FRIENDS' COMMITTEE FORMED AT MADISON

Elizabeth Brandeis at Head of Group Organized to Aid School

Organization of a Commonwealth College Committee at Madison, Wis., with Elizabeth Brandeis, daughter of Justice Brandeis, as chairman, was announced by Director Lucien Koch upon his return from his recent lecture trip.

The committee membership includes Genevieve Townsend, secretary; Aubrey Williams, Mrs. Glen Turner, William Rice, George T. Collins, W. Ellison Chalmers. The members represent labor organizations, the university faculty, religious bodies; and social work groups.

"It is my intention to organize similar committees in other places where Commonwealth is well known," Director Koch said. "Commonwealth is not an institution; it is a movement. It must be regarded as the work of hundreds of interested people all over the nation, and not merely as the job of a dozen teachers at the school. Former students and other friends of the school can join in this task, even though they live thousands of miles from Commonwealth."

Director Koch returned recently from a two-months visit to Madison, Chicago, Urbana, Milwaukee and St. Louis. "I find the public more interested in Commonwealth than ever before," he said. "There seems to be a general recognition of the need for workers' education."

"At the various schools I visited the number of student radicals and liberals is increasing rapidly. Faced with the prospect of unemployment after graduation, these young men and women have started thinking, and no one can say what the results will be."

"I met many persons who are conducting classes in liberal or radical thought, or are planning to start such classes. Perhaps there are thousands of students over the nation attending such classes, and they are putting much more effort into this study than they put into their regular school work."

Faculty Members Leave For Summer

Several members of the Commonwealth faculty will be off the campus during the summer.

Lucien Koch, director, will teach economics at the University of Wisconsin Industrial Summer School for a six weeks term, starting June 26.

Mildred Price, instructor in imperialism, will go to her mother's home at Greensboro, N. C., for the summer vacation.

G. Y. Rusk, psychology instructor, is going by boat from New Orleans to Providence, where he will work under Dr. A. H. Ruggles, authority in the field of mental hygiene.

Bill Reich, teacher of workers' education, will return to his last summer's job as counselor at a Pioneer Youth camp near Marion, N. C.

David Englestein, world history and

FARMERS ORGANIZE CLUB TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS

The community of farmers in the vicinity of Commonwealth college is setting an example to workers and farmers in supposedly more sophisticated parts of the country by showing what a group of people can do, drawing on their own initiative and resourcefulness, to provide themselves with some cultural advantages.

The example referred to is the Center Point Community Club, which meets semi-monthly in a vacant schoolhouse not far from the campus. The first Commoner to speak to the club was Sam Sandburg, student, who talked on "Why We Went to Kentucky?"

The club, which plays an important part in the intellectual and social life of the neighborhood, was started by a dozen enterprising farmers to provide a meeting place for the exchange of ideas and the discussion of current trends.

Hit very severely by the depression, these farmers are interested in finding a solution for their pressing problems. Topics of discussion therefore sometimes include economic planning and producers' and consumers' cooperation. Religion and "politics" are

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ELECTRICITY IS AID TO STUDY AND PLAY

Small Delco Plant Will Care For the Library and Commons

As one of the first steps toward providing adequate library facilities for students and teachers, an electric lighting system has been installed for the library. The system will provide ample current to light the new library which Commonwealth expects to be working on during the next few years. Meanwhile the small frame building which houses the college books has been made an excellent place to study.

Improvement of library facilities is the chief project contemplated in the use of capital funds made available earlier this year by the Carnegie Corporation.

Lights are of great importance at Commonwealth, especially in winter. The student spends his afternoons at communal tasks; therefore evenings must be devoted to study. Dim light has been a great handicap in the past.

The Commons has also been wired. This will mean that the amateur actors in the labor dramas presented each year will be fully visible to the audience. Heretofore they have worked in semi-gloom, their noses casting fantastic shadows over faces that might have been portraying a tragic emotion, for all the audience knew. Dramatic critics at the school are eagerly awaiting the first fully visible presentation, and opinion is divided as to whether the new lights will reveal genius or only stage fright.

Just enough electric power is left over for the guest house and print shop. Students and teachers will continue to study by kerosene lamp while in their rooms.

labor problems teacher, will probably give a series of lectures on educational topics of interest to workers. He will be in and around New York City and may go to Montreal, his home.

Alfred Fortmueller, student-teacher of economics and German, leaves soon for the farm regions of North Dakota, where he hopes to teach this summer.

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A GLIMPSE OF THE STUDENT BODY

The Fortnightly is presenting in this issue a group of "thumb nail" biographies of Commonwealth students. This will acquaint friends and former students of the college with the type of young people now enrolled. These sketches are brief and informal but they will serve to portray the backgrounds, activities, and ambitions of a cross-section of Commonwealth's personnel. We could relate many more interesting day-to-day incidents of these people, in the labor movement, on the campus and in the class room, but the students and their work are their own best biographies.

Bill Andrews, lanky Chicago hotel clerk and factory inspector, runs a local press service to get experience for creative writing in the labor movement.

Jerry Baxter, E. St. Louis, former life guard, "especially desires being in a position to help the under-dog, politically, economically and industrially."

Willie Sue Blagden, although a native of Memphis, has spent the last few years as a secretary and art student in Manhattan.

Mildred Burton is an art student and newspaper writer from southern California, where she has done county charities work. She is now giving talks on communism.

Wendal Bull's ancestors have farmed in New York for over 200 years. Despite those roots, Wendal came to Commonwealth to study labor history and, incidentally, become wood crew foreman.

Manford and Alice Ettinger studied at the University of Chicago. Manford came to Commonwealth because I felt that I have not yet found my proper place in the labor movement." Alice initiated labor dramatics activities here and is a director, author and actress.

Bad Fallon worked 12 to 14 hours a day in a fertilizer plant for 30 cents an hour, and is in school now to see what can be done about it. From E. St. Louis.

Henry Forblade is the best-travelled Commoner. He saw most of Europe and all of Central America from the galley of a steamer. Comes from New Jersey.

Alfred Fortmueller, student-teacher of German, has been an office worker and machinist in Germany and New York. His interests, besides the labor movement, are workers' theatre and teaching.

Anna Fisher saw a New Jersey silk mill strike in her home town, and watched labor theory become action. Anna is finishing her second year at Commonwealth.

Hugo Fischer, Baltimore, is a machinist and electrical worker. In Germany he served his apprenticeship in blacksmithing. Strange to say, he is the campus barber.

Otto Frederickson, Commonwealth's best musician, has played and taught trombone all through the Middle West. Former reporter on a weekly paper in Minnesota, his home state.

Bill Fitzgerald has watched politics and taught school in his native South Dakota, and has been a librarian in a Colorado mining town and an Indiana college.

Molly Freedman started life in a romantic Roumanian village. She recently left Syracuse and an office job to devote all her time to studying labor history.

Ike Greenberg, out in the world (St. Louis) is a draftsman, but at Commonwealth designs stage sets and lighting effects for labor dramatics groups.

Leo Grulow has packed a lot of New York newspaper experience into his 19 years. Member of the recent Commonwealth-Harlan delegation.

Marian Hilde turned overnight into a cook, a poet and piano player, leaving her erstwhile metropolitan pursuits, such as grade school teaching.

O. Hittenrauch, Marion, O., has been a wheel painter, janitor, college editor and librarian, among other things. He works in the office and library at Commonwealth.

Abe Ionen makes the school's rustic furniture, thanks to his three years as cabinet-maker's apprentice in Philadelphia. Abe wants to be a journalist.

Curt Kallweit has been a drug clerk in Germany, a cement worker and counterman in New York. Work in the labor movement will be his career.

The Kastenbaums, Bernie and Rose, hitch-hiked from Philadelphia last March. He paints his pipe stem at his hearer and rants economics while she finds cooking and studying better than her former school teaching.

Bob Lane, Tulsa, heard about Commonwealth in "Hobo's Hornbook" by George Milburn, ex-Commonc. Lane wandered over the United States and Mexico, enough to be an authority on the language and customs of the common people.

Sam Lissitz, although a chemistry student at Chicago, has always had a keen interest in economics and the social significance of medicine, his intended vocation.

Bradner Moncrief knows the oil business--from the filling station attendant angle. He attended several private schools in the South and has talked on labor topics in Texas, his home state.

Chucky (local for Charlotte) Moskowitz came originally from Syracuse University and has been Commonwealth's head office worker and guest-greeter for a long time.

Jim Murphy finished high school and worked in New England stone and furniture factories with their "shifts, speed-ups, wage cuts and long hours."

Harold November, Brooklyn, was curious "to see a self-supporting educational community work and study," Three quarters at Commonwealth show him that it can be done.

Glenn Phares recently left an Indiana copy desk. Farm and college training serve him well at Commonwealth, where he drives mules and discusses labor philosophy.

Thelma Porter did relief work for the Harlan miners and was a Cincinnati book-keeper, where she also attended the university.

Harold Preece of Austin, Texas, kept a practiced eye on the green things in the garden when he wasn't reading Keats or pursuing the Muse.

Bob Reed from the Texas Panhandle once had "cotton picker's dream" of wealth; will now work instead to make farmers class-conscious.


Willi and Thelma Schaumb a Commonwealth campus romance. Their cottage is the small white one on the edge of the bluff. Willi was a latch-hand in Philadelphia and is head carpenter, swimming and tennis enthusiast here. Thelma is a Missourian and has clerked in a Chicago store.

Bernhard Seubert's schooling in Germany was disrupted by the war, but he carried on by self-education, people's theatre and nature study.

Bill Sligh, only native Arkansawyer in the student body, learned about the dignity of labor in a Southern lumber mill. Writing is his hobby and ambition.

Flora Watson is the person a student sees when he cuts a tooth or gets a cold. Flora is going back to Los Angeles to tell the west coast about Commonwealth.

Jane Weinreb attended boarding school in France and the University of Chicago. She is interested in social service work as a vocation.
Poise, short for Poison Ivy, is the name of the college dog. Being the only one of his species on the campus, Poise is over-fed and over-petted. Rumor has it that he is of a hunting breed, a point of his long coat would substantiate such a claim, but being a college dog he has been allowed to grow up in ignorance of his proper function. That he has indeed been strangely conditioned was revealed recently when a man wearing a hat came across the campus. Poise responded to this stimulus by employing his countenance and voiced his protest. Hats are so rarely worn at Commonwealth that the sight of this one, a new and vivid one, instilled fear in the hearts of the neighbors. "What is the economic interpretation of your failure to stop the eddies. "futuring the boat"-"the Moonlit nights, what could be better than a canoe ride?" One student, Ike Greenberg, tried to "shoot the rapids" during the recent high water and was not most of the afternoon getting the boat back to the smooth water between the eddies. The canoe is the gift of Earl Bellman, former Commonwealher and now instructor in sociology at the University of Maryland. Earl sailed the craft down a Kansas stream to the Mississippi and thence to Memphis.

**Birds.**-- Ducks and chickens are not the only feathered creatures at Commonwealth. Nor are bats, wasps and June bugs the only winged ones. Atop a tall pole seen from the window of the Commonwealther office, Alois Oppek, gardener, has attached a miniature house which now shelters a family of martins. Alois ousted some earlier birds who happened to be sparrows. From the woods about the melodic songs of a variety of songstresses. Cardinals, robins, and sparrows have all contributed to the color of the scene. A red-headed woodpecker clings to his place of work. Now and then a mocking bird recites his parodies, and at night the melancholy whip-poor-will is heard from the pines over the bluff and across the creek.

**Wall Paper.** Commonwealth students now write for "New Masses," "The Nation," "Daily Worker," and "The American Guardian," or rather the campus imitation of them. Bill Cunningham's class in labor journalism publishes a type-written wall newspaper. It resembles the local interpretation of some well-known liberal or labor journal. The crowds are always thick about the board in the Commons where are posted the typewritten pages of these class projects with a format like "the real thing," "The Pink Peril," and "The Red Menace," two independent wall newspapers, are also published. From an unknown source comes a Commonwealth press service, in Federated Press style, with tri-weekly typed bulletins keeping up a running fire of comment on the activities of the group. Commonwealers need not fear that they will find no outlet for their journalistic talent.

**Advocates of mass participation at Commonwealth are distressed by the growing popularity of tennis, which is making the game.** Tennis, in which there can be only two or four players, has largely supplanted volley ball, which gives opportunity for a large number to display awkwardness. Opponents of tennis argue that it is the game of the rich and has no place at a community college. They refer to it with contempt as a form of pingpong. They ask the tennis players when they intend to take up golf. But the latter are not disturbed in their enthusiasm. They claim that opponents are keeping up a running fire of comment that it has only recently been revived. Advocates of volley ball, they say, are naturally conservative and habitually oppose that which is new.

You will never get me to support a measure I believe to be wrong, altho by doing so I may accomplish that which I believe to be right. -- Lincoln.

**FARMERS ORGANIZE CLUB**

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barred; however this does not mean that political subjects, in their wider aspects, can be brought into the halls of education. The club extends its functions through special committees: a welfare committee, which visits the sick, helps the needy and lends a hand at special farm tasks; a social committee, which plans athletic contests, social gatherings and square dances, and a dean's committee to insure school attendance. Special attention is given to social events for young people from twelve to sixteen.

**MADISON COMMITTEE FORMED**

(Continued from Page 1)

The purpose of the Madison committee is to make contacts, arrange schedules of Commonwealth speakers, give out information about Commonwealth to all those interested, to furnish lists of speakers to the teachers, to assist in the task of raising money for Commonwealth, and in general to give all support possible to the Commonwealth project.

**THANKS FRIENDS**

**CASH**

P. A. Martin, B. R. Regan, Mary Rumsely.

Joa. H. Schmidt, Anonymous, No Conley, each $1

Alice K. McFarland, Sally Harris, Robert F.

Blumenthal, Helen Smoyer, Genevieve Townsend,

each........................................ $2

Wm. A. and Carol E. Hyde........................................ $3.00

R. B. Robinson.................................................. $5.10

I. W. W. Forum, Chicago........................................ $5.50

Eleanor C. Burt, Dirca Gilerowska, B. Schwartz-

son, Mrs. H. Mayer, Mrs. H. Mayer, C. G. Kunz, I. B. Rose,

Stanley D. Helden, Frank J. Bruno, Gordon H.

Ward, S. Meyers, Frank H. Knick, Agnes Gol

frey G. Blanc, Robert Rubinstein, Bob College,

Chicago, Dill Fickle, Carl E. Alton, Effie H. Stimson,

Jacob Kurt, Kirby Page, each........................................ $5.00

CASH TO

First Club, Madison................................................ $6.00

Mary Jane Dow Thompson, Theresa Mayer

Darlock, Edward A. Lincoln, each...................................... $10

Vida B. Scudder.................................................................. $15

Y. P. S. L., Sr. Louis.................................................. $15

Workman's Circle...................................................... $10.00

Mary F. Shields...................................................... $15.00

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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 fine credit is due the Commonwealth College Fortnightly which will be appreciated.
FIVE NEW TEACHERS TO JOIN COMMONWEALTH STAFF FOR SESSION AND CAMP OPENING ON JUNE 27

Plans for the summer session, which opens June 27, and for the summer camp, which continues from June through September, have been completed with arrangements for five visiting instructors as well as members of the regular Commonwealth staff to participate in the educational program.

The visiting teachers are:

FRANK J. MANNING will teach labor problems and lead discussions on that subject. He is experienced in labor and Socialist organization work and in the Sacco-Vanzetti defense and is a leader in the Kentucky miners' relief movement among midwestern students. He is being graduated at the University of Chicago this month.

VAUGHN ALBERTSON, instructor in English at the University of Texas, will direct work in labor drama and lecture on the new stage and cinema technique in Germany and Russia, of which he has made a special study.

H. LEE JONES of the People's School, Cincinnati, will teach psychology and participate in the leadership of discussion groups.

RICHARD HALL will teach sociology. He has done graduate work at the University of Chicago and is completing a course at Meadville Theological School this year preparatory to entering the Unitarian ministry.

DR. WALTER SIEGMEISTER will deliver, during the month of July, a series of lectures upon the topic, "Modern Advances in the Biological Sciences." He has worked under Dewey, Woodworth and Hollingsworth at Columbia University, and under Radasavljevich at New York University. He spent some time in the U. S. R. where he studied educational procedure and theory.

Members of the regular Commonwealth staff who will teach part or all of the summer are Director Lucien Koch, Raymond Koch, William and Clarice Cunningham, Clay Falks and Harold Coy.

Session and Camp—The difference between the session and camp is as follows: The summer session is open to those accepted on an application basis as Commonwealth students and enrolling for the 10-week period, June 27 to September 3, 1932. The summer camp is open to workers, students, professional people and all others interested. Visitors to the camp may come and go as they will from June through September, remaining a few days, a few weeks or all summer. Enrolled students attend regular classes. Discussion circles are arranged for visitors to the camp, but they may audit classes by permission. Other community activities are open to all alike.

Low Costs—Commonwealth's location and mode of operation make it possible to offer vacation opportunities at a cost well below what most persons spend at home.

Tuition for the 10-week summer session is $40. All students earn room, board and laundry service by 15 hours work a week in the communal activities of the school, around the campus or in the kitchen or garden.

Visitors to the summer camp pay $25 a month (or $1 a day for periods less than a month) for room, board, laundry service and educational features, provided they join in community tasks 15 hours a week as is the custom at the school. If they prefer not to work, the cost is $50 a month or $2 a day.

Recreational opportunities include: Swimming in Mill Creek, the stream which runs across the campus at the foot of the high bluff on which the college buildings are located. Dancing, including an occasional old-fashioned square dance, such as survive in "these hills." Group singing of labor songs, folk songs, etc. Music too; bring your instruments and make a noise to the summit of Rich Mountain, six miles away, near the Oklahoma line, and to other points of interest. A labor theatre with amateur productions of plays written by members of the group or others interested in the labor movement. Tennis; volleyball; impromptu parties and siestas under the trees.

Educational opportunities for summer campers center around the informal discussion circles led by members of the Commonwealth faculty and visiting instructors. Three circles are planned and others will be added if justified. Attendance is voluntary.

"The Labor Movement Today" will deal with the set-up of the American labor movement, the problems it faces and the programs of the various groups within the movement.

"Looking Behind the News" will be concerned with what is going on in the world and why. What does Japan want in China? What does Russia's second five-year plan encompass? Can disarmament be realized? What is happening in America this presidential year?

"Changing Thought in a Machine Age" treats with the overwhelming changes wrought in our thinking and social institutions by our present day economy. Discussion will deal with such problems as (1) changing ideals in art and literature and (2) in our concepts of marriage, religion and the home; (3) with social problems and the possibilities of a better social order and (4) the problems of one's personal adjustment to life and activity in an age of unrest.

Lectures and a writing and short story club, in which members of the staff who are contributing to magazines and newspapers will participate, are also scheduled. Visitors may audit regular college classes by permission and may have full use of the library. Classes will be held in labor history and problems, international problems, public speaking, labor journalism, the effective writing, economic theory, psychology and sociology.

What to Bring—So far as possible visitors, especially those who expect to stay more than a few days, should bring their own bedding, as the college supply is limited. This should include three sheets (cot size), two blankets, two pillow cases, a pillow and towels. The college provides cots and mattresses. A bathing suit is indispensable, a flashlight a convenience. Semi-pioneer conditions prevail at Commonwealth.

Commonwealth is located near the Talihina Highway, ten miles west of Mena, Ark. Mena is on the Kansas City Southern Railroad and also on bus lines from Hot Springs and Fort Smith. Young people frequently hitchhike to Commonwealth.

On arrival at Mena, visitors should inquire at the City Drug Store whether the college truck is in town and if not should hire or take a taxi to the campus. Baggage may be sent ahead prepaid in care of Commonwealth College. On registering, visitors are required to state that they have no contagious or infectious disease and that they will observe the campus rules of conduct.

Everyone dresses simply—overalls or outdoor clothes are always in order and evening clothes are unthinkable. Housing accommodations will be arranged in college dormitories and possibly in tents and cottages. The days are often rather warm, but the nights are almost always cool.