

The Llano Colonist

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RENEWALS AND CHANGES OF ADDRESS—When renewing, al-
ways give the name as it appears on your label. When changing address,
you MUST always give us the OLD as well as the new address.

CARL GLEESER—Editor.

Self-reliance and the right kind of teaching would make profiteering impossible.

Mutual co-operation, concord, and community of interest yield more satisfactory returns than competition has ever provided for the people.

Observance of natural law in human affairs will provide plenty for all and there is no natural reason why those who produce that abundance should yield any of it up to those who are engaged in non-beneficial or destructive activity.

The right way of human fellowship has been found and demonstrated. Gather yourselves together in bonds of friendship. Pool your possessions, co-operate together; help yourselves and your redemption from economic slavery will have been accomplished.

By self-employment and voluntary intelligent mutual co-ordination and co-operation, the maximum production of supplies, amenities, and enjoyments can be provided with a minimum expenditure of effort. Leaving abundance of time for leisure and sociability and opportunity for the highest culture.

Everyone must decide for himself whether he will live in the land of plenty or in the house of want. The kind of a life people lead is optional with them. Want and suffering are due to erroneous notions and not to any great obstacle in the way of plenty and a happy life. A comfortable house can be built for less than the purchase price of an automobile; nevertheless, people will overflow cities where rents are high and housing inadequate. Enough food for a family can be raised on an acre of ground with a few days' work, precluding all the possibilities of being exploited by extortionate freight charges and the profiteering of a host of middlemen. The men who sell their labor and buy their living are exploited in both transactions. There is no other way to improve human affairs than to go directly to the individual and teach him better ways of living and of providing himself with the necessities and comforts of life. By familiarizing ourselves with the natural laws of this world and acting in conformity with them, plenty, leisure, and abundance will result as a normal condition. Legislatures can neither repeal nor abrogate the laws of nature, but individual disregard of them will inflict the self-enforce penalties.

President Harding certainly must be a great optimist when he makes the statement that America is on the way of eliminating poverty. He surely must have failed to read a recent advertisement of the National City Bank of New York City, which says:

"Statistics show that of 100 people, 25 years old, 54 will be dependent on other at 65; 36 will be dead, many of them for want of attention that money would have secured; 5 will be working for a meagre living; 4 will be well-to-do, and 1 will be independent. Out of the entire 100 only 5 will be in satisfactory circumstances."

Is there any valid reason why 95 per cent of the population should go to wreck and ruin when the productive power has increased a hundredfold?

HAYS MOVIES WILL NOT FILL EMPTY STOMACHS

Washington. — Will H. Hays, yielding to Hubert Work as postmaster-general, is to undertake to "keep the American public from getting radical"—by his dictation of the policy of the organized producers and distributors of moving pictures.

It is explained, on the highest possible confidential authority, that Hays looks upon the American people as a parent looks upon a crying baby—it must be distracted and amused, when it begins to cry and to get red because it is unhappy. To an unhappy baby a mother gives a prettily-colored rattle. To the American public the movies are serving the same purpose. The public is to look at the motion pictures and read the sentiments printed upon the screen and smile and forget its economic unhappiness and drop its radical inclinations.

Co-operative Harmony Results From Self-Control

Please just realize that sophistry, superstition, or just say-so's of any man, no matter of how high a station or reputation, can not change a single fact; and begin to do your planning and thinking on the basis of known facts only. Genuine ideas are facts in nature and can be demonstrated to those who are willing to learn them. An assumption a guess, an opinion, a speculative theory, is not an idea; and all the antagonisms, wranglings from opposing viewpoints are simply due to the fact that the opponents are neglecting to take concrete conditions and the concrete requirements of human life and social relations into consideration. Their aircastles are built on a foundation of sand and cannot stand. Only when the mind builds on the bedrock of natural facts, discovered and verified by demonstration, can it erect a structure that will withstand the stress and storm of time and all the attacks of the adversary.

Circumstances alter cases in many respects. The farmer on the cut-over lands in Louisiana is confronted by a different problem from that which confronts the farmer in New England, or on the western prairies, or up in Canada, and the co-operator in America who really wants to accomplish something, has a different element and different conditions to deal with from those that surround and confront co-operators in the various countries of Europe.

From time to time reports are published of the remarkable success scored in co-operation by foreign-born American citizen in various sections of the country, notably among the Finns, the Danes and the Yiddish speaking immigrants from Poland and Russia. All these are homogeneous groups, among whom exists a bond of fellowship and very often also religious ties as well; not overlooking the more highly essential prevalence of personal reliability and mutual confidence ascertained and developed by long years of social intercourse. Only on the basis of such experience can the remarkable success of these foreign-born co-operators in America be explained.

Here in America on the other hand among a population more or less of a migratory character, heterogeneous in sentiment and disposition, and various convictions, the introduction of co-operation has far more difficulties to contend with. Where the would-be co-operators do not personally know one another, where the personal reliability of prospective trustees and the managerial personnel is not definitely known by would-be co-operators, some other bond of unity must be found. A bond of scientific knowledge with a determination to scrupulously conform to and live up to it is the only one that will withstand all the vicissitudes of every description. Scientific knowledge will be as true in a thousand years from now as it is to-day. It is as true in America as it is in all sections of the world, and only differs in application as climatic and other conditions vary.

Since the days of Owens, co-operative experiment on the Wabash in Indiana in the early days of the 19th century, many others have been made and most of them failed because the different character of the human element involved was not taken into consideration and the individuals were not as yet adapted to co-operate voluntarily, peacefully and harmoniously. Social life requires co-operation, productive and otherwise, and where it does not voluntarily evolve in some way or another, it will be arbitrarily imposed by some means of deception or violence, and such often very trying forms of co-operation may be maintained for many generations by false teaching, threats, or even the infliction of violence to deter any one to question their validity. Fettering the minds of those compelled to submit to involuntary and iniquitous forms of co-operation has been the most approved method preferred by the exploiters of mankind in all ages. And to prevent any escape of their victims from that thralldom every attempt at enlightening them to better forms has by every stratagem that low cunning could devise been obstructed or circumvented. When the people have partly waked up, contradictory speculations have been disseminated among them, to confuse them and to create dissension and to make the growth of co-operative sentiment impossible.

It is because of this fact that the old Greek injunction, "Man, know thyself" is so imperative. He must know himself and he must know the world in which he lives and he must know the best methods and ways to bring about conditions that will secure his well-being, security and happiness. All this is involved in the study of mental science. And that means definite attention to his particular problem in hand until he finds the scientific solution for it, and then to act in accordance to conform with the laws of nature.

"Get onto your job" is the slogan at Llano Colony. We have only an ideal, but we are studying and planning and thinking day and night to transfer that ideal from the domain of transcendentalism to the plane of material actualization.

It is not a mere bread and butter proposition that this Colony is engaged in. Practical experience of many years has shown that the problem is pre-eminently a psychological one; that the mind and the heart must be right before a person can intelligently co-operate with satisfaction to himself and his associates in a voluntary co-operative enterprise. If a person aspiring to membership in such a group has no other ideal except of getting the good things of life for himself without concerning himself what happens to any one else, he has not as yet reached the right mental attitude or the right kind of feelings for the rest of the folks. The job of fitting himself for co-operative living is up to every individual and it must be done from within, as it never can be brought about from without. All the selfish and anti-social traits must be starved out. They must disappear, and you must become a new kind of man or woman, willing to do the right thing spontaneously to everyone concerned.

HARDING ADMINISTRATION ANTAGONISTIC TO WORKERS

(By The Federated Press)
Washington. — "Our experiences with the present administration compelled us to conclude that the workers need expect no consideration at its hands," says Fred Hewitt, editor, *Machinists' Monthly Journal*, in the April issue of that publication, discussing the needless and ruthless dismissal of thousands of veteran workers at the navy yards.

W. VA. RED CROSS AIDS OPEN SHOP DRIVE

(By The Federated Press)
Cleveland. — Following the personal appeal by a committee of West Virginia miners to chiefs of the Railroad Brotherhoods in Cleveland, W. S. Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, has sent out a circular to the local divisions of the organization, asking individual contributions from the engineers to aid the miners' relief committee that is now endeavoring to save 18,000 destitute miners' families from perishing for the lack of food. The miners of West Virginia themselves contribute \$12,000 a week, but the 66 cents per family thus raised is wholly inadequate to buy even beans and cornmeal for the starving miners and their children.

According to evidence furnished by the miners, the Red Cross in West Virginia is dominated by the mine owners and has done very little to relieve the situation beyond offering relief to miners who will sign non-union contracts.

SINISTER MORGAN INFLUENCE AIMS TO DEGRADE

"If the United States Steel Corporation to-morrow said 'Let the unions in the West Virginia be recognized,' they would be recognized, Samuel Untermyer, noted lawyer and himself, perhaps, the largest individual stockholder in the Steel Corporation, told the United States Senate committee on education and labor during its recent investigation into industrial conditions in the unorganized coal fields of that state.

Behind the so-called "open shop" drive in West Virginia, Untermyer declared, are the United States Steel Corporation, and the Pennsylvania Railroad, both "sponsored" by J. P. Morgan and Co. These corporations, he said are attempting to put the coal industry of West Virginia on a "solid" non-union basis and use it as an entering wedge to smash unionism in the entire coal industry of America.

INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ACTION FAVORED IN NORTHWEST

(By The Federated Press)
Seattle. — Powerful support is being directed behind Farmer-Labor party forces in this state for independent political action. John C. Kennedy, state secretary of the party, and formerly Socialist city councilman in Chicago, has expressed confidence that workers here will not try the policy of functioning through the old parties. James A. Duncan, secretary of the Seattle Central Labor council, has pronounced for independent politics.

A woman is like your shadow; follow her, she flies; fly from her, she follows.—Chamfort.

Women are the flowers of life, as children are its fruits.—Bernardin de Saint Pierre.

THE OBJECT OF NEWLLANO'S CO-OPERATIVE EXPERIMENT

Perhaps many readers of the *Colonist* do not realize the full scope of the co-operative work that the people at Newllano are engaged in. It is not a mere group enterprise for the purpose of improving the economic condition of the people devoted to the establishment of the different industries and activities here. If only the immediate personal advantages of the resident co-operators were aimed at, a great deal of the propaganda carried on might readily be dispensed with.

Such, however, is not the aim or the purpose of the Llanoites. The object is to demonstrate the right methods of human fellowship and to establish righteous economic institutions that can be expanded all over the world.

The economic and social methods of Newllano are intended to appeal to the reason and good common sense of the people; to awaken in them the desire to imitate and to adopt the same methods and to prove to themselves that they are the very best that up to the present have been discovered. The right system of co-operation cannot satisfactorily be imposed from without. It must be initiated and developed because the people who engage in the task are impelled from within to take it up and devote their lives to its establishment.

At last week's psychological meeting two letters were read. One from a friend in New York City, laying bare the terrible distress of hundreds of thousands in that modern Babylon. The other one from a former colonist who is absent from the Colony and feels something lacking at his present location—the spirit of comradeship that permeates every activity at Llano Colony.

At Llano Colony no purpose is harbored that will be inimical or detrimental to the well-being and the just rights and needs of any one. Our motives and methods are right and in harmony with the laws of nature as far as known to the membership. The spirit of helpfulness prevails; and there is no disposition to impose the best system of co-operation on people who have not yet reached that plane of development.

CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE A BIG WINNER

(By The Federated Press)
New York—It cost the farmers of Woodridge, N. Y., less than 1 cent per \$100 for fire insurance last year. They "wrote" their own fire insurance, on the co-operative plan, and the results are told in a bulletin issued by the Co-operative League of America, 2 West 13th street, New York City.

With \$4,330,660 of fire insurance in force at the end of last September the expenses incurred amounted to only \$38,000, which included \$27,000 in losses and only \$1100 for administrative and operative expenses.

NIGHT OF MARCH 4TH COLDEST OF WINTER

Most people did not realize it, perhaps; but last Saturday night, according to the United States Weather Bureau Observers' Station at Newllano, was the coldest night of the winter. The temperature tumbled to the 25 mark, but evidently did not stay there long, as Sunday proved to be a fine spring day—just right for hiking and baseball and other out-door amusements. The farmers and gardeners have been taking advantage of the excellent weather this week and considerable progress has been made with the plowing and planting already.

Follows the official report:
Feb. 28—max. 55, min. 42
Mch. 1—max. 54, min. 35
Mch. 2—max. 45, min. 31
Mch. 3—max. 45, min. 29
Mch. 4—max. 56, min. 25
Mch. 5—max. 68, min. 36
Mch. 6—max. 63, min. 59
Rain fell on Feb. 28 and Mch. 1, to the amount of .65 inch.
Barometer would indicate warm weather the first part of the week, and colder the latter part of the week.

A Story With a Message for Co-operators

CO-OPERATION has been successful in European countries for many years in the retail and wholesale grocery and provision business, and has recently branched into the manufacturing end. But co-operation for dividends or for savings on the weekly grocery needs, is alright as far as it goes.

The Llano Co-operative Colony was founded to extend this co-operation into every phase of human need. With this in view, there is no limit to the possibilities for co-operation in a community where all land, machinery, tools, industries, etc., needed and used for the welfare of all, are owned equally and controlled collectively.

No individual greed or desire for special privilege can benefit at the expense of the needy.

The dominant thought of the Llano Co-operative Colony is that it shall be an association of workers banded together to protect the interests of each and of all in such a manner that they may secure the entire result of their labor, using such methods and devices as shall be necessary to accomplish this end. In order to make this possible, it was necessary that a favorable location blessed with natural resources should be secured.

The Llano Co-operative Colony is located on a 20,000-acre tract of land in the healthful Highlands of Western Louisiana, two miles from Leesville, the county seat of Vernon Parish. It is about 15 miles from the Sabine River, 100 miles from Shreveport, and nearly 300 miles from New Orleans. The Kansas City Southern Railway runs through the tract.

The Highlands at this place are gently-rolling hills, giving perfect drainage,—which is a very important thing. Health reports, as well as the experience of the colonists during more than three years, indicate that health conditions here will compare favorably with those in any section of the United States. No sickness has been experienced which can be attributed to location or climate.

The Colony contracted to purchase 20,000 acres on very advantageous terms. Five thousand acres have already been deeded to the Colony. In making the contract of purchase of this tract, the stores and buildings of a former lumber town were included. Among them are the hotel, with its dining room and kitchen, rooms for guests and the library; two great sheds; two large barns; a store; an office building; dozens of small houses; hundreds of thousands of feet of lumber; a concrete power house; a four-cell dry house; and other buildings. The value of these buildings to the Colony is almost incalculable; as they now house inhabitants and industries.

Resident members of the Colony are in direct control of its industrial activities. An executive board of directors are chosen each year and may be removed by a vote of the members. In turn this executive board selects the heads of departments, who are responsible to the board for the conduct of their work.

The aim of the Colony is to make its community life as enjoyable as possible. In this it has succeeded admirably. The many educational advantages for both children and adults are noteworthy. The equality of all, the common interest in the prosperity and progress made, the social equality, the equality of allowance made for living costs, the freedom from worry, the spirit of the undertaking which will erect a new method of living—these are the features of the colony life which grip. Eight hours a day, an allowance made so that children learn independence, everything sold as nearly cost as possible, the elimination of profit and rent, the same, happy, carefree life of the inhabitants impress all visitors. Never before did any community possess such advantages, such prospects, such a pleasant life as does this one.

As the most direct basis for the support of the Colony, agriculture comes first. Allied to agriculture is the dairy department, with its herd of 20 milk cows and 17 Holsteins, obtained on contract from the U. S. Government; will soon develop into source of income. To secure the greatest efficiency in the various farming operations, and for logging two Fordson tractors have been added to the Colony equipment.

Experience proves that garden truck of almost any kind, many fruits, berries, cotton, sweet potatoes, beans, corn, sugar cane, and peanuts do well, while rice, potatoes, and other crops may be grown for home use.

In this connection, the Colony last year harvested 3000 bushels of fine sweet potatoes, which were put into the evaporator house and cured.

In the cane-growing, the Colony is very successful, having made 1700 gallons of pure sugar cane syrup and 700 gallons of sorghum molasses last season.

Recent harvests have proved to the colonists that soy beans, peanuts, and velvet beans make splendid crops and are rich in food value.

An orchard of twenty acres has been planted, the fruit trees being supplied by the government. It is a natural berry country, and many kinds are found growing wild.

The mild, long season is especially adaptable to the raising of live stock. The native grasses which grow rank among the timber and along the creeks, provide excellent feed for the greater part of the year.

Better than some gold mines is a splendid bank of clay, suitable for brick and tile, right on the Colony's townsite. A modern brick-making plant, having a capacity of 15,000 brick per day, has recently been installed. The bricks made are of excellent quality and find ready sale. With the growth of this industry, it is now only a question of time when the small frame structures of the lumber days will be replaced by commodious brick houses.

Among the other industries being operated for the benefit of the community, are the following:

Wood-working and handle-making machinery; blacksmith shop, and wagon-making department; steam laundry; broom-making factory; shoe-repairing and harness-making shops; printing and publishing plant; bakery; butcher shop; general commissary; sweet potato-drying department; hospital; hotel; swimming pool; theater; and at various other seasons other work is done.

Most of this has been accomplished in the last two years; for the colonists have now learned how to co-operate and conquer their selfish desires in favor of collective need.

They believe in co-operation, and it takes careful study and persistent training to eliminate the competitive spirit which has been drilled into them from youth.

Thus, the Colony divides co-operators into two general classes: One class may join the Colony and co-operate with their fellows completely; The other class desires to live near a co-operative community, yet own their own land, tools, etc., desiring private ownership in these things. These may buy land near the Colony at \$15 per acre.

The Colony is now in a position to interest both. Those who wish to come into the Colony may do so on the terms of membership given in another place on this page. Those who wish to own land may buy a Co-operative Farm, participating to an extent in the co-operative advantages of the Colony. They may market their crops with the Colony, enjoy the social advantages, and many of the educational advantages, with the privilege of exchanging land to be applied on a membership if desired and if acceptable as members. The Co-operative Colony will retain about 5,000 acres for itself. The idea is to build up a Co-operative Commonwealth.

The colony employs agents, but does not authorize them to close any transactions. Memberships should be taken out through the Membership department, Llano Co-operative Colony, Leesville, La.

The colony wants members. It wants people to become interested in this enterprise. No one makes any private profit. It is the opportunity which co-operators have dreamed of. It is now an established fact. Will you do your part to extend the field of its influence?

Those intending to visit the colony should get off the train at Stables. All trains stop here. You may not be able to purchase a ticket to this place; you may have to buy to Leesville, but you can get a ticket from Leesville here for ten cents without getting off the train. We meet all trains; the colony town is right on the railroad. Notify us when you expect to arrive if you can do so.

If you are interested, send for more information and ask such questions as you wish. Send stamps for reply. We want you to know about us and we want you to ask questions about everything not made clear to you. Literature sent free on request.

Llano Co-operative Colony

LEESVILLE, LA.
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