STUDENT IS ELECTED TO GOVERNING BODY

Bob Harting, Librarian, Made Member of College Association

Bob Harting, student, was unanimously elected a member of the Commonwealth College Association at the regular December meeting. Bob came to Commonwealth in January, 1933, from Naugatuck, Connecticut.

Bob is now Commonwealth’s librarian. He is executive secretary of the local John Reed Club. In November he went as fraternal delegate from Commonwealth to the Second Farmers’ National conference, and to the conference of the Midwest Section of the League of Workers’ Centers, both held in Chicago. His chief interest is a proletarian literature and art.

The Association is the governing body of the school. In order to be eligible for membership one must have been at the school at least nine months. It is made up of teachers, students, and maintenance members, with teachers always in the majority.

Present members are Lucien Koch, David Englestein, Ray Koch, Charlotte Moskowitz, Clarice Cunningham, Bill Cunningham, Mildred Price, Harold Cox, Clay Fulks, Madel Fulks, Rob Red and Bob Harting.

INDUSTRIAL MANAGER

MECHANICAL WIZARD

A paper cutter for the Commonwealth print shop has been made at a total cost of $16 by Marion Noble, inventive A.-kan-sas lad and industrial manager for the school.

Most of the $16 went for a second-hand blade which Marion picked up at an idle mill near his home at Higgins son, Arkansas. The blade when new was worth $100.

A paper cutter is not a simple mechanism. Factory-made cutters of this size sell from $800 up.

122 Volumes Added To School Library

By Henry Black, Assistant Librarian

One hundred and twenty-two volumes have been added to Commonwealth Library since October 10. About 250 other books are in the work room awaiting classification and cataloging. They are being cataloged and made available for use at the rate of twenty-five or thirty every week.

The college library now has approximately 7,429 volumes. Considering that it has been built up almost entirely from gifts, the collection is quite well balanced and representative of the various fields of life and thought, though naturally it is strongest in the fields of economics, sociology and labor problems. One hundred and forty-seven magazines and newspapers are currently received, including six dailies, 20 important national weeklies and monthlies such as The Nation, Harpers’ Weekly, and The American Mercury, and 120 labor union, co-operative, socialist, communist, and farm papers.

Accurate circulation records are one of the numerous luxuries the library manages to get along without, but it circulates from 200 to 250 volumes per month. This means that on the average each student borrows a little more than one volume per week, a figure that will compare favorably with either

HOLIDAYS ARE QUIET AT COMMONWEALTH

Howard O. Eaton Explains Plan to Reduce Unemployment

The last days of 1933 were quiet ones at Commonwealth. Most of the students and teachers were away and visitors were few. Several hunting parties were organized, but the supply of game in the nearby mountains was not there to support them.

The intellectual and physical energy of the campus went into the following tasks: getting in wood, cooking, laundering, arguing, trying in vain to reassemble a target rifle, carrying food to Oppek, the gardener, who sprained an ankle jumping off a swinging bridge.

The arrivals during this period were Mr. and Mrs. Howard O. Eaton, Jack Hart, Carl Rahn, and a half-jersey calf. None of these was expected except the calf.

Eaton teaches in the philosophy department of the University of Oklahoma. He and Mrs. Eaton brought with them a tent, which they pitched near the girl’s dorm, and a solution of the national unemployment problem, which they explained to the group at an evening session.

INDUSTRIAL STABILIZATION

Eaton proposes the establishment of an “Industrial Stabilization Corporation” to take over the idle industries and put idle men to work. He and two other teachers at the University of Oklahoma have written a book, just off the press, called, “No More Unemployment.” Commonwealth students listened to the plan, and most of them decided that it was not revolutionary enough. They considered it carefully, however, and discussed it far into the night.

Jack Hart, the new printer, owes his sojourn in Arkansas to a casual meeting with Rupert King while that worker was en route to Oklahoma to enjoy the holidays. Hart is very enthusiastic about the work at Commonwealth.
THE SHEEPHERDER

By JACK PARNACK

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jack Parnack
has herded sheep in Europe and South
America as well as in the U. S. West.
He writes for Federation Press and for
various labor periodicals on the wool
industry and on workers' education,
of which he made a special study in
Europe.

THE SHEEPHERDER

Sheepherders of modern times are
not the shepherd of classical litera-
ture. The latter is usually portrayed
as leading his sheep by playing the
flute, whereas the sheepherder herds
or pushes his herd from the tail-end
with the help of his dogs and saddle
horses. The only kind of musical instru-
ment he plays is his photograph or
radio at camp in the evenings when
he gets lonely.

The emotions of the pastoral poet
are aroused by the verdure of the
spring. Sheepherders become emo-
tional likewise but not in the same
way. The herds, fed all winter on dry
feed, go wild at the first sniff of green
grass and start out on the run to look
for it long before it is high enough
to eat. This race goes on for weeks. In
fact the herder gets a bellyful of
spring verdure before the sheep do.

By the time the grass is up and the
sheepherder has caught his breath
from running and swearing, lambing
season starts. This may be in January
or February in the Southwest, March,
April or May in the Northwest.

THIRTY A MONTH AND CHUCK

If lambing is done in sheds every
lamb has to be looked after, but on
the open range only the weaklings
require attention. Wages for shed lamb-
ing in some parts of the country last
spring were as low as $25 or $30 a
month and board. The chuck (food) is
plain but the ale is plenty of it. Most
of the lambers must pack their own
bedding. They sleep in tents or in a
bunkhouse and eat at the ranch house.

The job lasts from three to four
weeks. Accommodations at lambing
camps are not so good as those at lum-
ber, mining, or construction camps.

When lambing is done on the open
range, the lambers have to put up with
all kinds of bad weather and rotten
conditions. There is no such thing as
laying off for stormy weather. The
lambing crew must take days as they
come, sometimes working in ankle-
deep mud.

The open-range lambing crew con-
ists of the drop-herder, the drop-
picker, bunch-herders, the day man,
the night man, cook and foreman.
Lambing cooks are, as a rule, men.
Women say that sheep camps are too
far from civilization. What they really
mean is that when they are in the
sheep camps they cannot go about
gossiping, go bowling or do other
pastimes. Most of the old-time herders
say that women are only gadders or
blisters; on the other hand, women
call the herders old fogies or women-
haters.

After the lambing season is over, the
ewe and lamb bunches are thrown
together into a big herd and turned
over to a regular herder for the sum-
mer. Shearing starts in immediately
after lambing.

Shearing is done on the "gypso"
basis, i. e., so much per head. An av-

erage shearer can shear around 100
head a day. Wages for shearing last
spring were around eight cents per
head and linger. The shearers must
pack their own blankets, tents, stoves,
and own their own cars in order to
carry their outfits with them from one
job to another. Sheep-shearing is real
work, regardless of whether it is done
by hand blades or by machines. Even
though he is a migratory worker the
shearer still preserves his pitiful a

docratic aloofness from his fellow
workers in the sheep industry, and re-

 mains an exploited craft snob. During
the World War some of the shearers
were made as high as $40 a day, while
the wool packers, tiers, wranglers,
etc., made only $5 or $6 a day and board.

It was in those prosperous days that
the shearers acquired the habit of
looking down on the rest of the work-

ers in the sheep industry and main-

ained their union as a strictly segre-
gated craft organization. If they had
been intelligent enough to understand
the changing conditions in industry
and had organized along industrial
union lines, instead of craft, they
might have maintained a strong union.

The defunct Sheep Shearers' Union of
North America is interested more in
making sheep shearing machines and
selling them to the shearers than in
organizing the shearers.

TRAILING TO THE MOUNTAINS

After shearing winds up trailing
starts. Trailing lasts from a few days
to a few weeks, depending upon how
far the sheep must travel to the sum-
mer range. The hardest part of trail-
ing comes when the herds have to be
trailed through lanes and over bridges.
Lanes make the herder cuss, for he
has to put in a lot of hard labor trying
to keep the herd from going into the
hay and grain fields. Hungry sheep
have rather hazy ideas of fences, espe-
cially when there is good green feed in
sight. They know what they want
and how to get it, providing the herd-
er lets them have their own way.

TOURISTS AND DUDES

The ranchers who have woven wire
fences through their lanes don't have
to worry about the sheep trailing
through, but those who haven't good
fences are out with their whole fami-
lies trying to keep the hungry sheep
from getting under the barbed wire
fence and eating their crops. At times
the whole affair is to the herder more
like a circus than anything else; but
matters get desperate when some
hard boiled rancher comes out with a
shotgun and threatens the herder's
life if any sheep get into his crop. And
again, the herder has more grief if
his dogs get sore-footed and refuse to
work for him. Cars and trucks also
give the herder trouble. If there is
anything that pests him it is tourists
and dudes in general. The tourist
comes down the highway 50 or 60 miles
an hour and they expect that the sheep
will give them the right of way when
they honk their horns. They are soon
disillusioned, however, for the she-
ep will stop suddenly and bunch up, refusing
to move a step. This is what makes
the herder curse the tourists, for he has
to go through the whole herd and open
a lane for their cars to go through.

When the foot-hills are reached
the herder and his camp-tender are glad
that the sheep have come until the fall of the year. From the latter
part of May until the latter part of
June the herding is in the foot-hills
before the flock moves into the forest
reserve in the mountains.

Most of the forest reserves are open
from about July 1 to October 1. Hard
ing on the reserve is not one of the
erders in the lower country or deserts. On the
reserve the herder has to bed out his
flock every night or on a different
bed ground. "Bedding out" means he
must spend the night in a tepee with
the herd away from the regular camp
on some high knoll or ridge. Herders
have saddle horses, with which they
move their teepes.

While herding up in the mountains
on the forest reserve the herder gets
up at daybreak and tends the flock
until about 8 or 9 o'clock; he then
pushes his sheep to water or shade
and goes to his camp to cook his
breakfast.

From 9 until 3 or 4 o'clock in the
Winter herding is not bad with those outfits that are in the desert. The herder can be a real job with the outfits that winter their herds on the desert. While the herding days are short during the winter months the herd on the desert, makes up for the short days when he has a large flock or a lot of black feet. In blizzards the sheep drift if they haven’t a good windbreak or a shelter of some sort. By trying to hold the herd from drifting the herder often gets lost in the blinding fury of the blizzard and freezes to death or freezes his feet or hands. The famous Red Desert and the Laramie Plains in southern Wyoming are notorious for blizzards and frozen sheep herders.

The herder in the southwest may not know what it means to be caught out in a blizzard, but he knows what it is to be caught out in a sandstorm. In the southwest tents are used for sheep camps. The herder shakes out his blankets every night to see if any rattle snakes or other poisonous reptiles have taken possession of his bed. Imagine trying to cook or eat a meal while a sandstorm is raging! If you open your mouth to eat it will get filled with sand; your eyes, of course, are full because you have to open them. If you try to cook something it will be filled with sand.

In the mountains the herder’s life is jeopardized by lightning and spotted tick fever; down in the desert by blizzards and poisonous reptiles. These are some of the occupational hazards of the sheep herding game. Moreover, there are, also, occupational diseases, such as rheumatism from sleeping out in tepees in all kinds of nasty weather and indigestion from eating too much meat and bread. In addition there is also, a black-list system which is used by the forest rangers to black-list all those herders who do not live up to the forest reserve rules. The Wool Growers’ Association (a sheep men’s organization) also use a black-list system to keep out the radical herders and camp tenders.

MIGRATORIES — HOME GUARDS

A camp tender is sometimes called the sheep herder’s flunky. His job is to move the herder’s camp and see to it that he is well supplied with chuck, wood and water; and if any sheep are lost the camp tender must go and look for them; if the herder cannot leave the camp at any time. A herder is on the job 24 hours a day; and he takes the days as they come, rain or shine. A camp tender serves from one to three or four camps, and stays each night in a different camp or attends his camps from the ranch or head-quarters once each week or every ten days.
WITH MALICE
AFORETHOUGHT

BY CLAY FULKS

It's a crooked and corrupt world we
live in—this world of sente and mal-
odorous capitalism; and apparently
because I am doing what little I can
toward helping to straighten it and
clean it out, I have recently become
the object of two atrocious attacks,
both of which were launched from
New York.

(But don't begin assuming that
this is the opening whimper of a lamenta-
tion from a timid walking soliciting
sympathy. On the contrary, it is
an actual howl of warning. With
this understanding you may read on.)

The enemy has made the epoch.
gious blunder of attempting to bribe me
outright and, for that thrifty offense,
I am going to expose him to the con-
tumely of the relatively few decent
people left in modern society.

Wall Street, probably Lombardy,
and certainly the Reichsbank of Berlin
have evidently entered into a conspira-
cy to buy me out of the Radical
Ranks. Employing the notorious Wall
Journal as the go-between and
the U.S. mails as messenger boy,
they slipped into my postoffice box
a small packet, looking just like any or-
dinary letter-envelope, and containing
100,000 German marks!

This is only the first of a long series
of attempts to buy me out of the Radic-
uls and as such I resent it
with an indignation that is positively
choking me. This bundle came to me
about two months ago and I have been
choked with anger ever since. If my
anger grows much more violent, I am
going to suck up this bundle and
send it back to the Wall Street Journal
and its principal.

Of course, the Journal tried to be
subtle enough in its method. It actu-
ally pretended to want to give me
the money in payment for the few
moments of time it would take me to
read a letter soliciting my subscription
to the paper. But any Radical who is
half familiar with stratagems of the
Enemy knows that the offer of such a
sum of money on such a flimsy pretext
is a downright attempt at bribery.

One hundred thousand marks is sup-
posed to be equivalent to $25,000.00
and I am too wise and wary to swal-
low the "explanation" accompanying
the money; I recognize the thing for
what it is an extremely tempting offer
to buy me away from Realism.

This insulting offer—implying, as it
doers, a fatal weakness in my integ-
reality—could be exceeded only by the
most fantastic and humiliating atrocity
possible of perpetration against a
Southern gentleman, and that atroci-
ety came in the next mail. A certain
gang of New York publishers, the
July-March Publishing Co.—probably
in on the secret of the money sent me
by the New Yorkers who wants to sell me
a book on the amatory adventures of a
dish, "a volume replete with the
Aromas and Amours of the brooding
and exotic East."

I want you already cannot! New
Yorkers to understand that I am a
Southern gentleman, a respectable
married man, an Forrest tiller of
the soil, an un purchasable Radical. I want
you to know right now that all your
Machiavellian and Mephistopelian
tricks are designed to induce me to sell the
Radical movement to raise money
by a book on the erotic perversion
of the Orient will prove utterly futile;
and every time you make an offer to
me, or to corrupt me in such a far-
tasteful way, you have spoiled my
Christmas utterly and if any of you perverted and dej­
ugly New Yorkers come into my
presence with any such sugges-
tions, you would have to face me with
horse pistols at close range or else,
as you would probably do, confess your-
selves pusillanimous political in-
worthiness of my ammunition.

THANKS TO FRIENDS

BOOKS
James Porter, W. H., Scott 0004 0004 4004 4004 0004 0004 4004 4004
Margaret Schlauch
CASH
Engle I. Brock ........................................ $50.00
Dedalot L., T. ......................................... 35.67
J. Lloyd and H. O'Connor .............................. 14.00
Anonymous ............................................. 13.00
Edgar B. Ryon ......................................... 10.50
Cleveland Temple .................................... 10.00
Vendome's Circle, Branch No. .......................... 10.00
James J. Flannan ...................................... 9.25
5th Branch S. B. ...................................... 9.00
Larry S. Davidson .................................... 9.00
Udolph Rich ........................................... 8.00
Walter H. Bergman .................................... 8.00
Joseph H. Schwartz .................................. 8.00
Torgul Dagvson ....................................... 8.00
Joseph Selzer .......................................... 8.00
Alice P. Gannett ...................................... 8.00
Industrial Manager
Marion is an auto mechanic, a shoe
coffer and a musician, among other
things. Some time ago, while working
in his father's garage, he designed
and made a two-cylinder automobile
which actually ran, to the amazement
of the town folks and, he admits, to
his own surprise.

He is now planning to make a more
intricate machine: a folder for the
Fortnightly.

122 Volumes
Continued From Page One

calculation in most small college libraries.
Of course, much—perhaps most—study
and reading is done in the
library reading room, where books in
constant demand are kept "on re-
serve."

Since the end of the summer quar-
ter new stack has been built in the
shelves room; all books removed to
allow room for expansion. Bob Hart-
ing, lib a jan, has sorted and re-
arranged the pamphlet collection, which
inches as many hundred pamphlets,
bulletins and "Ames Street" maga-
zines have recently been a doc to the
list, including Soviet Russia Today,
Survey of Current Business, Blast,
and The Anvil. Three trays have been
added to the card catalog for new
rooms for its steady growth. The cata-
log room has been rearranged and
new shelves built. As soon as the
work in the catalog room can be
brought up to date, work will be begun
in expanding the catalog. The
Government Census on labor ques-
tions and on cataloging a number of the
books on economics and history,
some of which are not in their proper
places.

The library always needs books,
particularly recent books and
pamphlets on labor questions, political
issues, economics, radical activities,
and recent history. Particularly
needed at this time are a copy of "Who's
Who in America," a bibliographical
dictionary, and "Ames Street Guide" and
an educational directory. Numbers two or three years old
would serve us just as well as the
newest editions. Among the books most needed are new and bi-
lateral reading are the following:

"Menace of Fascism" by John Stra-
chez, "Economic History of the Unit-
ed States" by H. raulker, "His-
tory of the First International" by Steklof, "Co-operation and the Future
of Industry" by L. Woll, "Socialism and
Co-operation" by L. Woll, "Co-
operation at Home and Abroad" by C. R. Fay, "The Crime of Cuba" by Carleton Beals, "Mexi-
ican Manners" by Carlton Beals, "The Significance of the Frontier in Amer-
ican History" by Frederick J. Turner, "The Great Tradition" by Granville
Hicks, and "Graft in Business" by John T. Flynn.

Holidays Quiet
Continued From Page One

wealth and is happy to devote his
time and talents to the cause.

Carl Rahn, of Baraboo, Wisconsin,
is a psychologist and former g t taught
at the University of Illinois. He
readily adapts himself to the "rough life
at Commonwealth and s this goes to
press is slicing onions for Common-
wealth Soup. He spent over a year
roughing it in the Polish corridor.