WARE MEMORIAL ADDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Appeal for Financial Aid Brings Commonwealth $270

While the demands on Commonwealth's services increase, the response to our call for funds, to date, has fallen far short of the amount needed to keep going for another year.

"Mother" Ella Reeve Bloor, noted 73-year-old farm organizer, informs the college that the Harold Ware Memorial Committee has added three scholarships to the four it has already given to Commonwealth to train young workers in the farmers' movement. The Committee was formed to carry on the work of "Mother" Bloor's son who died last summer. Ware spent his life building farmers' organizations.

The number of scholarships available for the winter quarter has grown to a total of twelve, and, since tuition fees do not completely make up the budget, this increases the amount the school must raise through donations.

Only $270 has come in since November 15 in answer to the appeal for funds. The added scholarships increase Commonwealth's financial responsibility. This makes more urgent than ever the need for the school's supporters to help us continue the work.

FURNACE FOR COLLEGE

"Made in Commonwealth"

Commonwealth's Dnieperstroy has been completed.

The new hot-air furnace under the classroom building, designed and built by Ralph Field with the assistance of Matt Mackie and some student labor, is now functioning. It replaces the stoves in the four rooms of the building by wall radiators that fill all corners with warm air. Classes will no longer huddle around a small wood stove.

The furnace, of the return-flue type, is constructed of stone and cement masonry and old iron. It took one month to

PRINTED WANTED—Job printer to work thirty hours weekly for his complete maintenance, incidental expenses and tuition. The work is produced from hand composition. Write to Charlotte Moskovitz, executive secretary.

WRITER-TEACHER MAKES LECTURE TRIP

Education and Russia Topics Of Talks in Oklahoma City

On a weekend trip to Oklahoma City, Myra Page, Commonwealth's instructor in proletarian literature and author of Moscow Yankee and Gathering Storm, made six talks before various trade-union and educational groups of that city.

Before the Central Labor body, which represented 13,000 organized workers, she spoke on behalf of the local teachers' union. At a meeting in the local YWCA sponsored by Local 373, American Federation of Teachers, her topic was "Education in Russia." She also appeared before several hundred students of the Oklahoma City University in their morning chapel.

Her main talk, "Who Rules the Soviet Union?," was given to the Friends of the Soviet Union, sponsors of the trip. Oscar Ameringer, of The American Guardian, acted as chairman. He terminated the meeting, in order to give Myra a rest, after she had lectured and answered questions for two-and-a-half hours.

Students and teachers from the University of Oklahoma at Norman, interested in Commonwealth, attended some of the talks.

Myra Page spoke on Commonwealth before two other gatherings and gained many more friends for labor education.

PACIFIC COAST LABOR SCHOOL

A non-factional resident labor college, similar to Commonwealth, is being organized in California by the Western Labor College Association of 5837 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland.

WHITTEN BOUND WEST FROM BOSTON

New York Interested in College And Mural; Cleveland, Dec. 6-9

Arrangements are being made to exhibit the Joe Jones Commonwealth murals at the A.C.A. Galleries in New York next February, according to Richard Whitten, director, who is making a tour of the East and middle West to interest the public in labor education. He writes from New York that Jones will supervise the removal of the painting, a portrayal of southern labor, and its installation when it returns, in time for his summer art class.

Whitten visited and spoke at Brookwood Labor College in Katonah, N. Y. He will be in Boston December 1 and 2, the next day in Syracuse, and December 4 and 5 in Rochester. The key person in the latter city is John Field, 204 Thurston Road.

He is lecturing on these subjects:

Commonwealth College — A Southern Labor School
Recent Sharecroppers' Struggles
Workers' Education for Southern Labor
United Front Against War and Fascism
The Prospects for a Labor Party

Persons living in the cities he is to

WORK PLANS STUDIED

Students Initiate Conference

To cut the working hours of students from 20 to 15 per week by co-ordinating the industrial departments for long-time planning was the goal set by Commonwealth's first production conference on November 27. The meeting was organized by Art Leche, student-body chairman, and Art Skreberg, industrial manager and Farmers' Problems instructor.

Department heads described their functions, labor needs, and programs. Then the many suggestions were con-
Workers Must Read

Compiled by HENRY BLACK, Commonwealth Librarian

Commonwealth College receives frequent requests for lists of important books, study guides and outlines. As a partial answer, this department will publish frequently short lists of books and articles on important topics, such as the one below. Occasionally more general lists of important books will be printed. Inclusion of an item implies, of course, neither agreement nor disagreement with the author; the attempt is only to include the most important references on each subject.

RECENT IMPORTANT BOOKS

This is not a list of the "Best Books" or even of the "Most Important Books" published during the past couple of years. But it probably can be said that the titles mentioned below are among the few that no one who wants to be well informed on current social and economic problems can afford to pass by.


Though published over two years ago this book is still the most brilliant and lucid account of the causes and probable future of the world crisis that has been written from the Marxian point of view.


The liberal and radical reviewers were very harsh and contemptuous in their judgments of Wells most recent book on sociology. And there is much in the book that is sloppy and trashy. But there is also much that is so bold and daring as the author ever was. Even the trashy parts are useful in that they show clearly the results of a certain type of thinking.


The growth of the Chinese Soviet Republics has been one of the most important events in Asia in recent years. But little information about them has been available. Yakhontoff's book is an excellent general historical survey. Smedley covers more thoroughly a smaller part of the subject.


This is not only a thorough analysis of the results and future of the Roosevelt Program; it is a classic of brilliant and witty writing in the field of economics.

WHAT IS COMMONWEALTH COLLEGE?

Commonwealth College is a non-detailed labor school which has as its function the training of young men and women for active service in some militant organization in the labor movement.

Its courses which include economics, history, labor problems, proletarian culture, creative writing, public speaking, journalism, psychology, etc., are taught from a point of view given to the working class.

Most of the food consumed at the college is grown on the college farm. The school has its own laundry, cannie, print shop, etc. All work is done congenially by members of the group. The school pays no salaries or wages. Teachers receive only their maintenance.

Students pay $58 tuition per quarter term (three months) and receive their board and room in exchange for 20 hours work per week during fall, winter and spring terms, and 15 hours per week during the summer terms; on the college farm, in the garden, office, library, etc.

Commonwealth is located near Mena, Arkansas in the Ouachita Mountains, the southermost range of the Ozarks.

Corey, Lewis. The Decline of American Capitalism, N. Y. Covici-Friede, 1934.

Though this is neither a small nor an easily read book, it is perhaps the most exhaustive report that has appeared concerning economic trends during the past quarter-century.


Few people will agree with this book and many will throw it down in angry disgust. But Niebuhr is not only an outstanding theologian. He is one of the few churchmen who know anything at all about the Marxian economics. Those facts together make the book of some importance.


Population movements and their results are seldom given serious attention by students of current social problems. Miss Charles has done an unusual piece of work in a book that is at once sane and conservative, technically accurate and interesting to the laymen. Her thesis is that a declining population is a real probability in all the more advanced countries. The chapters on statistical methods require close attention, but no special mathematical training.


Contains a great deal on the actual income and standards of living of the American family.


Of the many biographies of Lenin, this is perhaps the most useful to the beginner. It is particularly valuable for the earlier years of Lenin's life.

Students' Experiences

(A Note: Dorothy Halvorsen is a big-city girl from Evansville, Indiana.)

A Neighbor Dance

BY DOROTHY HALVORSEN

"How much farther we get to go?"

Socie asked as we stumbled single file along the trail which was overgrown with brambles and cluttered with rocks.

"We're pretty near there. Got to cross a creek up here a piece that's got a log bridge."

A log bridge? It had been hard enough to follow Charlie in the bright moonlight over the trail, without having to walk a log.

Charlie, Soc, Smitty, Art and I were going to a dance at a neighbor's. It was to be my first, and I didn't know exactly what to expect.

"Here's the bridge, folks," called Charlie, who was leading. The bridge was a single log that looked as if it had just fallen across the ten foot stream. It wasn't very big and was wet. There were stones on either side of it to hold it in place.

"Say, I can't cross this thing," I said, but Charlie only laughed and told me that I should see some of the bridges down here that he had crossed. However, he offered to help me and Soc crossed first, holding on to Charlie's hand as he led her. Then it was my turn. I started from the bank keeping hold of Art's hand, but before I could reach Charlie's outstretched hand my foot slipped.

"I told you so," I cried as I stood on the opposite bank shaking the water out of my shoe.

"You'll forget that when the neighbor boys start swinging you in the square dance."

"Well, where is your old dance, Charlie?" Soc asked. "We've crossed the creek."

"Bout a quarter of a mile over yonder."

When we approached the cabin it seemed impossible to me that a dance could be held in it, but we turned into the clearing and, as there were a couple of old Ford roadsters and a small truck standing there, I decided that this must be the place. The whole cabin didn't look any bigger to me than our living room at home, but Charlie said that it was a good-sized cabin for "these parts." It consisted of three rooms, two of which had been cleared for dancing. The other held the furniture from them all except a sewing machine which held the kerosene lamp that was the only light in the cabin, and a long bench against the wall. On this sat about fifteen girls waiting for the dance to begin. We hesitated
the doorway until the neighbor's wife brought us some chairs and took our coats.

The neighbor girls, we noticed, didn't talk. They simply sat there looking straight ahead except when Soc, Smitty, or I raised our voices, and then they looked curiously in our direction. It was all so simple and yet so strange to me that I felt self-conscious. I felt self-conscious.

Soon the neighbor boys came into the room, and each went up to a girl, asked her if she wanted to dance, and when she nodded without a word, turned around and went outside again till the caller yelled, "Grab your partners.

The musicians had put their chairs in the doorway between the two rooms that were to be used for dancing, and started tuning their instruments, three guitars and a fiddle.

As soon as the caller had collected the dimes from the boys to pay the musicians, the dance was on. It was a maze for me, as I had tried square dancing once before here at the college, but everyone in the set seemed to know so well what they were to do that I soon found I could follow them naturally.

The music was interesting. It seemed to be the same thing over and over, but with a peculiar rhythm that carried along. The neighbor girls went through the steps as the caller yelled:

"Meet your honey and promenade.
Treat 'em all alike if it takes all night" with the same staccato expression that had been theirs while sitting on the bench. I couldn't help smiling, yet felt funny as I did so.

Smitty, Soc and I danced continually. We would dance one half of the set, rest and then dance the other half. Then the whole thing again of sitting down, being asked, and then going into my feet mechanically into step with the music. The smile left my face and I felt myself a real part of the dance. Before the night was over, I knew why the neighbor girls didn't smile when dancing. Dancing like this, keeping up with the change of partners, the calls, and the intricate steps and turns was work, but work that was a pleasure.

"Ready to go home?" Charlie asked us after about four hours of dancing.

"I sure am!" I answered, and as I started along the rough path on my bot-tired feet, I thought: Boy, when I get to that creek I am going to wade right through it!

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**Campus Notes**

**AS THE** traditions of a changing social order crumble into the well-known dust, even the traditional monastic silence of the Commonwealth print shop is no more.

Since student Arthur Leche has been assisting in assembling the Fortnightly forms for the press, shrieks, wails and bellows have bulged the walls of the printing office in the manner of a silly movie cartoon. Through his efforts, Arthur has won recognition for the shop.

The campus is printshop-conscious.

Six-foot Arlie is vocal as he attempts a blues song in fortissimo, at the same time avoiding the use of any key whatsoever; depicts in the passing mule-team traffic through the window; adorns the extra little lead soldier that wants to squeeze into the full line in his composing stick.

Arlie's greatest threat however will reveal itself to the faithful Fortnightly readers when one of his typographical interpolations gets by the proofreader. But under cover of all the noise he is becoming a most proficient typesetter.

**LAST SUNDAY** morning two men sat under the classroom building. They were Ralph Field and Matt Mackie, looking for smoke leaks. The occasion was the inauguration of the new furnace.

The furnace, with its doors set plaque-like into the stone construction, looks like one of the many small monuments seen in America's small-town parks. But this is a different sort of monument.

A true socialist constructor, Ralph made full use of the capitalist dump heap. Metal from an old piano, a saw mill, truck, automobile motor blocks, railroad bridge, railroad weighing scale, fifty pieces, three-quarters of a ton, are all bolted together under the rock and cement. The corrugated iron chimney rises like a Greek column from its base of twelve tire rims in graduated sizes. Likewise the dome of the firebox—halves of tire rims bolted together. True to fiction, long after the concrete had set our housing commissioner turned up something for an old bed.

Also bolted in the furnace, supporters of Commonwealth should know, are thirty-five donation dollars, covering overhead, worker maintenance and cost of materials purchased. To buy for cash a heating system of this type would take more than five times that amount.

Commonwealth's students, faculty and maintenance workers join as one in voicing their appreciation to Ralph, but we feel that the job of work he has done will speak for him more fluently and for a longer time.

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**DESCRIBES GERMANY**

Student Talks on Visit Here

George Edson, a student of New Hampshire University, described his experiences in Germany at a community meeting last week.

Edson, visiting Commonwealth on route to California, posed in Germany as a fascist sympathizer and was shown about the concentration camps by the Nazis. He said that all college students must spend six months in a voluntary labor camp in order to remain at a German university.

He declared that strikes are breaking out frequently and saw illegal leaflets distributed by ingenious methods. He predicted that the severe economic crisis would soon end the Hitler regime.

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**RELIGION FORUM TOPIC**

Lecture by Henry Black

In a talk on religion in a socialist world, before the group at its weekly forum meeting, Henry Black, instructor, outlined the forms of religion in its ascendency during the stable period of each new society.

In the discussion he maintained that the problems of individual personality and of the ultimate nature of reality would remain in a collectivist society as bases for religious activity.

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**JACKIE'S A PUBLISHER...**

By Rex Pitkin

Jackie's a publisher now. Every morning she puts out a yellow sheet, entitled "Musings of a Megalomaniac Breakfast Helper." Jackie Leche, you see, gets up at 4:30 each morning to help Bill cook our breakfast and while waiting for the six o'clock bell to sound she pounces out a scandal sheet in Walter Winchell's best style. The wall newspaper is posted on the side of the breakfast counter and while waiting, plate in hand, for Jackie to serve us, we all read the sheet. Sometimes it's embarrassing. You never know when Jackie is going to expose you.

But Jackie can be bought. Ask Claude Gower, Commonwealth farm manager. Jackie snared an exclusive item about a fair commoner in Claude's heart and to prevent her from again publicizing his private life what do you think he did? . . He named a cow after her. We think it's a dubious distinction anyway. Naming cows after our fair commoners is old stuff. Chucky has had that honor for ages.
Hearst vs. Commonwealth
College Exposed as Pro-Labor

With the 1936 presidential election coming up, Hearst announces to millions of Americans that former Commonwealth heads are allowed to hold important Washington posts in the present administration. He intimates that men like these with their "alien-minded ideas" are being invited to help the government "overthrow" itself.

Hearst owns a huge estate in California where he entertains and perhaps "infectuates" hundreds of Americans yearly. It cannot be that he is concerned merely with a little 320-acre school that can accommodate only fifty American workers.

But he says nothing against organized labor, of course. He is only against Commonwealth College. What Commonwealth stands for is stated in the description of the school on page 2 of this "Fortnightly."

GIVES WORLD VIEW

Japan's present economic dilemma was succinctly presented in a commentary on world affairs given by Samuel Franklin on his recent visit here. Active for five years in the youth movement in Japan and just returned from world travels, Mr. Franklin gave illuminating facts on present conditions in the Far East, Germany, and Russia.

Whitten Bound West From Boston
from page one

He visit who wish to arrange for lecture dates or personal interviews should get in touch with the key person in their city as given below, or correspond with Charlotte Moskowski, executive secretary of the school. The remainder of his schedule follows:

Dec. 3 - Syracuse
Dec. 5 - Rochester
Dec. 6-9 - Cleveland
Dec. 10-12 - Chicago
Dec. 19-21 - Kansas City, Kansas
Dec. 22 - Topeka, Kansas (J. Walter Mills, 627 Madison Street)

Copies of the revised edition of the Commonwealth catalog are available upon request. This 12-page booklet lists and describes courses, teachers, methods, and activities.

Drama Group Performs
To Play in Mena December 15

Followed by a critical symposium in which the audience and cast participated, Peter Frye's labor drama class presented Daughter. From the story by Erskine Caldwell, to Commonwealth last Friday night.

Clifford Odets' Waiting for Lefty and Daughter will be presented on a program sponsored by the Workers Alliance local in Mena on December 15.

Work Plans Studied
from page one

considered in relation to the whole of the work to be done. Typical of the topics discussed were the hazards, prevention and lighting of fire; the improvements in the dairy; the newly-completed farm road; conservation of coal oil; basement for some of the buildings; proper placing of stove wood supply; improvement of library lighting and comfort.

Monthly meetings for suggestions, complaints and discussion will be held by the entire group. General drama class will be to give a to all a panoramic view of the entire industrial program, to increase efficiency, and to provide plans that will carry over projects from quarter to quarter.

Sees Britain Pushing Italy
Sunday Forum Hears Barnett

Great Britain is forcing Italy to a partition of Ethiopia. John Barnett, chairman of the faculty, said at last week's open forum. He declared that Mussolini could not continue the war indefinitely because of Ethiopia's topography which makes it difficult for the Italian troops to advance. The red deserts, mountains and poisioned wells make it easy for the invading nation to maneuver. In addition, Great Britain is exacting tribute from Mussolini for granting him the right to send supply ships through the Suez Canal.

LIBRARY BOOK NEEDS

Among the books needed in the library, the following are the most important:

Capitalism and Its Culture, by Jerome Davis;
The Crisis in the Middle Class, by Lewis Gompers;
Soviet Journey, by Louis Fischer;
Fascist America, by Sherwood Anderson;
Urgent America, by Alfred M. Bingham;
The Crisis of the Middle Class, by Lewis Gompers;
It Can't Happen Here, by Sinclair Lewis;
Revolts on the Campus, by James Wechsler;
Break Strikes: The Technique of, by Edgar Levinson;
Steel - Dictator, by Harvey O'Connor;
Handbook o' Marxism, edited by Emil Burns;
From the Kingdom of Necessity, by Isidor Schneider.

Furnace for College
from page one

build it into an excavation in the sloping ground under the south end of the building. It will burn half the amount of wood consumed by four stoves, and can easily heat a building twice the size of the present one.

By this installation, the class room, Museum of Social Change, library work room, and the living apartment are no longer "semi-pioneering" in heating arrangements.