

THE OPPORTUNITIES

OF LOUISIANA

By E. S. Wooster

The people of the world move on wheels in the 20th century, wheels that spin over the ground at high rates of speed.

Most of the population of the United States could be put into automobiles and transported 100 miles or more in a day.

Those that could not be thus accommodated could be moved in ships and trains.

In all of the other countries of the world, the transportation facilities are becoming more and more improved.

Merely moving the population of the United States 100 miles in a single day would not mean a great deal, perhaps. Yet never before in history has this been possible.

One effect of putting a nation on wheels has been to familiarize people with all parts of the country.

The purely provincial person is becoming a rarity.

Becoming thus familiarized with various parts of the country, those portions which do not bear great charm or offer great opportunity for prosperous conditions are likely to become unpopular.

Those where many attractions exist will become more densely populated. Harsh climatic conditions will not attract.

In this lies a significant fact.

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THE LLANO PUBLICATIONS
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It means that the population of the United States will drift toward the more pleasant portions of the country.

This is demonstrated in the extraordinary increase in population in California, an increase that is steadily mounting, constantly being accelerated.

But what is true here must become true in other parts of the world.

The pleasant climatic conditions along the Mediterranean have kept that district thickly populated. But the immense territory lying east along the Suez, in Asia Minor, in Persia, the now desert regions where Babylon flourished centuries ago—this will attract more and more attention.

Not only will great wars center here, if the world is to continue its war madness; but an increasing flow of population will build vast new nations there. The harsher conditions of the North have bred a virile, progressive, dominating people.

Emigrating to the warmer climates, they continue to dominate.

The world flow of emigration which has been ever westward, will swerve outward.

Becoming familiar with the world permits people to select the locality where they prefer to live.

Putting the world on wheels has made it more familiar with conditions.

While moving the people only a few miles may not cause them to emigrate to southern or warmer lands, yet it jars them out of their accustomed ruts; and while some may not go outside of an orbit of less than a hundred miles, others will go many hundreds.

These venturesome ones or fortunate ones will people the desirable portions which still remain open.

Vast stretches of fertile, pleasant, and productive lands in South America, Africa, and Australia are yet to be put under cultivation.

Even in the United States there are millions of acres lying idle—acres having advantages of climate.

No part of the country offers greater opportunities than Louisiana.

It is true that California has more to offer of scenic beauty.

Yet the cost of land in California is almost prohibitive. Only those with substantial bank accounts can buy land there. And they will not reap returns on a business basis.

Farming in most parts of California is not conducted on a basis such as other business is.

A very, very small portion of the land of California pays the usual rate of interest that investments are expected to pay.

Therefore, it is a hazardous business and one that most people are shut out of.

Louisiana, however, offers cheap lands, abundant fuel, a diversity of crops.

There is the opportunity to get a foothold.

Climatic conditions generally compare well with those of California.

Western Louisiana is as healthful as any part of the United States.

The emigration to the warmer countries or warmer districts of this country, should bring many thousands of people to Western Louisiana.

Those of moderate means will find it a land of opportunity.

Woostersauce

At this writing, the last day of September, the crisis in the Levant is still critical, with war probable.

That the entire world will be drawn into it, and that swiftly, is very likely.

Letters from Dr. Sun Yat Sen, president of China, according to press dispatches admitted by him to be authentic, reveal a German-Russian Chinese pact.

This has been prophesied many times in the Colonist, and the American Co-operator, during the past two years. Whether or not the letters are true or false, is of little importance. The fact undoubtedly is that an understanding exists.

If anyone doubts that the entire world will be quickly drawn into this fray, let him read carefully and ponder the despatches and significant statements of the press.

Let him also remember how a hatred was aroused and directed against Germany that exists even to this day.

Then consider how much more easily a hatred against a different race, a different religion, and people of different ideals may be aroused and organized.

Army men have already been instructed to hold themselves in readiness for anything that may happen.

Propaganda is already being sent out.

Possibly most significant of all is the change in the Hearst press.

Brisbane, star performer of the Hearst syndicate, for days and days pointed out that France backing Turkey and England backing Greece brot on the present brawl; but that it got out of hand.

The undertone of his editorials was that it was no concern of ours, and let them reap the harvest of the storm seeds they had sown.

But now there is a quite different tone.

We are now being told that Britain is greatly to be admired because she is stemming the tide of Oriental invasion.

Britain, like a Rock of Gibraltar, stands at the Dardanelles to keep out the Asiatic hordes.

Britain, defender of the Christian religion, is stopping the Moslem millions. It is the plain duty of the white world to support this champion.

It is not the purpose of this state-

ment to insinuate that Britain has other than the most altruistic motives. Nor to disparage the Hearst press.

The purpose is merely to show how we are once more to stand with our blood brothers. We will not stand aloof for two years criticizing, nor discussing which side we will help.

Consider how much easier it will be to get into this war.

First, we have good reason to suspect that Germany will assist Russia and that Russia will assist Turkey.

That means that we can make use of the already created hatreds and prejudices of the recent war.

Second, the Moslems are warring on Christians. It is necessary to protect the Christians against a Mohammedan invasion and submergence. That will arouse millions here in America.

Third, the Moslems are yellow men. The Turks are classed ethnologically with the yellow race—and it becomes a race war, a war to determine race supremacy.

Fourth, with Russia in the war, it means a conflict between different ideals. Russian communism or sovietism will clash with European and American capitalism.

Those four counts are powerful ones. Any one of them might be sufficient to embroil us in the coming conflict.

But whether or not the war comes now, whether the present crisis develops into a war, or whether it is merely postponed, these conditions will continue, and the conflict is inevitable.

It is unquestionably to be a war of defense on the part of the Christian, capitalistic white race.

Defense against a Moslem invasion that would overthrow Christianity. Defense against a yellow wave that would inundate Europe and spread to America. Defense against communistic fanaticism abetted by Moslem fatalism.

Only the isolation of America could leave her unaffected.

Financial interests, protection of our debtors so they can pay, will compel us to take part.

It is a matter of a short time only, however, until we would be sincerely converted to the war.

It would become unnecessary to draft fighters. A cause never needs to do that. A purely selfish and commercial war does.

The next war will be a war for principles, with most of the fighters on both sides roused to fanatical enthusiasm.

That it will be a war of defense is unquestioned. All wars are wars of defense.

Americans who believe in principles other than of selfish capitalism should be careful.

Now is the time to bridle the tongue. Little distinction between I. W. W., Socialism, radicalism, anarchism, communism, and sovietism, will be made.

To speak tolerantly of any of them

—far from espousing them—will soon become more dangerous than to speak tolerantly of Germany during the last war.

The cause of co-operation will be safer, because the nations and the people will be forced into co-operation.

Their only hope of success will be co-operation.

This may not be recognized at first, but it will soon become unavoidable.

The United States will be under a dictatorship quite as effective as in Russia to-day.

It will force co-operation in just the same way that the dictatorship of Russia forces it.

The cause will be the same—necessity.

In a time of hazard, principles of democracy are sacrificed to expediency.

Autocratic power is dangerous, but highly efficient.

Autocrats care little about the rights of others, especially such others as happen to differ in view.

Co-operation is a safe view to have. Many other views will become unsafe.

Autocrats cannot force changes of views, but autocrats can force silence regarding them. Moreover, they do.

THE LEGAL STATUS OF LABOR

By Geo. D. Coleman

In Rome, slavery was the legal status of Labor. Our laws are based on the Roman law; even our legal phraseology still uses the Latin language, and our legal precedents are based upon Roman usage.

The conspiracy laws so much used against Labor are founded on the old Roman law that was used against all labor organizations of that day. Hence, the legal mind is a Roman mind. Men like Wm. Howard Taft, the present Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court, has the greatest reverence for the past and for the Roman law, and is therefore the worst man for Labor that could have been placed as Chief Justice.

Justice Pitkin of New Jersey was chosen by Taft when he (Taft) was president and nominated by the Senate for the supreme bench, not because he had any standing or fame as a lawyer or judge, but on account of his decision in the case of some pickets who appealed to scabs. The judge's decision that excited the admiration of Taft, was the statement, "When wages are accepted for service, there is created the legal status of master and servant, and hence the services and person of the servant become the property right of the master, and to interfere with that is to interfere with the property right of the master, and is a crime against property." I quote from memory, but that was the decision that President Taft admired. All civilized nations have abolished slavery. It no longer exists de jure, and its abolition also abolishes all the laws governing it, but here we see the legal mind. The

institution no longer exists but the legal mind refuses to admit the fact, and would put labor under the old slave law as a chattel or property of the master class. Our legal system needs reconstruction from the ground up and all these old and long dead usages, precedents and flubdub should be thrown on the junk pile where they belong. For the objects, ends and aims of capitalism and class rule, a heavy leaning on the past is of great service to the masters and injury to the workers, hence it is that a man like Taft as president nominates such a fellow as Pitkin, and why Taft was put through at railroad speed into the office of chief justice. Under such judges the law is like what Stephano said to Trunculo of Caliban in Shakespeare's Tempest, "It hath an ancient and a fish-like smell." It needs to be deodorized and under a government once captured by labor, all these old Rome worshippers should be cast out, bag and baggage.

The explanation is simple: the masters have everything to gain by the past and nothing to gain in the future. History records a constant gain to labor and a constant loss to the masters. The past is the masters'; the future belongs to labor. All it has to do is to organize, unite, co-operate and the world and all that is in it are theirs. Nothing but torpid lack of interest and idiotic lack of unity stands in the way of labor being the arbiter, ruler, and owners of the earth. The masters are active, organized, and ready to fight to the last ditch, but labor has the numbers, brawn and ability, but will it use it. Time alone will answer that question.

Great discoveries have not been made by great scientists and great doctors, but by men whose minds were above the bias of prescribed education, and who were able to learn from the great book of nature.

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LLANO -- The Trail That Leads to the Co-operative Commonwealth

SINCE THE DAYS of Jesus Christ, the human heart has longed for the time when no man's hand would be against the hand of his neighbor, a time when each man's interest would be identical with the best interests of the whole community. The progressive thinker, all down through the march of civilization, has yearned for a better state of society in which to live. For this reason, more than any other, men and women have left their native soils and taken up the duties and terrible hardships of pioneers, searching for the golden opportunity.

From the East men go West; from the West they go farther West; but the smears hand of exploitation has always followed close behind, leaving them often drained to the point of poverty.

To get away from the tithe-paying system—from rent, interest and profit—men have struggled and fought and planned. Colonization enterprises have come into being in many parts of the world, having as their object the grouping of congenial workers in an effort to eliminate these objectionable phases of human life. Many of them have partly succeeded, only to be wrecked upon the rocks, because of a lack of understanding of each other's motives.

After studying most of the former attempts at co-operative colonization, and marking well the rocks and shoals in the stormy seas, Job Harriman founded a co-operative community at Llano, California, on May 1st, 1914. This community operated and prospered at this location until 1917, when the water for irrigation purposes proved unequal to the growth of the Colony, and a new and more resourceful location was found in Louisiana, where they are now located.

Founded on three great principles of sociology—equality of opportunity, equality of income, and equality of ownership, the Llano Colony has proven that men and women can live together in harmony and prosper. This Colony is incorporated under the law as a protection against unscrupulous persons and disgruntled self-seekers. Imagine if you can, a miniature co-operative commonwealth, and you have Llano Colony. Imagine a community where all the land, the farm tools,

and industries are all owned by the collectivity; where each works for the other; where each receives the same compensation for a day's work; where no member will accept anything which any other member cannot have on the same terms, if he desires it—in short, imagine a place where the golden rule is the only law imposed upon the community, and you are picturing the Llano Co-operative Colony.

After eight years of work, Llano Colony is rated in the commercial world as worth over \$250,000. But Llano's least asset is its commercial rating. The fullness of life, the joy of living, the satisfaction of working, the security for the future, the healthy environment, the opportunity for education, the affection of your fellowmen—these are prized more, much more, than what the commercial world calls success.

This colony now has something like thirty industries, all collectively owned. Among these are: apiary, auto garage, building department, brick-making plant, blacksmith shop, butcher shop, broom factory, crate-making factory, chicken farm, dairy with about 20 milking cows and a herd of thoroughbred Holstein heifers, goat ranch, hog ranch, with several hundred Duroc-Jersey hogs, sweet-potato storage houses, dressmaking, grist mill, handle lathes, hotel, hospital, library, steam laundry, land clearing, fruit orchards, print shop, peanut butter factory, magazine and weekly newspaper, picture show and theater, wagon-making shop, candy kitchen, shoe shop, harness shop, and many other smaller concerns.

Then Llano's farms and gardens provide the bulk of the living for the colonists, the farmers specializing on sweet potatoes, sugar cane, peanuts, corn, beans, pears, etc., while the gardens provide greens and garden truck for the table the year around.

The system of government is exceedingly simple. Stock is sold in the corporation at one dollar a share, and only stockholders are employed by the Colony. An agreement of employment is entered into between the Colony as an organization and each individual. Each member is employed at what he best can do, or which needs most to be done. A board of directors is selected each year by the stockholders, which board in turn

selects a general manager. He selects his foremen for the various industries, and each is selected carefully according to his ability to do the work and to direct his men.

Each manager is given a free hand to run his department, always with the supervision of the manager and board of directors, in order that his actions may not be contrary to the collective welfare.

New industries are started from time to time as necessity demands. The object of Llano's industries is to provide the Colony with what it needs, rather than to make a profit by selling the products. Production for use is our slogan. Thus to make its own food, clothing and shelter, to provide as far as possible every convenience and comfort is the final object. To get as nearly as possible to the source of wealth, the Colony will raise sheep for wool; cotton can be raised, and the colonists can weave their own cloth and make their clothing.

The Colony's timber lands are now furnishing hardwood and pine for its buildings, its brick plant makes the necessary brick and can make tiling, hollow tile, etc., for its own homes.

The farm and gardens of the Colony have provided the tables with most of the good things which nature offers.

Thus the three important problems are easily solved.

The Colony now owns about 5000 acres of land, some of it of very fair character, varying from bottom land to rolling land and timber land. It intends to purchase a total of 20,000 acres, because the colonists realize that the movement is destined to grow to large proportions, several small communities probably will be settled on the land.

When the day's work is done at 4:30, each colonist has an equal opportunity to improve himself along many lines, such as music, vocal training, languages, science, agriculture, orchestra work, dancing, and other diversions. Many of these classes are well attended, and all the colonists realize the fact that to keep progressive they must advance in knowledge. A radical in politics and a conservative in everything else is out of place in this community.

Llano's school system is as progressive as the co-operative colony. The children are

not driven to learn. The subjects are arranged so as to draw out of the child the best that is in him. With this in view, diversified industrial trades are placed at his disposal. He may thus gain an insight into a world of endeavor and can choose that which most nearly fits in with his natural ability. The school has its own cafeteria now, where foods more especially adaptable to growing children are prepared by the domestic science class. Music, singing, languages, botany, agriculture, Esperanto, are among the subjects offered to Llano's children; and there are many opportunities for obtaining a real education, in addition to those provided by the regular state course of study, making them a thinking, alert, self-reliant group of future builders of a co-operative commonwealth.

Equal wages are paid to men, women and children. The theory of this is that each colonist owes to the community his best endeavors, whether he be learned lawyer, husky farmer, or little school child. They give to the whole the best they can, and in return receive the best that other can offer.

Hospital and doctor are provided when sickness comes, and there are no charges for such social services. Funerals are conducted along the same lines.

There is no need for insurance in the Colony for the dependents receive their support just the same, even if the father be removed from them.

Social life is made by those who live together. The great objection to living on the land is the isolation which accompanies it. Here in Llano, the farmers and the industrial workers live close to the center where dances, entertainments, picture shows, and all manner of good times can be had for the making.

No rent is charged for the houses, and any building can be used for meetings without cost.

Men work in whatever industry they are best fitted for. Sometimes they are moved around to different work as is deemed necessary, but the fact is conceded that each worker works best at something that he likes to do and has fitted himself for. But when it is remembered that each is working for the whole, and the whole is working for the in-

dividual, no one refuses to do what is allotted to him.

Women all find lots of work to do. They feed the men at the hotel, wash and iron for them at the laundry, make dresses and overalls and shirts at the sewing department, attend store, office, etc., wherever their services can be utilized to best advantage.

On special occasions such as harvesting, or planting, all the school children are glad to go to the fields and help. It is the common food store—and all will help to save the harvest. Men, women, and children will forsake their regular work to help where they can.

This is because they are actuated by an ideal. They believe in co-operation with each other. Some co-operators think co-operation means that others have to co-operate with them, that their lot may be bettered. Llano co-operators realize that each must sacrifice their personal interests and amalgamate with the collectivity. This is the very ideal which has made Llano a signal success in the co-operative field, when other like communities have disintegrated.

Men and women will laugh at hardships and pioneering when they are propelled by a brilliantly-visible ideal. Such an ideal is Llano's—to show to the world that humans can co-operate together to build a veritable paradise in which to live, where love and affection are the predominant personal relationships and where the consideration of the other fellows' welfare is not hidden by personal greed. In such a community greed, selfishness and jealousy cannot survive long.

If you are interested in such a community and such an ideal and would like to learn how to get into practical application and demonstration of that ideal, write for more particulars. Ask for "Co-operation in Action," which goes more into the detail of Colony life and is illustrated by pictures, showing the colonists at work.

The Colony has its express and freight agency, and hopes to have its own postoffice. At present address all communications to: Llano Co-operative Colony, Newllano, La. (via Leesville).

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