COMMONWEALTH INVITES YOU TO VACATION AT ITS SUMMER SESSION

July 1 to September 7 - Ten Stimulating Weeks of Study and Rich Experience for $40

STUDY Social Theory in outdoor classes and acquire a tan. WORK three hours along-side fellow students and teachers five days a week and raise a flock of callouses and freckles. Go squirrel-hunting, fish or swim in Mill Creek, a real brook actually babbling through the College Farm and beneath the Campus Bluff. DO some moonlight dancing or bone in the all-night labor library.

Leave your rugged individualism at home and try ten weeks of collective activity in the wooded hills of Arkansas. You couldn't spend a more healthful summer—both mentally and physically. Commonwealth College is unique. You'll like it. There is a united front on the Campus, including the unaffiliated. Campus' life is informal, both sexes wear shorts and overalls, hoe in the garden and wash dishes together. There's no bunk. It's neither collegiate nor bohemian—just plain proletarian.

Nature sets the stage for swell summers in the stimulating foothills of the Ouachitas, with cool nights and delightful days. The Ouachita mountains are the southernmost Ozarks, famous for unspoiled beauty, "mountain dew" and hillbilly folkways. Frequent neighborhood square dances at the Commons with real folks stepping the Virginia Reel to an Arkansaw Fiddle. The Campus is twelve miles from the little town of Mena, so cotton-tails play tag and swallows fly down the dormitory chimney. Groups go hiking to Bear Mountain and Rich Mountain, or crystal and arrowhead hunting in the old Indian camping grounds nearer home. Your study schedule can be as full as you like and still there's time for tennis, volleyball and all sorts of evening entertainment.

The Summer Session in action shows students and teachers of all ages and factions, each doing his bit to keep the College 70 per cent self-supporting. A few up at dawn to get breakfast and ring the six-o'clock bell, some at barn chores and milking, others in the fields and garden; all making their own beds, carrying their own water, or putting in an hour at the 8,000 volume labor library before the first class. A subtle mixture of culture and agriculture.

Then the big Campus Bell, booming classes every hour from 7:30 till dinner. Afternoon: industrial or office work, with plenty of time for study and play. Town-trip, students hiking in and out, off to the old swimming hole and tennis courts. Supper at 5:30. Volley ball. Something doing every night: labor plays, forums, special lectures by noted guests, debates, stunt nights, weekly dance, weenie roasts, philosophy and frivolity.

Besides a wide choice of courses by the resident faculty there will be special lectures by outstanding guest speakers in the field of economics, politics, art and literature. You will get to know them intimately at Commonwealth because you will fish, hike, work and argue with them.

Already we have had acceptances from: Jack Conroy, Guggenheim fellow and author of The Disinherited, who will deliver a series of lectures this summer at Commonwealth on "The Proletarian Novel in America"; Bill Reich, representative of the National Unemployed League and editor of the Voice of the Worker, who will talk on his experiences as an active and militant organizer; Ben A. Botkin, University of Oklahoma authority...
LARGER ENROLLMENT FOR SPRING QUARTER

Courses Taken by 43 People; Capacity Summer Session
In Prospect

Enrollment for the spring quarter shows an increase of eleven over the winter, forty-three persons being enrolled for classes this quarter. Thirty-one of these are regular tuition-paying students, six of them on scholarships paid by individuals or organizations, and the remainder are maintenance workers and teachers taking classes in addition to their other college work.

Enrollment at Commonwealth has shown a steady increase since last fall, when it was lower than it has been since 1931. Inquiries for the summer session indicate that Commonwealth's present housing facilities will be taxed to capacity at that time.

Orientation, the only course which students are required to take, has a membership of twenty-four. This course is conducted by the entire faculty, under the direction of Mildred Price. Next largest class enrollment is for Effective Writing, which has sixteen. Rose Brown is the instructor.

Commonwealth Economics by Lucien Koch, Labor Journalism by Marvin Sanford, and Farm Problems and Organization by Carl Parker, are larger than the usual Commonwealth classes. The other courses being offered and having a full enrollment are: Public Speaking by Al Lehman, Creative Writing by Bob Brown, Drawing and Poster Design by Virginia Donaldson, Labor Problems by Raymond Koch, and Typing by Charlotte Moskowitz. Extra-curricular instruction is being given by Harriet Seymour in music and by Ben Low in labor dramatics.

COMMONWEALTH'S PLEA OVERSUBSCRIBED

Commonwealth needed $537 to cover the expenses of its fight against the sediment bills, and $551 has come in. So the books more than balance.

The $551 was sent in by forty-three different contributors, and most of the donations were for amounts under ten dollars. One check was for $150, three for $50, one for $25, two for $20, one for $15, seven for $10, eleven for $5, and sixteen less than $5.

The gift of this $551, which replaces the amount spent from the fund raised last fall to carry Commonwealth through until the next quarter, insures the school financial security for the next two quarters, if no serious emergencies arise.

Bob Brown's Almanac

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is Bob Brown's calendar of events, both varied and typical, of the winter quarter at Commonwealth.

JANUARY 1935

1 Winter Quarter begins with full enrollment
2 Museum of Social Change officially opened
3 Unique Orientation Course starts
15 Campus celebrates a wedding with banquet and dancing
16 College sends delegation to help share-croppers organize
17 College Crystal Collectors and Arrow-head Hunters competition won by student who found arrow-head made of crystal
20 Lenin Memorial Program at Commons

FEBRUARY

1 United Front formed on Campus
6 Hike and Weenie Roast on Rich Mountain
10 Writers Union, Local No. 2, organized
16 Legislators arrive on Campus, refuse to stay to lunch, hold "star chamber" midnight hearing at Mena Court House
same day, Gooch sedition bill rushed through
21 Neighbors invited in for monthly square dance
22 Washington's birthday—no cherry pie

MARCH

6 New bill aimed at CC—this time "anarchy"
10 Writers Brigade formed
15 The 'ol swimmin' holeopen for the season
16 Scholarship to best Museum exhibit
17 Both bills defeated
18 Fire at Union Square Dorm put out by bucket brigade
19 Weekly forum and current events

ANTI-WAR STRIKE

A United Front anti-war program was given on Friday, April 12, between 11 and 12 o'clock. In this way Commonwealth aligned itself with this movement all over the world who struck on the same day and hour in protest against another world war.

The whole group on the campus participated. At 11 o'clock all classes and industrial work ceased. A one-act anti-war skit was given, followed by talks by both faculty members and students. As a workers' college, Commonwealth has relentlessly fought against another war for profit.

BOOK NEEDS

Among the books most needed by the library at this time are the following:


WHAT IS COMMONWEALTH COLLEGE?

Commonwealth College is a non-factional 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 puritan to the working class. Most of the food consumed at the college is grown on the college farm. The school has its own laundry, cannery, print shop, etc. Work is done by members of the group. The school pays no salaries or wages. Teachers receive only their maintenance.

Students pay $10 tuition per quarter term ($3 monthly) and receive their board and room in exchange for 26 hours work per week during fall, winter and spring terms, and 15 hours per week during the summer term, on the college farm, in the garden, office, library, etc.

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

20 Associated Little Magazines formed with coast-to-coast membership and national secretary on Campus
21 Napoleon, the Farm bull, registers Spring by jumping fence into neighbor's pasture
Spring flowers and Spring greens appear on Commons table
All peaceful in the Owachitas
FARM IMPROVED, NEW CROPS ADDED
Increase in Amount and Variety of Fruits and Vegetables

The Commonwealth Farm, under the management of Claude Gower and Charlie Brown, is rapidly becoming the chief source of food supply for the college. By the end of April more than ten acres will have been put into garden, the earliest planting in the history of the school.

Most of the farm in the valley is fenced off into garden and pasture. Four acres of the best soil were turned over to Charlie Brown. He has already planted in carrots, lettuce, peas, sugar beets, onions, tomatoes and potatoes. An acre and a half of the upper garden on the campus will be planted in watermelon and muskmelon. Alois Opek, taking care of most of the upper garden, is experimenting with asparagus and is quite hopeful of a crop. He will also plant other vegetables later.

Slight frosts will make our pea crop quite doubtful. But we do hope to have fine strawberry, dewberry and blackberry patches. In another year or so a new orchard will be bearing fruit and possibly some large paper-shell pecans.

Farm plans are to plant ten acres in corn, continue to increase the garden, add to the potato acreage, and enlarge the pasture.

Although weather forecasts predict a shortage of rain, we hope this year to beat the high cost of food by the excellent attention and management the farm is getting.

STUDENTS ATTEND RELIEF CONFERENCE
Bob Reed Reports on Unity and Program of Drouth Area
Farmers’ Organizations

Three Commonwealth students, Bob Reed, Bob West and Peder Jorgensen, as delegates from the school, attended the Third Farmers Relief Conference held at Sioux Falls, S.D., March 25 to 27. Four hundred delegates attended the conference, most of them from the section of the country most affected by the drouth of 1934. Among the resolutions passed was one endorsing Commonwealth College.

Bob Reed, in reporting on the conference to the Commonwealth student body and faculty, said in part: “At this conference, in Lem Harris’s report and in the vital discussion from the floor, it was shown how completely the New Deal policy of helping the farmers through a reduction and destruction program has only increased their misery. The delegates realized that the problems facing these poor immediate ones. They must have cash relief in order to put in a crop this year.

“The conference condemned the government policy of placing farmers on ‘subsistence’ farms to try to scratch out a living. Demands were raised sharply for production credit sufficient to restore farms to full capacity and for adequate relief without debt. To carry on the fight for these demands, a committee was elected to go to Washington and present them to Congress. The committee members are there at this time, and as they present their demands they are armed with loads of petitions and letters from farmers in the drouth area. The conference was a big step toward unifying farmers on a militant program.

DORMS DECORATED AND REFURBISHED
Addition of Color and Conveniences Improves Housing

Interior decoration, which in the past has received almost no attention at Commonwealth College, is being neglected no longer. Visitors at Commonwealth and former students will remember the sad bare dormitory walls covered with bleak blue building paper; and particularly must they remember those suites where enthusiastic students added painted orange spots or red borders to the paper walls to relieve their moody blankness. Individual inspiration and the use of any old scarf or couch-cover within reach used to be the system of making the home more homelike at Commonwealth.

All that has changed now. Harriet Seymour from Chicago is responsible. Under her direction—with Smith Sanford and Virginia Donaldson as assistants—the girls’ dormitory has been completely transformed, and the boys’ dorms are about to receive the same treatment. Realizing that Commonwealth students have little time to care for fragile furnishings even if they had them, Harriet has made the rooms comfortable and easily cleaned first, and has achieved a beautiful effect through the use of bare wood and much harmonizing color. The renovating has been done with very little expenditure, and has consisted chiefly of scraping the paper from the walls and staining them, adding new curtains with painted wooden rods and rings, painting the old furniture and adding shelves, new couch covers made of dyed burlap sacks, bright cushions and pottery, and college-made rag rugs.

Associated Little Magazines

EDITOR’S NOTE: This column will be conducted by Abbott Cohen, elected secretary of Associated Little Magazines, whose Commonwealth scholarship is being paid by Associated Little Magazines.

The column, Little Mag, What Now?, has resulted in the formation of Associated Little Magazines. At present there are fourteen founding members: Blue Pencil; Commonwealth College Fortnightly; Dubuque Dial; Hinterland; Kosmos; Latin Quarterly; Manuscript; Medallion; Poetry World; Smoke; Spinners; The Magazine; The Social Frontier; and our NY headquarters: Gotham Book Mart. Others will be announced in the next issue of the Fortnightly. Membership to the Associated Little Magazines is still open—new members will always be welcome, because the more members the Association has, the better it can function for each. Membership costs $3 in advance for a period of three months. Chief functions of the Association are to get paid advertising for the entire group, to increase direct sales and subscriptions, and to get more reliable bookstores and newstands to handle little magazines, so that a wide reading public will be reached.

Beginning with the next issue, Manuscript inaugurates a new idea, publishing pictures of authors they have “discovered”... Good, I have often wondered what some writers look like. Perhaps I will be surprised?? Smoke will print forward-looking poetry, if the board of editors can be convinced that the work is also aesthetically dynamic.

Address: Box 1273, Providence, R.I.

Howard Vailey suggests that members of the Associated Little Magazines submit their three best poems and stories to all, and then pick the grand one by ballot. THE BEST SHORT STORY OF THE YEAR. When you are ready, let me know.

FLASH— ‘Blind Dave’ has merged into The Lance; ‘The Dead Lives Again. A new magazine: Youth, for tomorrow’s leaders. 150 Parrish Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Editor Davis writes: “Youth, like all of them, is being published on a shoestring. So, no payment at present.” That’s just what the Associated Little Magazines was founded for.

Sanora Babb, 1156 N. Curson Ave., Hollywood, Calif., wants addresses of all little magazines.

Bigger and better flashes in next Fortnightly.

Published twice a month at Mena, Arkansas, by Commonwealth College. Subscription one dollar a year. Entered as second-class matter, January 30, 1928, at the post office at Mena, Arkansas, under the act of August 24, 1912.
Mother Bloor, Ward Rodgers, James Farrell, Jack Conroy, Carl Haessler, Winifred Chappell
Bill Reich, Ben Botkin, Charles J. Finger, and many others will be here

on folklore and editor of Search, who will conduct discussions on "Labor Folklore," James T. Farrell, one of America's most important young novelists, author of the current novel Judgment Day, the third book of his trilogy; Ella Reeve (Mother) Bloor, 70-year-old leader in the left-wing farm movement, who will lecture on "History of the Labor Movement" and "Historical Strikes"; Carl Haessler, founder and managing editor of Federated Press, whose lecture subjects will be "Red vs. Yellow Journalism," "Labor Thinking," etc.; Ward Rodgers, Socialist and Southern Tenant Farmers' Union organizer, whose arrest at Markel Tree, Arkansas last January made the whole country aware of share-cropper conditions there, and who will speak at Commonwealth on his experiences.

Most of these speakers will be here for two weeks, exact dates to be announced in an early issue of the Fortnightly.

At Commonwealth life is busy but not strenuous. The curriculum is full and the classes are in a class by themselves - class-conscious classes, held right out on the Campus every day but Sunday, from July 1 to September 7, atop the breezy 70-foot bluff and within sound of the mountain stream. Shady trees, birds, butterflies and flowers combine to make this the ideal summer center for teachers, students, the city-tired - fellow-workers all.

A natural, unspoiled setting for the early morning hour gives to Labor Orientation. This course alone is worth the whole price of tuition - for in it the student gets a complete time-space picture of the class struggle from the primitive communism practiced by the Ancient Slaves to the dialectical metronome of Moscow, setting the world pace of Social Change. And these lessons are backed up by visits to America's first collection of class-conscious exhibits - the Museum of Social Change.

Spend 40 inflation dollars for 70 inspirational days on this active Campus where no two days are alike, although all begin with a hearty farm breakfast with plenty of milk from college-educated cows and end with some sort of group get-together, either at the Commons, Dorms, or Faculty Cottages.

Come down this summer in your car - there's 320 acres of free parking space - take a bus, hitch-hike or grab a freight. Leave your wardrobe trunk at home and bring your sense of humor - you'll need it if you draw a leaky roof. Also bring sheets and pillow if you use them, but anyway two blankets, for the nights are ALWAYS cool. Bring sandals, tennis shoes or hiking boots, shorts, bathing suit, overalls, comb and tooth brush.

Upon arrival at Mena, Arkansas, inquire at the City Drug Store or Mack's Grocery for the Commonwealth truck. If it isn't in town telephone the College, take a taxi, or walk the twelve miles. In any case, you'll be glad when you get here.

CURRICULUM

American Labor Movement; Public Speaking; Political Economy; Creative Writing and Proletarian Literature; Current Events; Social Psychology; Farm Problems; Labor Orientation; Labor Drama and Music; Drawing, Composition and Poster Design; etc.

COST

The cost of the entire summer session is at the rate of only $1 a week for students who work 15 hours. Meals, lodging and laundry included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full 10-week SESSION</th>
<th>Per MONTH</th>
<th>Per DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students who work</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-working Students</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (no work)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Charlotte Moskowitz, Secretary,
Commonwealth College, Mena, Arkansas:

Please send Application for Summer Session
Keep me posted on Summer Session plans
I am enclosing a list of friends who should be interested

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________

Please hand this Fortnightly to a friend who would enjoy a unique vacation.