FIVE NEWCOMERS
TAKE UP STUDIES

Three States Represented By Students Enrolling First Time.

Five new students have arrived and enrolled in classes for the second semester. They represent three states, Ch. Kramarskey coming from New York City, Mr. and Mrs. Busch from Atwater, Minnesota, and Richard Brister and Leon Yoder from Almont, Montana.

Ch. Kramarskey, who has had rather active part in the labor movement, represents the Leather Trades. He came to this country six years ago as an official representative of the International Leather Goods Makers' Union of Poland, of which he was president at the time. Once here, he decided to remain and perfect his knowledge of the English language as well as to study.

At Commonwealth, Mr. Kramarskey intends to pursue a full three-year course. "I came to Commonwealth," he said, "to enable myself to be more effective in the labor movement of the United States. I shall stress English and journalism, as I feel that an imperfect knowledge of the English language is the biggest handicap I must overcome before I can do real work in the radical ranks." Although Mr. Kramarskey has had considerable training and experience in the labor world and has studied and read economics and psychology quite intensively, he has registered for classes in psychology and labor. "However," he says, "I intend to spend most of my time and effort this year in acquainting myself thoroughly with the English language and journalistic writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Busch arrived on January 13th with their two-year-old son, Evan, to the delight of the Commoners. As one of the Commoners expressed it, "The girls at Commonwealth need no longer stifle their maternal instincts (Continued On Page Three).

Encouraging Letters
Come With Pledges

Commonwealth has received many encouraging letters since the maintenance fund campaign was started. Here are extracts from a few, showing what representative liberals and laborites think of the school and its present plight.

Albert F. Coyle, Executive Secretary, All American Cooperative Commission,
"I supply regret learning of the financial situation of Commonwealth College. Although I am in narrow financial straits myself I am sending you this letter by first mail. In case you do not get adequate financial support from other interested friends and need my small contribution to help you out, I shall dig up $25 for you for the next three years. And if good fortune should enable me to do this.

A. M. Todd, well known liberal, Kalamazoo, Mich.,
"I have pleasure in enclosing a check for $25 for 1928. Respecting a pledge for 1929 and '30, I will say that because of my age, being 77, I am unable to do this. However, you may write me each of these years and if I am still living I shall be glad to send you the contribution.

Oscar Easton, former Commoner,
Tenants, Harbor, Maine,
"A chill ran through me when I looked at the latest Fortnightly and

Campaign Results
Pledges to Date

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Campaign Gets
WELL UNDER WAY

E. Haldeman Julius Is First and Fern Babcock Second to Pledge.

Commonwealth's campaign to raise a temporary maintenance fund has been encouragingly successful during its first two weeks, according to Educational Director Zeuch. "The number of pledges already received indicates that we will be able if our friends keep busy to raise the necessary amount within the ten weeks that remain of the school," declares Zeuch.

Ed Haldeman-Julius, well known publisher and editor of arguing magazines, was the first person to send in a pledge. Fern Babcock, secretary of the Y. W. C. A. at the University of Arkansas, who has visited Commonwealth was the second. The quick response of these individuals, so widely separated in their opinions, is an indication, Zeuch points out, that Commonwealth has established a reputation as a non-sectarian, non-propaganda institution.

December 14 Zeuch announced that unless a new source of income is discovered within the next few months, Commonwealth College would close its doors May 1.

The American Fund for Public Service had refused to release allocations made several years ago and the school found itself unable at present to complete the capital equipment which will make it self-supporting. With the present equipment Commonwealth runs a deficit of $2500 a year.

In the January 15 number of the Fortnightly a campaign was launched to raise money to meet the yearly deficit for three years. Within that time, the trustees believe, Commonwealth can raise a sufficient amount to complete the capital equipment and thus make itself the only self-maintaining (Continued On Page Three).
Commonwealth College Fortnightly

Published twice a month at Mena, Arkansas, by Commonwealth College, a school for self-maintaining, non-propaganda education for workers. Subscription, one dollar a year. Entered as second class matter, January 30, 1926, at the post office at Mena, Arkansas, under the Act of August 24, 1922.

Signed articles express only individual opinion.

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 Fortnightly will be appreciated.

Vol. IV, No. 3 and 4 Feb. 15, 1928

WHAT IS COMMONWEALTH COLLEGE?

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

Commonwealth is located in the Ozark hills near Mena Ark., where it operates an agricultural and other branches industries by means of four hours' daily labor from its students and teachers.

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

Commonwealth is a non-sectarian non-propaganda institution. It sponsors no particular religious, political, or economic dogma. It holds that scientific experimentation carries the only hope of adjustment or solution of personal and social problems.

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

THANKS FRIENDS

H. L. Baker, Tacoma, Wash. $25
Constance MacCorlce, Fairhope, Ala. $25
Rachel Dunlap, Monterey, Cal. $25
E. Haleman-Julius, Girard, Kansas $25
A. F. Green, Cleveland, O. $25
Alfred Schoch, Chicago, Ill. $25
A. M. Todd, Kalamazoo, Mich. $25
Hyman Cramer, Chicago, Ill. $10
Luther Ely Smith, St. Louis, Mo. $10
Louis Juster, Milwaukee, Wis. $10
George Marclay, Ogdensburg, N. Y. $3
Jennie Wilcox, Oak Pl., III. $5
F. M. Kirkendall, Dayton, Ohio Books
Miriam Allen D'Forf, San Francisco, Calif. Books
Full Fashioned Hosiers Workers of America; Record of Proceedings
Vanguard Press, New York City. An American Pilgrimage

MEA CULPA!

Does the organized labor movement make progress by co-operation and helpfulness? Are those starving and stoning those who would serve it?

Recently for the first time in the history of Commonwealth College, we sent out an issue of the FORTNIGHTLY that did not bear the union label. One union printer had fallen down on us, another had been slow in figuring the job, and we are in an isolated community. The local printer does not maintain a union shop, few small town printers can, but necessity made it imperative that an issue of the FORTNIGHTLY be printed at once. It was printed by the local printer who has always been a loyal friend of Commonwealth, and was sent out without the label.

The reaction was immediate, and we are glad that people are alive to the value of the union label. At once we were pelted with criticizing letters, for the most part from persons not on our mailing list, and who have evidently been reading the FORTNIGHTLY without helping to defray the cost of paying the union printer. Certainly we regret that anything bearing the name of Commonwealth went out without the union label, but it was a chain of circumstances over which we had no control.

Mea Culpa!

We plead guilty to this one offense (which we are forced to repeat in this issue and for the same reason) in a long history of loyal behavior. But may we not call the attention of our critics to certain facts?

Commonwealth College is the only educational institution in the country owned, controlled and staffed by members of a local union of the American Federation of Teachers. True, the title of the property owned by Commonwealth College is not vested directly in Local 194, American Federation of Teachers, but all members of the Association and Board of Trustees are members of the Local. Commonwealth is a closed shop, and has been since the day its charter was granted.

Our Local is affiliated with the state federation of labor, has fulfilled every obligation, and extended to it free of all cost the services of the members of the faculty to do technical work needed.

Our Local is affiliated with the state federation of labor, has fulfilled every obligation, and extended to it free of all cost the services of the members of the faculty to do technical work needed.

Commonwealth College was established and has been maintained to educate young men and women of the working class for services in the labor movements. Former students are serving their unions at the present time with far greater efficiency because of the technical training developed here.

Commonwealth College has consistently held the position that, while it does not meet all of our ideals, the American Federation of Labor is for all practical purposes the American labor movement of the wage workers, and that it is as progressive and forward looking as the majority of American workers demand. By taking this position it has called down on its head the wrath of the extremists, and aroused the animosity of the "open shop" faction.

Two members of Commonwealth College faculty have served the organized labor movement for more than a quarter of a century doing work requiring technical training. In the critical and formative period of the life of Commonwealth the Board of trustees loaned a member of the faculty to an international union to do research work and carry on a campaign for the union label.

Commonwealth College has adhered religiously, and under terrific strain, to its program of providing suitable young men and women for greater service in the organized labor movement. But college education is an expensive thing. The working class students who came to Commonwealth could not pay for it, and the faculty has been compelled to bear the burden. For five years its members have taught without receiving one cent of salary, only frugal maintenance, and in addition they have spent the summers till ing the farm, garden and orchard, and conserving the crops to feed the students.

At the most modest estimate the faculty has donated in hard cash and in wages forgone more than $80,000, and performed the hardest sorts of manual labor. They have given four hours each day during the school periods to industrial work, and from eight to sixteen hours during vacations.

Has any group of equal size ever given more to the organized labor movement? Has any group of union men and women affiliated with the American Federation of Labor ever made equal donations or demonstrated in a more practical manner their loyalty to the ideals and purposes of organized labor?

Yet in all these years not one single cent of financial support, and very little moral support have come from any union affiliated with our parent body. Here and there individual unionists have contributed small sums, and have given their fellowship and co-operation, for which we are grateful.

Commonwealth College has received the financial support making it possible for it to function almost entirely from persons outside the American Federation of Labor. The money that paid for the printing done in the local shop, under stress of unavoidable circumstances, was not union money.
CAMPAIGN UNDER WAY
(Continued From Page One)

school in the world. The plan was to find one hundred friends financially able and willing each to pledge $25 per year for three years.

"We are going to make one last effort," said Zeuch at that time, "to raise funds to meet the yearly deficit. Undoubtedly there are one hundred persons in America sufficiently interested in Commonwealth and Labor education to pledge $25 a year for three years. Our aim is to reach these persons with a frank statement of the situation."

The response to that appeal was immediate. During the two days of the mailing of the Fortnightly pledges began to come in. But the time is very short. If pledges do not come in at the rate of more than one a day the necessary number will not be reached.

As soon as these one hundred pledges are in we can say for certain that the Commonwealth will continue. Twenty-five hundred dollars is a small amount to ask for, but Commonwealth has always run on a very small budget compared to other schools. We are sure that few ventures will be found which has not been more in proportion to the money expended.

There are many reasons why we are trying to reach the goal as soon as possible, and not the least of these is the necessity for arranging next year's program. A number of notable persons, among them a well-known engineer from California and an experienced teacher holding a Ph. D. degree from Michigan, desire to join the college staff. Unfortunately we cannot give these persons any assurance that the school will continue.

One friend of the school writes us that he has made the $25 pledge if the school can find ninety-nine others to do the same. In fact a number of individuals are ready to help if the success of the campaign is assured. It is probable that there are many other persons with a similar attitude but who have not informed us of their willingness to help. It is readily seen that the campaign might fail outright, not because Commonwealth lacked friends but because her friends postponed action. We must make it plain that a pledge is more than a pledge; it is an encouragement to others to pledge. And the earlier you send in your pledge the greater will be its influence.

LOOKIT!
By W. C.

The driveway between the campus and Talihina Pike is perhaps a half mile long. It is a new road, graded and graveled. Midway along that driveway an old road takes off at right angles through the pines. There is no apparent reason for this road—no visible destination. Follow that road some sunny morning. You find yourself in a chilly cathedral. The pines are slender and straight and very tall, like Gothic pillars, and the arches high overhead are Gothic arches. A grapevine as big as your arm is suspended from the branches of a lone oak. The vines is twisted and crooked, a gargoyle, and the oak is similarly curved, a Romanesque pillar, in your cathedral.

The old road has led you a few hundred paces at right angles to the driveway; now it turns parallel and back toward the cottages. You begin to suspect that its purposed whatever, but is merely leading you through the trees by a round-about way. There are no wheel tracks; only water-scour ed ruts. Here and there a dead pine has fallen across the way.

When you have walked a few hundred yards farther you know the truth. The cottages are directly ahead. This road is an Arkansas road.

Perhaps many years ago, when the present driveway was itself only a narrow timber road, a tree fell across it and a farmer went a round-about way through the timber. It was easier for him to go a quarter out of his way than to remove the log.

The next time he traveled through here he remembered the fallen tree and again drove through the timber to avoid it. And so for years, until the tree had crumbled into a yellow mound, wagons went out of their way. No matter; folks had plenty of time. And so now the old by-road is nothing whatever, except the aisle of a Gothic cathedral.

CLASS WRITES BOOK
"Why does crime exist and how can it be cured?" is the question Kate Richards O'Hare, Clarice Cunningham and John McSlarow propose to answer in a book on "The Genesis and Cure of Crime."

No person will commit a crime for its own sake. He does a thing, which is considered a crime by society, because he does not feel that it is wrong or because of economic necessity. Crime cannot be cured by penal institutions. These are a few of the ideas around which this book is written.

The research and writing is being done under the direction of Mrs. O'Hare by Mrs. Cunningham and McSlarow in connection with their class in Social Problems.

FIVE NEWCOMERS
(Continued From Page One)

—Evan will provide an outlet.

Mr. and Mrs. Bosch lived and worked on a farm in Atwater, Minnesota, previous to their coming to Commonwealth. As they themselves say, "We’re just plain farm folk." Mrs. Bosch has taught for five years in the rural schools of Minnesota.

Mr. Bosch’s activities lie in the rural farm labor organizations, and he expects, at Commonwealth, to prepare himself for more effective work in this field of the labor movement. He has registered for courses in advanced economics, public speaking, psychology and modern novel and drama.

Mrs. Bosch is expecting to spend most of her time and effort on her music, although she has registered for two additional courses—psychology and public speaking and is auditing the Labor Seminar.

Richard Brito and Leon Yoder, friends, from Almont, Michigan, hitch-hiked and "hopped the freighters" to Commonwealth. They read of the school in the Haldeman-Julius Weekly paper and determined to come here. Their trip took them ten days.

Both are interested in the labor movement and are planning to emphasize journalism and psychology.

WILL YOU ENROLL YOURSELF AS ONE OF THE HUNDRED WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS WILL MAKE THE CONTINUATION OF COMMONWEALTH POSSIBLE?

If so fill out and mail this blank.

I hereby enclose $ für the year 1928 and pledge $ annually for 1929 and 1930.

In case $2500 is not pledged by May 1, 1928, the sum enclosed is to be returned if so desired.

NAME.

ADDRESS.
**Society Notes**

"Barnyard Golf" is the latest wrinkle in Commonwealth sports—pitching horseshoes. Numerous hopeful contestants are practicing daily to try for the crown, claimed by Lucien Koch. Greatest interest is shown in the feminine challengers, "Chucky" Moskowitz and Sylvia Aronson. Both are getting the shoes within six feet of the stakes.

"Timber." Swish—crash! and another tree has gone the way of so many of its kind; to help keep the Commonweilers warm, to make room for the mill pond. One by one the fall, oak, hickory and pine. Day by day their number is lessened. Slowly but surely the six-acre tract just below the bluff is changing its appearance. Forest sage and sapling, great and small, down they come: swish—crash!

Seven Mice have gone hunting out of Mill Creek Bluff, seventy feet down and into the blue water, and have floated away amid a serenity they never knew during their tiny, tempestuous lives.

"They were a disturbing element in our home," said Clarice Cunningham. "They would go shrieking across the floor, up the walls or above the ceiling. Seldom could we spend an evening without having our nerves shattered by their mousey difficulties. Our guests noticed it. Joe Lampert was for a time on the verge of a nervous breakdown as a result of an experience he had at our house one evening. He was in the midst of a discussion on the subject of racial characteristics when an altercation began among the members of the mouse family overhead. Joe left here a broken man."

"Or sometimes when the journalism class had gathered here to discuss the editorial page of the Bluff, the mice would become involved in a difficulty in the kitchen or on the back porch and the clamor would end all journalistic conversation.

"So we got a trap and it snapped the life out of seven little creatures. Our cottage is quiet once more, and Mill Mill Creek minnows fatten."

**ENCOURAGING LETTERS**

Continued From Page One. I saw that the school may close its doors in May. I cannot conceive that to be true if it is merely a matter of $2,500. I know that the friends of the school will rally to the rescue. I am chairman of my class reunion (Outers Union) and although I am no orator I am convinced that I can talk these people into donating money for Commonwealth College. We are planning to hold a great outdoor festival next summer and I have been asked to speak on the aims and principles of Commonwealth College and such a gathering will be a great opportunity to appeal for funds.

George C. Marclay, newspaper man, Ogdenburg, New York.

I am a poor man having no other source of income than my weekly salary on which I must support my wife and two kiddies. In addition I am trying to pay for a little home. Despite this I cannot stand by and see Commonwealth in distress without doing something. I will pledge $25 for 1928 and promise to try and contribute the same amount for 1929 and 1930... Fern Babcock, Secretary Y. W. C. A., University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. I am sorry to hear that Commonwealth is having such a hard struggle. I am very glad to pledge $25 for three years.

Do you have any more issues of the copy of the Fortnightly enclosed in your letter? I would like to send four or five to friends of mine who I know would like to help.

Frederick N. MacMillen, municipal librarian, Milwaukee, Wisc., of course, will be glad to agree to contribute for three years along the lines laid down in your plan.

**MEA CUPA!**

Continued From Page Two.

None of that has ever come to Commonwealth. Our resources have been dug out of the soil by teachers, or doated by liberals not members of organized labor.

In truth and justice are we the only ones to say: "Mea Culpa!"

Might it not be that if organized labor to which we have given the best we ever had to give, and none can do more, had extended a helping hand, had co-operated instead of standing aloof, had yelted us with a few dollars instead of with the strong arm of criticism, Commonwealth would have been able to give greater service of value to the organized labor movement?

**Labor SeminarProves An Interesting Course**

The Labor Seminar promises to be one of the most interesting courses on the campus, this semester, according to Lucien Koch. Zeuch is directing the group.

The first talk was given on Wednesday, January 25th, by Ross Brown, on "The Knights of Labor." On Friday Raymond Koch spoke on "The A. F. of L., from its birth to 1900. The period from 1900 to 1914 will be presented by Nellie Toole, and Irvin Weissman will bring it up to the present day. Each member of the class is to give three reports. Thirty six subjects have been assigned including "Craft vs. Industrial Unions," "History and Practices of the I. W. W.," "Communism in the United States," "Women in Industry," "Company Unions," "Child Labor in the United States," and "Labor in Politics."

**Book Review**

Poet and Mathematician


Napoleon, I fear, will disabuse the minds of most people of the image the name conjures up. It is most certain to disappoint that portion of the American public which thinks of Napoleon as the solemn fellow who introduced himself to their last Sunday at the State Asylum for the Insane. The hallowed notions of the pacifists also are in for a tumble. For Ludwig Napoleon is not the mass-murderer who mowed down armies of men with as little conscience as our Napoleon is not a part of the down starved miners. He is a great builder rather than a destroyer.

The Ludwig Napoleon, in point of fact, is a hero of truly heroic proportions. In the phrase of Poe, he is poet and mathematician: a genius who visions an United States of Europe and battles ardent and ardently to bring his vision to earth. But alas! he wrapped the French flag about his dream and the French flag was its shroud. Ludwig shrewdly analyzes Napoleon's domination of the French as an indication of the great contempt he had for them.

Clearly then, Ludwig is not to be credited with the histories which assign to Napoleon the leading role in the tendency in biography to re-examine humed heroes in the light of modern iconoclasm and psychology. —Irving Weissman.

The Student Council for the semester ending April 30 will consist of Harry I. Cohen, Richard Bosch, Charlotte Moskowitz, Louie Mosher and Herman Ericson. At the same meeting in which the council members were chosen Raymond Koch, Harry I. Cohen and Richard Bristol were chosen to serve as a forum committee.

Officers of the new council are Harry I. Cohen, president, Richard Bosch, vice president and Charlotte Moskowitz, secretary.

**BOOKS CATALOGED**

Cataloging of the books in Commonwealth library will be completed before the end of the present semester, according to Mildred Chadwick, librarian.

"You know," said Mildred, "there are over three thousand bound books here. Quite a little library! I have already cataloged more than six hundred. Now that the weather is becoming milder the work ought to be much faster."