

AN INVITATION

If you receive a sample copy of this paper, it is an invitation to you to subscribe. Some friend of yours has asked us to send it.

Sample trial subscription is ten cents a month. Regular subscription is \$1.50 a Year; five cents a Copy.

A WEEKLY MESSENGER FROM THE LLANO COOPERATIVE COLONY

The Llano Colonist

MEMBER THE FEDERATED PRESS

To expound the principles of complete co-operation that other colonies may be formed to emulate the Successful Llano Co-operative Colony.

VOL. II, No. 1.

PUBLISHED AT LLANO COLONY LEESVILLE LOUISIANA, SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1922.

PRICE FIVE CENTS—\$1.50 YEAR

The Message of May

BY EUGENE V. DEBS

TO THE COMRADES OF LLANO COLONY, WHO ARE TO CELEBRATE THEIR EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY ON MAY DAY COMING, I CHEERFULLY SEND GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES. THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLONY COMES AT A FITTING TIME, WHEN ALL THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD JOIN IN CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY. THE COMRADES AT LLANO SEEM TO BE PROSPERING IN THEIR WORK, JUDGING FROM THE ENTHUSIASTIC RE-

PORTS WHICH HAVE RECENTLY COME FROM MEMBERS OF THE COLONY: THE CO-OPERATIVE WORK IN WHICH THEY ARE EMPLOYED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COLONY LIFE APPEARS TO BE FRUITFUL OF ALL HOPED-FOR RESULTS AND THERE IS NO REASON WHY SUCCESS SHOULD NOT COME TO THEM IN INCREASING MEASURE. MAY ALL FAVORABLE INFLUENCES COMBINE TO SPEED THEM ON IN THEIR UNDERTAKING AND TO REALIZE THEIR HAPPIEST EXPECTATIONS.

BY JOB HARRIMAN

LLANO HAS WEATHERED THE STORM OF EIGHT YEARS OF PIONEER LIFE. MANY REAL HARDSHIPS HAVE BEEN ENDURED, AND MANY HAVE BEEN IMAGINED AND SEEMED REAL THAT WERE NOT ENDURED. IT IS FAR EASIER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE A FIXED PURPOSE AND AN UNDYING HOPE TO BEAR REAL HARDSHIPS, THAN IT IS FOR THOSE WITHOUT HOPE TO ENDURE IMAGINARY HARDSHIPS.

THE COMFORTS OF THE OUTSIDE COULD NOT BE TRANSPORTED TO LLANO. WE HAD TO PRODUCE THEM FROM THE RAW MATERIAL. AT FIRST CHAOS REIGNED AND WE WERE LOST IN OUR OWN CONFUSION.

WE HAD NOT LEARNED THAT THE THINGS ABOUT US WERE AS ORDERLY OR AS DISORDERLY AS OUR OWN MINDS. INDEED, WE FOR A LONG TIME LOOKED THE FACT SQUARE IN THE FACE BEFORE WE SAW THAT THE MATERIALS WITH WHICH WE WORK ARE ARRANGED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MIND, AND MUST REFLECT THE MENTAL STRIFE. WE ARE

GRADUALLY COMING INTO A KNOWLEDGE OF THIS FACT; AND AS THIS KNOWLEDGE BECOMES MORE GENERAL, ORDER IS EVER MORE AND MORE REFLECTED IN OUR VARIOUS UNDERTAKINGS.

THE DISCOVERY OF THIS FACT WAS THE REAL BIRTHDAY OF LLANO. AS THE FACT GROWS INTO OUR CONSCIOUSNESS AND BECOMES INGRAINED INTO OUR UNDERSTANDING, OUR HOPE GROWS BRIGHTER, OUR CONFIDENCE MORE UNYIELDING, OUR VISION BECOMES CLEARER, AND OUR GOAL LOOMS UP EVER NEARER AND MORE EASILY WITHIN OUR REACH. GRADUALLY, AS WE CONSCIOUSLY DISPEL THE CLOUDS OF GLOOM AND ABANDONED HOPE, WE FIND OURSELVES ENTERING INTO A SEASON WHERE THE DAYS GROW EVER BRIGHTER AND THE WORLD APPEARS WITH ALL ITS BEAUTY BEFORE US. THUS, WE DISCOVERED THAT WE CAN MAKE THIS WORLD AN EVERLASTING MAY DAY. THE MAY DAY ABOUT US IS A COUNTERPART OF THE MAY DAY WITHIN US.

BY JOHN H. DeQUER

ONCE MORE THE WINTER SNOWS HAVE GONE TO MAKE ROOM FOR FLOWERS AND GRASSES; FOR THE NEW LIFE WHICH COMES TO CHEER THE EARTH. ONCE MORE THE SONGBIRDS SWELL THEIR THROATS WITH POEMS OF GLADNESS, AS IF THEY WERE CHANTING PRAISES FOR THE GIFT OF LIFE.

IT IS MAY DAY, THE FEAST OF THE SPRINGTIME—THE HOPE DAY, OF THE TOILING MASSES OF THE EARTH.

FOR, AS THE LIFE FLOOD CAUSES THE SKYLARK TO POUR FORTH ITS FLOODS OF MELODY, AND THE LILACS SCENT THE BREEZE WITH FRAGRANT BENEDECTIONS, SO IT KINDLES THE FIRES OF HOPE IN THE TOILING MASSES, AND AWAKENS IN THEIR SOULS THE DORMANT PASSION FOR PEACE AND BROTHERHOOD.

THE LOVE VIBRATION WHICH FILLS, AT THIS TIME, THE NATURAL WORLD, EXPRESSING ITSELF IN MATING BIRDS, BLEATING LAMBS, AND THE DELICATE

FLOWERS, TOUCHES THE SPIRITUAL SPRINGS IN THE HUMAN SOUL, RAISING IT OUT OF SORDID SELFISH DESIRES INTO A PLANE OF ACTIVITY WHERE IT RESOLVES TO FORGET ITS INDIVIDUAL SALVATION WHILE IT CONCENTRATES ITS ENERGY ON THE REDEMPTION OF ITS KIND FROM INTELLECTUAL, SPIRITUAL AND ECONOMIC DEGRADATION.

MAY DAY SHOWS US THE LOVE PATH, BY WHICH ALONE THE RACE CAN BE REDEEMED; IT SHOWS US THE WISDOM OF THE OLD SAYING THAT, "HE WHO WOULD SAVE HIS SOUL SHALL LOSE IT." IT KINDLES THE CONSCIOUSNESS THAT AS THE PERFUME OF MILLIONS OF FLOWERS TENDS TO SWEETEN THE BREEZE AND GLADDEN THE EYE; AS THE SONG OF MANY BIRDS PRODUCE THE LOVE-FILLED MELODY OF THE WOODS, SO THE LOVE-BOUND COMRADESHIP OF MAN SHALL EVOLVE THE HIGHEST GOOD FOR HUMAN KIND.

BY ERNEST S. WOOSTER

THE LLANO COLONY MARKS THE FIRST INTELLIGENT EFFORT SINCE THE DAYS OF THE OWEN EXPERIMENT TO LIVE ON ANY SORT OF SENSIBLE BASIS.

IT IS EXTREMELY TRYING TO DISTINGUISH THE COMMON-SENSE FROM DUCT OF CAPITALISM, USE WHAT SLIGHT AMOUNT OF IDEALISM IS LEFT, AND WITH IT BUILD A CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH.

IT IS EXTREMELY TRYING TO WIN NOW OUT THE COMMON-SENSE FROM THE FANATICISM, STEER CLEAR OF DANGEROUS SENTIMENTALISM, USE SUCH BUSINESS PRINCIPLES AS ARE SAFE, AND ESCAPE THE BONDAGE OF SELFISH COMMERCIALISM.

BUT THAT IS WHAT THE COLONY IS DOING. IT WOULD BE INDEED SURPRISING IF A GROUP COULD BE GATHERED TOGETHER WHO WOULD NOT MAKE MISTAKES. IT WOULD BE A

MARVEL OF MARVELS IF THERE WERE NO SETBACKS.

LEARNING HOW TO PRACTICE THE PRINCIPLES OF CO-OPERATION IS THE TASK OF A WHOLE GENERATION. IF THE COLONY IS ABLE TO LAY THE FOUNDATION IN THE YEARS FROM MAY 1, 1914 TO MAY 1, 1924, THEN IT WILL HAVE ESTABLISHED A GREATER SCHOOL THAN YALE OR HARVARD OR ANY OTHER INSTITUTION OF LEARNING.

DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY WILL COME TO THE COLONY; FOR NOW ARE THE YEARS WHEN THE INTOXICATION OF HIGH WAGES IS GONE, THE BITTER DREGS OF RETURNING NORMALCY TASTED, AND THE DESIRE FOR BETTER ECONOMIC CONDITIONS WILL TURN THE EYES OF THOUSANDS TO THE WONDROUS SIMPLICITY AND SANITY OF THE LLANO SYSTEM OF LIVING.

BY ALANSON SESSIONS

LLANO!—WHERE 200 PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY PRACTICING THE PRINCIPLES OF CO-OPERATION!

WHERE, I INQUIRE, COULD THIS DAY OF REVOLUTIONISTS THE WORLD OVER BE MORE FITTINGLY CELEBRATED THAN IN LLANO? WE ON THE OUTSIDE IMMERSE OURSELVES IN THEORY. WE DIVIDE INTO DOZENS OF FACTIONS WHILE THE EXPROPRIATING CLASSES LAUGH AT OUR ANTICS. MOST OF US MAINTAIN A CLAM-LIKE SILENCE FOR FEAR THE BOSS WILL FIND OUT WHAT WE REALLY BELIEVE. THOSE OF US WHO ARE IN BUSINESS TALK BRO-

THERHOOD IN THE EVENINGS AND GOUGE OUR BROTHERS DURING THE DAY. ALL OF US ARE PHRASE-MONGERS.

IN LLANO—AND I KNOW, BECAUSE I HAVE LIVED THERE AND HOPE TO BE THERE AGAIN SOON—THE ECONOMIC BARRIERS TO BROTHERHOOD HAVE NEVER BEEN ERECTED. THE ALTRUISTIC INSTINCTS HAVE FREER PLAY THERE THAN ELSEWHERE. AND SO LLANOITES MAY NOT ONLY OBSERVE THE LETTER, BUT THE SPIRIT OF MAY DAY.

MAY HER CELEBRATIONS BE CONTINUOUS!

I wish I could write a verse of two
To tell how I wish to-day
That I could help celebrate with you
And enjoy the first of May.

I'd give you a reason along with rhyme
As I modeled the lilting verse,
And round it out with stirring words
And syllables sure and terse.

Yes, the reason comes, if the rhymes will not
And I don't even have to try—
I'd like to be in Newllano to-day—
It's my home—that's the reason why.

The reason is easy—I want to be there
And dance and sing and play;
That's the only place you can banish care—
Banish, and make it stay.

But I cannot write the words that rhyme,
So I'll have to let it go
Till I get a chance at a later time—
But the reasons I can show.