

THE COLONY DIARY

(Continued from page 1) ahead for the possibilities of bad weather. Three wagons are now hauling wood every day, Steadman, Allen, and Clappa are doing this work and they seem to be gaining on Gilbert and Gallo, who make an effort to burn everything in sight. But the big boiler that furnishes steam for the saw-mill, brick-mill, and electric light plant needs lots of fuel and Bill and Morris feed it well. The farm crew is still cutting Japanese cane; and, as soon as the brushes come for Jaques' new stripper, we will begin to make syrup again. Kemp is covering the cane stubbles north of the town and will probably finish the job today. He and Dalton will then haul cane tops for mule feed. Walt Fread, Vernon, and Belcher left for the rice ranch with the two trucks to get rice. They took lumber with them, and, of course, were loaded both ways. Com. Hart and family, from Missouri, just arrived and will join us. They expect to go to the rice ranch and help Kling, Fall, Van, and De Boer. This should make a happy family at the new colony. At the psychology meeting it was again pointed out that when we are looking for faults, we can find them and when we are looking for good things in either men or institutions, they can be found. People who come here to find our faults can easily find them. We have them and are not ashamed to tell of them—we also have people around us who are glad to give all the misinformation possible—but the question is: Are these misinformers capable of being judges of a movement they do not understand? Those who come here and MAKE GOOD are the ones whose hearts are in this movement; who desire to help mankind, instead of taking advantage of their fellow workers. Those who are suspicious, greedy, and jealous are not yet ready for co-operation, and the only way they can be made ready for it is thru their own efforts. Know thyself first; then you will be able to carry yourself along the road to a real brotherhood of man. Of course, we don't all agree upon all things, but we do agree to co-operate with each other, in order to show the world a better system of living. Yes, we all have our faults, but we also have our virtues, and we try to find the latter in you. Look for the flowers along life's pathway; do the best you can to make the world better, and you will find a hearty welcome, lots of opportunity, and good associates at Newllano. The folk dancing class was held as usual at the roof garden before the psychological meeting, and several new pupils were present.

Friday, Dec. 22. — No place could have nice weather than we are now having, and I just hope it will continue at least a month. You see I am wishing myself a Happy New Year. New apparatus is now being lined up for the hotel, and we hope to soon have it installed and thus lighten the load at a particularly interesting place (three times a day). Our laundry work has also outgrown housing and mechanical facilities, and we hope to enlarge and better equip that industry also. Our growing pains always come on in the winter time, and the very new people wonder how we get on at all. Sometimes, when the pain is too great, the G. M. gets the idea that something must be pulled. Our print shop has been having its rush for several weeks, and the building department is always in pain. The agricultural group has a chronic dose of pain that keeps it extremely nervous every day in the year. But we like these growing pains; they remind us of the good work that is being done every day. There isn't a single department that hasn't grown and prospered in the last year. We have almost doubled our membership and at the same time increased our activities in every direction. The first of the year, the G. M. expects to get out a report for you to compare with last year's report, and you can then judge somewhat of our progress. Now, how is this all done? Simply because we have learned to co-operate with each other. The first few years of our existence was a continual struggle among ourselves in order to find a true way out of competition. We now have found it and are succeeding in carrying it out. The greatest success we have made is the psychological one, in which we have truly learned to co-operate. Better buildings are going up, better equipment is being installed, and better workmen are now on the jobs than ever before. These changes have taken place because of gathering together of people who understand that thru proper education alone will come a co-operation that will mean justice, happiness, and equal opportunities for all. To-night, the sex-hygiene class and the agriculture class met as usual. Comrade Hart started to work as a co-op-

erator to-day, doing his bit with the farm crew. Mrs. Hart is being initiated at the hotel, and the little folks are going to school and acting like old-timers. Some people are natural co-operators, but most of us have to learn it thru experience.

Saturday, Dec. 23. — Another fine bright day, and Xmas not far off. The work on the dormitory is being rushed to the limit. Rechsteiner, Sanger, Geis, and Schmidt are shingling and doing finishing work, while Nash, Hall, and Smith are getting out lumber at the planing mill to complete the job. Steve has made the window and door frames and some of them are already set in. Soon the girls will be in their new home and more room will be made for the boys. Sanders is making window sash for the new print shop building, and when the glass is put in there, the printers will move into their new quarters. Goldman is doing cabinet work and "Fred" is busy getting out wagon materials and about everything that is called for in a wood-working shop. Don't forget we make the very finest kind of hickory handles of all kinds and will be glad to supply your needs at all times. Comrades Busick and Warren Fread are still hauling in load after load of saw logs to be converted into lumber of all kinds. Comrades Mars, Lottie Braun, and the "kid-crew" at the saw mill make it ready for the finishing stage. At the shoe shop, Comrades Cox, Krechmer, and "Roede" are making new shoes, repairing old ones, and making harness which is adding greatly to outside calls for service. Coleman, Dupuy, and Thurman joined the farm crew to-day and are helping to cut cane. Shutt, Kenny, Landrum, Cryer, Darth, Merrell, and Hart are on this crew, and the cane is being slaughtered for syrup-making. Elmer Klahr reports the sheep and goats to be in fine shape. He is greatly pleased with his location. Soon Comrades Schmidt will start the poultry yards west of the townsite. Let us hope he makes the kiddies realize their duty to the co-operative movement. Gaddis and Conlin, assisted by several of the women folk, are getting peanuts and peanut butter ready for Xmas. The candy makers—Mrs. Shutt, Gladys and Ethel Belcher—are preparing the sweets, and Mrs. Daugherty and Myrtle Kemp will see to the distribution of what Santa leaves. I think I forgot to tell you that Jennie Conlin returned from Texas the other day with two more boys for the Colony school. They are Christian and Elmer Jensen, who now have joined Fred and George, their older brothers. Truly, our family of children is growing. Comrade Wooster and his family are moving to-day into the house formerly occupied by Comrade Reeves. This will give room for Jennie and Walter's new family growth. No greater good to human betterment can be shown than the assisting of little children to a better way of living and a better education; and, if any movement on earth deserves assistance, it is one engaged in helping the future man-power of the world. The dancing school was not in operation to-night, but a good time was enjoyed at the dance as usual. Our new dancing hall at the roof garden is a much-enjoyed addition to our social welfare. It is in use every evening in some way or another.

Sunday, Dec. 24. — Xmas is near, and kind remembrances from friends of the Colony and from friends and relatives of colonists are pouring into our community. We never knew we had so many friends and well-wishers, and the only fitting response we can send them is to hope that some day they will be living among us in a civilization that their hearts desire to see established. "Sell all you have, give to the poor, and follow me," one young man was told 2000 years ago. I would change it to-day, because his plan was not carried out. Put all your worldly goods into the co-operative movement, abolish suspicion, greed and jealousy from your heart, join our movement, and devote the rest of your time to establishing the co-operative commonwealth. It is the only thing worth the working for. If you would do it—all you workers—the job could be done now. The longer you stay in the capitalistic game, the longer you keep the beast alive. What satisfaction do you world can furnish in worldly goods, but we CAN have them, and we WILL have them in time. But we DO have the best life anyone can have, and we can enjoy our daily relationship with one another and at the same time set an example of real co-operation that will some day tame the heart and point the way to a better civilization for all mankind. I would not trade the last eight years of my life and its experiences for get out of it? You just live at the best, and you can't help but see around you all the victims of the unjust system! No, we don't have the best the all the other, and I expect the future to hold for me much more than the

past has held. My Comrade, are you just drifting down stream with no attempt to steer your boat? If so, awake—else you will hit a snag. If you have a harbor in sight, what do you expect to see or do when you come into it? Will it be a more beautiful life to behold, or just the same old selfish struggle? Why not make this your turning point and decide to steer your craft into an existence of unselfishness and SERVICE? It is the only thing worth while, and in order to enter into it, you must burn all bridges behind you and resolve to give yourself to the movement. Then you can live it and enjoy it. Every selfish thought or deed will retard your entry into the real life. Everybody around here is preparing for Xmas, and the program at the theater to-night. As I was bad, the boss sent me to bed, and I get only the report of a fine program at the theater. Dad Gleeser's class was held as usual at the hotel, and I know this was one of the finest days in the whole year. Indeed, we have been favored with beautiful weather this year, and it has helped us much in our great progress at the Colony. We take our hats off to the weather-maker and beg for more of it. There is so much to do and so few to do it that we don't like to miss a single day's work through any cause. Kling, De Boer, and Van came up yesterday to spend Xmas, while Fall stayed at the rice ranch to look after things there. We were all glad to see the boys home again, and we express our appreciation of their willingness to work away from home so long. Well, some day that will be another big group, and a co-operative home, too. Mrs. Synoground came home in time to hang up her stockings, and she and Laura both said they were glad to get back. This is home—the best in the world as long as we help make it such.

Monday, Dec. 25. — This is Xmas morning, and the "lady reporter" is propped up in bed, just thinking and wondering if it is right to lose (which she has done) that old Xmas spirit. I feel the same to-day as on other days; I am not hypnotizing myself with the feeling of "peace on earth, good will to all men" for just to-day; I am not thinking of assisting poor underfed folks to gorge themselves once a year and make them feel that the world is good to them (through charity). No, sir! I have lost it all. I have reached a point where I know people can have enough to eat every day of the year; I know they can be happy every hour of their lives; they can live longer and be at peace with all mankind all the time. Only the unwise, the unthinking, will take great delight in giving to-day and permit the taking-away to begin over again to-morrow. Only the moral coward will give because he HAS TO, when his heart is not right for the doing. "Peace on earth, good will to man" was meant as a law of nature. It is the law of love, the law of service and reciprocity, and it was meant to be followed every day in the year, by ALL mankind, toward all mankind. Instead of being observed as it should be, the spirit of Xmas is as a rule commercialized. It affords a time for business to get more business; it offers a chance for some people to get more of our world's goods from others at a time of year when they can least afford to spend it. It permits others to give thru charity what they have taken away in greed—and to-morrow they take it all back again. NO, I AM NOT SOUR. I want to see the teachings of the Master in practice every day in the year. It can be done, and I know WE are to blame because it is not done. I want to see the Xmas psychology an everyday psychology. Then all men will be at peace with each other, and there will be no necessity for charity as it is practiced to-day. There will be no hungry underfed children to envy those who have more than enough; life will lengthen, crime will vanish, and greed will no longer be taught as the first law of nature. There will be no more fighting for markets, and war will be a thing of the past. Yes, my comrade, these things are possible, and they are now being enacted down here where I live. No, don't get the idea that it is perfect. It is not, but the spirit is here that will perfect it. We are going through the educational stage. There is no commercialism practiced in our group; there is no hatred or spite in the heart of the real co-operator; he feels at peace with his brothers every day of his life and is willing to sacrifice. (if need be) his all for his cause. By removing the cause, we soon get at the effect. So I have lost all the old Xmas spirit I used to have, because I know it can be and should be a natural spirit for every day. I love the spirit of Xmas every day; therefore, I don't enthuse over one day's psychology. We give, every day, all that is in us to our day. There isn't a single department that hasn't grown and prospered in the last year. We have almost doubled our membership and, at the same time,

cause. —And we see the results. I know that if all men were to do likewise, we should have a world to be proud of—a world populated with happy people, a civilization advancing at a rate undreamed of by most people. This is the best Xmas I ever spent in all my life. I expect the next one to be better. The reason? More real co-operators—brothers and sisters, if you please—in our brotherhood. I don't suppose I shall live to see the new regime established throughout the world, but I have seen it and tasted its fruits in many ways and find it good—yesterday, to-day, and forever. The Xmas spirit is a wonderful thing, and YOU can have it with you all the time. You should. You can practice it every day in the year. You must. Why don't you? "Peace on earth, good will to all men" all the time will bring heaven on earth and fulfill the prophecy of Him whose birthday you are remembering.

Tuesday, Dec. 26. — No school to-day, but every kiddoo is on his or her job just the same as the grown-ups. And, believe me, with this fine weather, the grown-ups are "making hay" in every department. Comrade Martin and family came over from Fall to spend some of their vacation with us at the Colony. Ole and a gang are now filling the brick kiln. By the time this kiln is burned, the brick layers will have the first story of the big machine building up and ready for more brick, too. Kling and the Hart family went to the rice ranch to-day, and in another day or two some more of us will also journey that way. With all the excitement of two days' vacation, and "yours truly" knocked out, it is hard to say just what will interest you; so I am going to drop back to my old habit of pestering the life out of you to help us to pay for this land and install useful necessary equipment and conveniences. A telegram to Santa Claus asked that portly gent to please send our G. M. \$12,000 to pay for land, a cold storage plant, and a water works system. Now, let me tell you: that's just what would have gone into his stocking best; but, as it didn't come for Xmas, I want you to know it will be very acceptable for New Year's. Down to facts. This is the time of year to investigate the Isle of Pipes, and a very important business schedule is laid out to be used when that trip is made. The trip should by

all means be made next month; but, until the land contract is safely handled, the trip must be deferred. How does this affect you? Well, you will make this your future home; you will want operations to be as efficient and complete as possible when you arrive; and, with this land payment out of the road, we shall be in a position to make some most extensive improvements and at the same time begin our fruit ranch to plan and carry our plans into effect. We can then invite people to come here and live and help us to build a social unit without the fear of over-population. We can soon branch out all over the U. S. and establish other producing units that will make exchanges possible, so that we can wipe out the wage or profit system completely by dealing among ourselves. We are not competing with any one; we don't need to. We are just producing for ourselves. That's our aim. YOU, by helping with your cash now, can make this "home unit" a fully-accomplished fact. When that is done, we shall soon be able to help establish other units and if you don't care to come here to live we may get a home established for you where you will care to live. We, through our production, expect to back up the future colonies; and one belonging here will have the privilege to live in any of the others. But let's not dream. Get your cash with ours now and make this place safe and sound. We can then plan the others. This place is the important one now, and we need your money—your spirit—and YOU.

To make two blades of justice grow where none grew before—that is beauty.—Stolen.

A FREE PEOPLE
Allen McCurdy tells a story with a moral that is well worth while recalling just at this time in view of the threatened industrial revolution in this country and the discussion pro and con of the right and wrong involved, and upon whom the responsibility for the menacing condition rests.
Mr. McCurdy relates that on one occasion, while addressing a New York meeting, he uttered these words:
"This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember and overthrow it."
Whereupon he was soundly, roundly, and furiously hissed.
When the hissing had subsided, McCurdy remarked that he had never thought to live to see the time when a Republican meeting in the chief city of the land would hiss the words of Abraham Lincoln, taken verbatim from his first inaugural address.—Montgomery Journal.

POLITICAL SUPERSTITION FADING
(By The Federated Press)
Baton Rouge, La. —Altho Louisiana has a population of about 1,800,000 only 32,075 voters cast a ballot at the last election on a proposed amendment to the constitution. The number of registered voters is 191,789 out of 945,000 adults of both sexes resident in the state. Practically every Negro is disfranchised either in law or in fact.
Bobbie had been studying his grandfather's face, which was very wrinkled. "Well, Bob," said the old gentleman, "do you like my face?"
"Yes, grandpa," said Bobbie. "It's a nawfully nice face, but why don't you have it ironed?"

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Have You Considered Spending A Week In Llano

- DO YOU REALIZE WHAT WE ARE DOING?
- DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT OUR IDEAL IS?
- Some self-styled expert has claimed that we are not co-operating; that we have no right to use the word co-operative in any sense.
- We are co-operating in a way that this expert never dreamed of. If merely running a grocery store with capital subscribed by a group of people who are the store's customers, and who receive back each quarter whatever profit they have made out of their sales to themselves—if that is the only brand of co-operation that is genuine—then Llano is doing this very thing, not only in its one grocery store, but in its every industry which is necessary to the welfare of the whole community.
- We are not only subscribing our capital to the grocery at Llano, but we are combining our own producers' co-operative, our own wholesale, retail and consumers' co-operatives, all in one group. We believe that this is co-operation carried a little further. If it is right to co-operate a little it surely must be much better to go the whole way.
- Words do not convey the same ideas to those who read them. Some can get one meaning, some another. The best way to get a full and clear idea of what Llano is doing is to come and see. Why don't you plan to spend a few weeks with us and learn all about us? This invitation is to YOU. Health, happiness and an education await you. Get off the Kansas City Southern train at Stable some day and you will become a missionary for the Llano idea.

Llano climate is so mild that fall and winter is a good time to visit us. Come and help us harvest our crops. Work and play with our fellows and enjoy our life.

Don't merely accept the statements made by uninformed persons and fanatics; come on and live with us for a month, for \$30.00, and you'll KNOW.

LLANO CO-OPERATIVE COLONY
NEWLLANO, LA.