I shall almost be tempted to give them strychnine to get rid of them!"

Students Come

Lucien Koch, who was working at his carpenter trade near New York City during the vacation months, to hitch-hike with her to school.

Together they made Cincinnati, the Koch home-town, in three days. There they met Raymond Koch and Irving Weissman, who were also enroute from New York to the college. When Mother Koch induced her boys to extend their visit, Charlotte and Irving teamed up and went on. They arrived at the college three days later, thus making the distance from New York to Commonwealth in six days.

Another newcomer to arrive before school time is Minnie Siegel. Minnie is a professional nurse and hails for New York City. Newlyweds Willie Schaub and Thelma Triplett, hiking about the country on their honeymoon, visited for a day. They will return in time for classes.

Other old-timers, known to be on their way to school, are expected within the week: From Chicago, Nellie Toble, far-famed Amazon and saleslady, and Fritz Hoevear, whose literary and soap-boxing activities have made copy for previous Fortnightlies. From New York: Ida Mindlin, a garment worker, and Ross Clark Brown, a Brookwood Labor College employee.

Behind the Scenes

supplementary scholarship, we replied on September 3: "Let us know how much additional will be needed, and we will try to work out a plan by which you can be with us."

To which the student answered on September 7:

"Your last letter was to me as water to a thirsty man. The situation is as follows: (She needed about §50.) But if there is any possibility for Commonwealth to help me return, I would be willing to pay the debt, whether by additional industrial work or otherwise. ** Whatever it may be, I am willing to accept, for I am very anxious to continue my education, if possible. I remain, hopefully waiting for your answer."

On the same day on which we received the above letter, came a letter containing a $25 check. This served as an appeal to the appreciative audience, that st i m u l u s which enables those back stage to go on with the drama.

So we sent off the glad tidings that same day to the student who was "hopefully waiting for our answer," saying:

"Well, we are glad to invite you to have another drink. Your letter came and we were pleased to find that your financial situation is not so bad as we expected. In the same mail we received a letter from Rachel T. Dunlop of Monterey, California, in which she inclosed $25 to be applied on the tuition of someone in your position. We have completed your registration and this $25 has been used as credit on your tuition."

Now let us glance at the letter from Rachel Dunlop, who had heard of the scholarship idea some months ago:

"I believe the idea was $25 at the beginning of the fall semester, and $25 at the beginning of the winter one to be used for tuition or personal maintenance. I am enclosing check for $25. Although the idea of the scholarship existed before the recent final tragedy in Massachusetts, may I not call it a Sacco-Vanzetti Memorial?"

Perhaps you also will wish to dedicate your scholarship to the memory of Sacco and Vanzetti, Eugene V. Debs, or some other worker whose life has been devoted to the cause of labor.

Anyway, this back stage visit may give you a greater desire to take a part, and we will try to will, for several similar human dramas are now contained in our files, unfinished. You are writing the next scene.
Society Notes
[Continued from Page 3.]

Marat Turns Cook. After nine months apprenticeship feeding pigs and cows and other forms of animal life, and later the West Coast Wobbly and all-around social fire brand, has at last been inveigled into the kitchen to bake and boil, and otherwise spoil, the food for Commonwealth's biped population. So far, there has been no grumbling, but it is impossible to say whether it is because Commoners like the kind of grub he dishes out, or because they dread the worry encountered with the Dour Scotsman, who is reputed to have a quick temper and is known to be a past master in the art of saying things that get under ones hide.

Grapes, Melons, Corn, Tomatoes, Pears, and Peaches have been keeping the kitchen crew busy. Watermelon pickles and watermelon preserves are being put up in almost unlimited quantity. Our tomato patch has yielded many bushels for the canners. The canned corn is from our own fields. The grapes are from our own vineyard.

O'Hare Stirs Crowd
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her and was frequently halted by applause.

The Daily Caucasian reports the "forceful, eloquent address by Mrs. Kate Richards O'Hare, one of the foremost figures in the cause of Labor in the United States," and then adds, "Mrs. O'Hare talked entirely without notes, and presented her arguments in the certain, clear reasoning of the逻辑ian whose oratory is sharpened by unusual clarity of expression."

"The difficulty today," said Mrs. O'Hare in presenting the theme of her lecture, "is to find people with money enough to buy the things that are produced. How are we going to sell the cotton and the shoes and the automobiles, and all the other things that are being produced by the highly trained working force of the country? How are we going to strike a balance between the producer and the consumer of the things produced? The solution is not in cutting down production, but in increasing consumption. The only means by which this can be done is through higher wages to the working man."

Other speakers: from the same platform included Governor Simpson of Louisiana and Mayor Thomas of Shreveport.

Good and Welfare
The Last Order of Business
By NAZARETH DAWN

By NAZARETH DAWN
The Natural Buff

Is bathing in the natural buff a special privilege at Commonwealth? That is the question.

Father Zeuch refuses to clothe his cherubic form in a swimming suit. He waits until other bathers clad in the conventional blues, and reds, and greens, and browns, and striped variations have taken their daily or semi-daily plunges in the cool waters of the pool, then he doffs his clothing and dons an old gray bath robe and, bare-footed, treks across the campus and down the wooded lane, looking for all the world, according to a hundred comments, like some gray friar of the Middle Ages.

Now, the most of the other young male Commoners either have wives or hope to make an impression before an available young lady into matrimony some day. Consequently they cannot desert the dependent Feminists they have or expect to have, in order to join Father Zeuch in his declaration for untrammelled bathing. So they are torn between duty and desire on the one hand, the fact that every athletic young man has to cleave the water unannoyed by clothing. This has led some to resent Father Zeuch's independence as a special privilege.

The women, sensing the danger in the situation, are showing irritation. What if the rest of the men should follow Father Zeuch's bad example and declare that it was unmanly, or unathletic, or un-something or other to be irked with a bathing suit. Then they would have to go bathing escorted by gallant or susceptible men folks. Bathing would then lose a large measure of its charm for them. How many women go swimming in order to swim? So the women are beginning to comment also on Father Zeuch's conduct as though it were a special privilege.

"What right," says one, "does Zeuch have to pre-empt the pool at any time in such a way as to keep us from bathing at that same particular time if we want to do so?" Another threatens to seat herself on the great rock at the edge of the pool in order to prevent him from exercising his "special privilege."

Thus it is that the freedom of men has been destroyed. We suppose that since the issues have been joined poor Father Zeuch will have to search along the creek for some other deep water or stretch of quiet water in which to exercise his "special privilege" until he is driven from that by some liberty resenting Amazons or yoked males.

Free men ought to make a stand somewhere. We wonder whether the dependents when the day of the depression has ended will be willing to stand for the poor Father Zeuch's conduct as a special privilege.

things from the family cooking down to editing a school paper, conducting a column, and compiling about a dozen Little Blue Books, is also an expert stenographer. At Commonwealth she will continue her studies, do some writing, and work in the office.

C. L. Leathwood, columnist of The Illinois Miner, has this to say of the Cunninghams:

"My friend Bill and his wife have started out for Commonwealth Labor College, down in the hills of Arkansas."

"Bill and his wife cast off the chains which shackled them to some desk or other, tied their packs on their backs and took to the clay road that winds through the blackjacks."

"Bill is lucky. Some day he will have to cage himself with a new job, maybe, but he will never regret the fine days of freedom he's hiking into now...."

Commonwealth welcomes these young folks, still in the better half of the twenties. Fellow instructors and students wish them well.

Cunninnghams Arrive
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Confidence Greater
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fidence in the permanence of the school," he told the Commonwealth workers.

Dr. Moore has been a teacher for thirty-three years and during that time has observed many changes in the educational world. He has also spent a great deal of time visiting and studying various attempts at cooperative living, many of which he has seen fail. His interest in Commonwealth as an experiment in educational methods, and his feeling of progress and permanency for the economic organization is thus doubly reassuring.

Commonwealth needs the financial aid of every friend of workers' education.