

# The Llano Colonist

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT LLANO COLONY  
LEESVILLE, LOUISIANA.  
BY THE LLANO PUBLICATIONS

Entered as second-class matter, May 14, 1921, at the postoffice at  
Leesville, La., under act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$1.50 PER YEAR

FOREIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS: Canada, \$2.00; Other Countries \$2.50.

Make all remittances for subscriptions, and address all communica-  
tions regarding the publications to The Llano Publications, Leesville, La.  
This will avoid trouble and delay in registering changes of address, etc.

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CARL GLEESER—Editor.

Judson King, of the National Popu-  
lar Government League, writes us: "It  
is necessary for a man to get away  
from Washington, D. C., if he wants  
to save his soul, keep his faith in de-  
mocracy sound, and his vision clear."

The last sentence of Abraham Lin-  
coln's Gettysburg Address might well  
be adopted with profit as a general  
rule of conduct by the whole world:  
"To do all which may achieve and  
cherish a just and lasting peace among  
ourselves and all mankind."

Appearing as a witness before the  
joint New England railroad committee,  
Federal Judge George Anderson, a  
former member of the interstate com-  
merce commission, charged that the  
railroad executives of the country "are  
lacking in virility, ingenuity and elas-  
ticity," and that their "gross ineffic-  
iency and arrogance have aroused the  
hostility of the public as well as of  
their employees." He urged that con-  
gress create a corporation in which all  
the railroads of the United States shall  
be merged.

The railroad shompen's strike was  
provoked by the rail managers, who  
figured that they had the men where  
they wanted them." Judge Anderson  
told the committee. We cannot have  
sane and adequate railroad transporta-  
tion from privately-owned corpora-  
tions. After three years' experience,  
no substantial progress has been made  
toward rehabilitating railroad credit  
or establishing workable relations with  
the operating staffs."

Where thousands have worked to-  
gether in constructing buildings, ma-  
chinery, produced raw material and  
completed it into the finished product,  
joint or community ownership becomes  
an unavoidable, imperative natural  
necessity. Equitable individual own-  
ership is impossible in all things beyond  
individual capacity to produce and  
maintain in individual operation. Where-  
ever co-operation or smaller or larger  
numbers are requisite, joint ownership  
is the only equitable form of own-  
ership. No one person or a small group  
of people ever have fully compensated  
the thousands or millions for the prop-  
erty produced by the workers.

The municipalities of the Province of  
Ontario, Canada, have constructed and  
now operate co-operatively a hydro-  
electric system at Niagara Falls, sends  
electric energy as far as 250 miles to  
Windsor (opposite Detroit) and sell it  
at three cents per k. w. hour to light  
and do housework for the people in  
their homes; also to run factories,  
street cars, and the whole business. In  
other Ontario cities the rate is as low  
as TWO cents per k.w. hours. How  
much are you paying to the private  
corporation?

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## The Necessary Foundation of Co-operative Reciprocity

Truth is a word which means agree-  
ment with reality, the quality of being  
true, an eternal principle of right, of  
an immanent law of order, a self-evi-  
dent fact. The constitution of the uni-  
verse, the laws of being are one thing,  
what we know concerning the world,  
may believe or teach about it, is quite  
another thing. It may be true, partly  
true, or entirely untrue.

Knowledge, or truth, is not a law,  
it is only words expressing a correct  
statement of fact. We can only speak  
the truth of anything when we know  
it to be so and can demonstrate it.

In physics we can say thus and so  
is so and so and prove that we speak  
the truth concerning it, because we and  
others can demonstrate that it is so.  
But where we are unable to say that we  
believe our explanation of a phenom-  
enon, it is permissible only to say that  
we believe our explanation of a phenom-  
enon to be true. There can be no  
difference of opinion of any dispute  
about positive demonstrable knowledge  
—for all who really, truly, and fully  
the same way and can prove it in the  
know a subject must know it exactly in  
same identical way.

The word truth is often used with  
the import of including all possible  
knowledge concerning everything in  
the whole world. But no human being  
is capable of containing or knowing  
truth in that sense. Everyone may  
know some things, some laws or pro-  
cesses of phenomena accurately as  
facts, but not all principles of being.  
Truth must in each and every instance  
be a concise, definite, accurate state-  
ment of each phase and particular  
of the facts involved. Believing some-  
thing firmly does not make that some-  
thing firmly believed-in an actual fact  
or contingent possibility. Only a legiti-  
mate purpose in agreement with the  
known inherent laws or principles of  
the universe, tenaciously relied upon  
and persisted in, a faith in the benefi-  
cence of useful labor, should never  
be surrendered and will ultimately  
overcome all obstacles whatsoever that  
may oppose it; for labor conquers all.

In so far as it does not conflict with  
human welfare we are justified in  
holding to a reasoned faith that some  
teachings may be true—but until we  
really know it to be so, we must always  
be ready to modify or even discard  
such a belief, when convincing evi-  
dence to the contrary is produced, that  
is if we really desire to learn the truth  
and nothing but the truth.

In view of the foregoing statement  
and with a knowledge of the require-  
ments of human well-being, we must  
oppose on principle the declaration that  
"might (ability to inflict the maximum  
of violence) is right." Human well-being  
can be secured only by harmless, use-  
ful and constructive labor. Only that  
which makes for human well-being is  
right; right for the individual, right  
for groups and right for nations.

Everyone objects to being the goal  
of human ill will. And what everyone  
objects to when inflicted upon self,  
must be, and is inherently wrong. With  
respect to social and economic rela-  
tions there is no insoluble mystery in  
the way to prevent a peaceful and just  
solution of pending difficulties. The  
proper application of known useful  
processes and productive power now  
available to fully supply the essen-  
tial necessities of everyone of the  
population is an easy matter, and when  
told in plain words can be readily un-  
derstood by the unlearned. The com-  
monplace knowledge of agriculture,  
of the trades, the gains of human ex-  
perience thru the ages in every line  
of work are quite adequate to provide  
plenty to eat and to wear and good  
homes for all.

Violence instead of producing things,  
destroys them. The late world war, it  
is said, involved a destruction of over  
200 billion dollars worth of wealth,  
and exacted a toll of 20 million lives.  
Will anyone contend that such destruc-  
tion makes for human welfare? Or will  
anyone maintain that the commercial-  
ism that led to the holocaust of war is  
right, or that it makes and ministers  
to the welfare of the great mass of  
mankind? If it is wrong for one indi-  
vidual to do violence to another, and  
all so-called civilized communities take  
that position, then it is also wrong for  
any number of people or nations to  
commit violence under any pretext  
whatever. Strictly defensive self-pro-  
tection has some justification, but it is  
never authorized to go beyond the ac-  
tual requirements of self-preservation.

Instead of the present mutually an-  
tagonistic pursuits of individual self-  
enrichment at the expense of all the  
rest, there should be a pooling of in-  
terests. Co-operation is the thing in-  
stead of each one trying to overreach  
the other fellow. Co-operation is a

combination of two Latin words, "con"  
and "opera," and it means to work to-  
gether. It is a practical instead of a  
speculative word; one which has to do  
with tangible concrete things and hu-  
man relations of every day life known  
to everyone, and when carried into prac-  
tice will result in the most fruitful  
blessings for humanity.

The activities of co-operation are de-  
termined by the actual necessities of  
man as an individual and as a social  
being. To be most effective, there  
must be a co-ordination of all the  
economic and social activities of the  
would-be co-operators.

All production and all useful serv-  
ices must be adjusted on the basis of  
reciprocity. Equality of human rights  
is the greatest measure of RIGHTS  
that can obtain anywhere; and when  
the unity of interests is understood and  
strictly observed, it will usher in per-  
fect racial harmony, based on the  
foundation of accurate knowledge. In  
place of sects and parties will be de-  
veloped the brotherhood of all man-  
kind.

The authority of demonstrable use-  
ful knowledge will prove itself in its  
applications, and can neither be chal-  
lenged nor gainsaid.

Humanity has thus far learned to do  
all things by trying to do them. Di-  
rect co-operative productive venture is  
the road to world-wide co-operation.  
Self-help, either individual or by  
groups, is the law of growth. Experi-  
ence, the university of hard-knocks,  
will ultimately enjoin the narrow way  
of beneficent, useful, constructive ac-  
tivity in all human affairs, and usher  
in an age of unending universal hap-  
piness for all mankind.

Reciprocity is the basis of harmony  
in human relations. Action and re-  
action being equal, an equilibrium is  
maintained. Where everyone minds  
his own work and attends to it, there  
can be no confusion. By observance  
of the right of self-determination of  
others, and kind courtesy in every in-  
tercourse with them, by a verifiable ob-  
servance of the rule of reciprocity in  
all social relations a universal scienti-  
fic liberty will result, activity is at last  
the only virtue and eternal vigilance  
its price.

## Woostersauce

If history has any value, it lies in  
teaching us to guess at future devel-  
opments by studying past perfor-  
mances.

Those who make a practice of bet-  
ting on races and prize fights forecast  
the next contest by a careful compar-  
ison and survey of what our competing  
horses or prize fighters have done in  
the past.

We who are interested in the human  
race can use this same system to proph-  
esy what the future holds for us.

Civilizations extend back so far in-  
to the past that we do not know with  
much accuracy when they started.

Those of the Jews and the Greeks  
are best known because they have  
been best advertised. A written lan-  
guage which permitted them to record  
the events of their times have given  
them a prominence far greater than  
that of other lands of greater deeds  
and age.

Civilizations much more vast and  
existing for centuries—sometimes for  
thousands of years—are overshadowed  
by the somewhat trivial and transi-  
ent civilizations of Greece and Pales-  
tine, because these people advertised  
better.

Back of what we know as ancient  
Greece, says Wells in his Outline of  
History, is another ancient Greece. It  
was known as Cnosos. It lived for  
thousands of years and developed a  
great many arts and crafts to a point  
where they equal our best efforts of  
to-day.

Yet, it is civilization became so ob-  
scured that only recently has it been  
discovered that it ever existed.

The people of Cnosos had water  
piped into their bathrooms. They had  
paintings and sculpture. They had fine  
fabrics. Their women evidently fol-  
lowed changing fashions, as they wore  
corsets and dresses which bear the  
marks of having been cut to follow a  
whim rather than solely to give ser-  
vice.

These people developed for a thou-  
sand years—possibly for several thou-  
sand years—without molestation. Safe  
from interruption, secure in their  
homes, they turned from war and built  
a civilization.

This has been done many, many  
times in the past.

## WANTED

Llano Colony has need of several trained helpers in the  
following lines of work, who can now join us.

Installment members are called in to take their places  
when their services are needed in the Colony.

The following are now asked to communicate with the  
general manager at once:

## BRICKLAYERS TEAMSTERS

Applicants must be willing to pioneer a little; and they  
should be anxious to learn to co-operate.

—WRITE TO THE GENERAL MANAGER—

LLANO CO-OPERATIVE COLONY  
NEWLLANO, VIA LEESVILLE, LA.

What has become of civilizations so  
well advanced?

Usually barbarians have overwhelm-  
ed them. Barbarians keep alive the  
spirit of war and develop the desire  
for conquest.

Such peoples as begin the journey  
toward civilization must choose be-  
tween peace and war, and must fol-  
low peace more or less faithfully if  
they are to achieve any of the results  
or enjoy the benefits of civilization.

These people who desert war leave  
themselves helpless before invading  
barbarians. More, they become the  
rich prize of conquest.

Each succeeding wave of barbari-  
ans adopts something of the ways of  
the conquered civilizations and itself  
starts on the way to rebuild that which  
it has sought to destroy, until it in turn  
becomes the victim of a new and ir-  
resistible wave of barbarism.

The Indians of Peru had a civiliza-  
tion, or the makings of one. The  
Spaniards, barbarians, overthrew it,  
seeking the rich treasures of gold held  
by the Incas.

Over the entire world, it has been  
the same. Only in rare instances has  
a conquering civilization overthrown  
an entrenched barbarism or savagery,  
wrested the land from the less fit, and  
set up a civilization.

This latter expansion of civilization  
is new in the history of the world. It  
is confined to a few centuries, whereas,  
the invasions of civilizations by bar-  
barians went on for thousands of years.

The invention and use of machinery,  
the accumulation of knowledge has  
made it possible to reverse the process  
so that civilization has become the ag-  
gressive force.

It is in this latter condition that the  
safety of the world lies.

Outcroppings of barbarism, that bar-  
barism or savagery of spirit so well  
shown in the World War, exist among  
civilizations.

The reason is the same that urged  
the barbarians of the past to ruth-  
lessly destroy civilizations. It is the  
desire for a prize.

The modern prize is markets. The  
prize of the ancients was the fruits of  
industry. The prize of today is a place  
to dispose of the fruits of industry.

In effect, the World War was one  
of competing nations of modern civiliza-  
tion desirous of taking the products  
of their industry to countries less high-  
ly organized.

Destructive as it may have been,  
yet the danger to civilization was in-  
direct rather than direct.

It is the looming war of races with  
an admixture of religious hatred and  
fanaticism that promises the most se-  
rious menace to civilization.

Yet this can scarcely degenerate to  
a pass where all knowledge of the  
means of rebuilding a civilization has  
perished.

The destruction of Rome meant virtu-  
ally a destruction of knowledge of  
civilization. At any rate, it meant a  
delay of virtually 1000 years.

A war between the races would be  
caused by a desire to carry the pro-  
ducts of civilization's industry to for-  
eign lands where the people are less  
well organized.

Destructive though it might be to  
life, though it may develop the worst  
possible passions and these may be  
kept alive for several generations fol-  
lowing, yet a war between civilizations  
cannot be wholly destructive to them.

A war between barbarians and civil-  
ized people, if won by the barbarians  
as is the usual case, means that civiliza-  
tion goes into eclipse for many years.

Barbarism of today is the lust for  
gold, for conquest of markets.

Though none the less ruthless, tho

more quickly destructive of life and  
property, and able to spread desola-  
tion more thoroughly, yet within it lies  
always the germ of a new civilization  
which can quickly grow.

Aggressive civilization can survive.  
Defensive civilization of the past was  
overwhelmed.

This difference of position insures  
the survival of knowledge.

## WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE COURTS?

(By The Federated Press)

Boston. — In an article published  
in the Journal of the American Bar  
Assn., H. L. Stebbins, librarian of the  
social law library of this city, tells how  
during the trial of Sacco and Vanzetti  
at Dedham, Mass., the town was  
converted into an armed camp.

"The entire complexion of the pro-  
ceedings," the article says, "was altered  
by the injection of issues foreign to  
the main point, but tremendously vital  
in themselves. More lying has been  
confessed to by a government witness  
and a new witness for the defendants  
has been found."

## Obituary of The Little Old Appeal

By LINCOLN PHIFER

We have left a few copies of The  
Llano Colonist of Dec. 9th, containing  
the obituary of the Appeal to Reason.  
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land, or what have you? W. H. Lind-  
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tivation; lots of good timber on bal-  
ance; good house; two tenant houses.  
\$10,500 for all. — See G. T. Pickett,  
Llano Colony.