

LEEVEY CORRECTS SHREVEPORT TIMES ARTICLE

Editor The Times
Shreveport, La
Dear Sir:

This letter is intended to call your attention to the article regarding the shooting at this place Monday. Your article is remarkable for the number of mis-statements of fact it contained. In fact about the only accurate statements were the facts that Charles Derleth (not Delaphe) was shot, and that Dr. Williams remains in charge. The trouble was not caused by Dr. Williams taking office Monday—for he took office last May. The Colony was not established 16 years ago—it was 20 years. George T. Pickett is not the founder of the Colony—far from it. The Colony was founded in Los Angeles by Job Harriman in 1914. Further, the six men you mentioned did not pick the lock of office—they did not have to, as it was their office and they had the keys to it. It strikes me that if you must have a correspondent down this way you might at least appoint one who does not take such liberties with the truth.

The facts leading up to this affair Monday are as follows: Members of the Colony, who were not satisfied with George T. Pickett's management of the affairs called a meeting at which a majority of those present voted to oust him, and then voted to elect Dr. R. K. Williams and a new Board of Directors in place of Mr. Pickett and his board. This meeting took place LAST MAY—May 1 or be exact—the traditional day for revolutions the world over. Since then Mr. Pickett has tried by every means at his command to regain his control over the Colony—and failed. Monday's affair was caused by an attempted coup on Mr. Pickett's part, during which he seized the administration building, and acting under the assumption that possession was nine points of the law, attempted to give orders as tho he were actually again in charge of the Colony. This was naturally resented by the Colonists, 95% of whom were opposed to his return to control in any shape or form. He also forced an entrance into the Print Shop, despite the efforts of Harold Emery to close the door in his face—punched Emery in the side, entered and ordered the print shop closed, an order to which no attention was paid, tho he posted one of his cohorts in the press room armed with a hammer to see that the paper was not published. Said cohort got hungry at noontime and went off to look for something to eat—after which the paper was hurriedly run off and rushed into the mails.

In the afternoon the Colonists got together and decided that Mr. Pickett should be ousted from the office, and laid plans to carry out this program, by force if necessary. In the meantime Mr. Pickett had armed one of his satellites, Howard Young, with a pistol and instructed him to shoot to kill if necessary. After supper the colonists gathered at the office and started to enter. Young, left on guard with his wife, by Pickett, threatened them with the pistol. Unarmed, they entered the office. He fired one shot in the air, and as his hands were twisted downward in an effort to disarm him, he fired several more shots, one of which hit Derleth in the leg. Then the colonists secured the gun and Young was rushed off to jail at Leesville by a deputy, and Derleth was taken to a Leesville hospital. Derleth was afterwards arrested on a trumped-up charge by Pickett, as were also a number of other colonists—who all were afterwards released on posting peace bonds. Pickett and his gang were thoroughly ousted from the office and stayed out.

Note you also state that deputies were patrolling the streets of Newlano. This is not correct, as all was peaceful here until Pickett attempted to force himself on the col-

ony—and he brought the deputies along, as he anticipated trouble in attempting to establish his coup. Deputies were removed after the shooting and have not returned. Mr. Pickett himself was arrested on two assault charges, and a charge of disturbing the peace was also filed against him and his followers, among whom were Mr. Bert Moore of Gila, N.M., and Mr. Ole Synoground of Premont, Texas, while Howard Young was held over to the grand jury. This last is an unneutralized British subject, resident in this country about 5 years. Yours very truly,
GEORGE LEEVEY.

How Oklahoma Co-op Hospital Plan Works

At Elk City, Okla., is a co-operative hospital, called the Community Hospital, operated by the Farmers Union Co-operative Hospital Association. It is owned and controlled by the consumers, that is, the patients and those who at any time may become patients. In Japan co-operative hospitals are common, but in the United States the Elk City hospital is unique.

Anyone in the Elk City community may become a member by purchasing a share at \$50, payable in installments if desired. The entire amount becomes due when the member enters for treatment. Then each member family pays dues of \$25 per year, which entitles any member of the family to receive the following services:

- Physical examination
- Medical treatment
- Hospital room, board and nursing
- Operations
- Dental treatment

A member-patient may have a special nurse for three days if the doctor thinks necessary.

The only extra charges are for anesthetics (appendix removal \$18, tonsils \$8), and \$1 per day for medicines, serums, etc., while the patient is in the hospital. An X-ray picture costs \$3 and each additional picture \$2. Home calls by doctors on the staff cost \$1.50, plus 25 cents per mile one way. Ambulance charge is \$1 plus 10 cents per mile one way.

Each shareholder has one vote, regardless of the number of shares held. The hospital is controlled by a board of directors of five. No member of the hospital staff may serve on the board.

Thus it will be seen that the hospital is of the nature of a community health insurance co-operative. Preventive medicine is stressed. The membership includes both town and farm people.

Under the Hitler regime wages in Germany have reached the lowest level in 50 years. The official records show that only 1 per cent of the workers receive an average weekly wage of more than \$13.50, while 50 per cent receive between \$3.50 and \$7.50, and 18 1/2 per cent receive less than \$3.50.

Low Wage Scales Prevail at San Diego Exposition

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — The San Diego Exposition is imitating Chicago's notorious Century of Progress in the relentless labor skinning practiced on workers in the concessions. Girls work for no pay whatever, having to rely on begging in the form of tips for compensation, though in some cases they get left-over meals thrown in. Many male employes are in the same situation.

The situation is worse than in Chicago, because the California statute sets \$16 a week as the minimum wage for females and sets 8 hours a day and 48 a week as the maximum time. Both provisions are reported to be violated daily at the exposition. In most cases low work-relief wages are actually higher than wages paid in the Exposition, according to the San Diego County Federated Trades and Labor Council. The city council is investigating.

So rank are conditions that the San Diego Sun editorially says: "The time has come to clean up the Exposition labor situation. In many cases workers get only tips and few of these. In other cases the wages paid are assertedly less than the state law requires, but employing officials at the park find ways to evade compliance with the state law."

Pickett Group Arrested for Disturbing Peace

Geo. T. Pickett and several of his followers, including Bert Moore, Ole Synoground, Sid Young, Arthur Hoffman, H. Claude Lewis and Geo. Campbell, were arrested Tuesday, charged with disturbing the peace at Llano Colony. Their activities in seizing the Colony office, attempting to seize the Print Shop and Ice Plant, and otherwise create confusion and unrest in the Colony were the basis for the charge. They had brought in a deputy sheriff to "preserve the peace" when there was no sign or threat of any trouble, because they knew that their seizure of the Colony office would arouse opposition and extreme dissatisfaction among most of the Colonists outside of Pickett's eight (or is it nine?) followers.

Two members of the Pickett gang came in, apparently for the occasion. Ole Synoground appeared on the scene from Texas late Sunday "for a visit." Pickett brought in Bert Moore from Gila, New Mexico, some time during the night. Another member of the gang, Sid Young, is a British subject who has been in the Colony about five years.

Pickett was also arrested upon assault charges brought by Harold Emery and Horace Cronk. He is alleged to have assaulted Emery in the presence of several witnesses at the door of the Print Shop, and later had Emery arrested on assault charges for resisting the attack. He is alleged likewise to have assaulted Cronk in the presence of a number of witnesses in the main office of the Colony.

All were arrested Tuesday morning and placed under bonds to appear in court at a later date.

An Experiment in Industrial Democracy

By William P. Hapgood

(Continued from last issue)

In the years ahead, the manner in which economic changes will come will depend mainly upon the attitude of the technicians in industry. The chief concern of the reformer should not be with those who own the instruments of production, but with those who understand how to direct them. If the technicians continue to pull with the owners, a violent change, communism or its equivalent, will be the outcome. If the technicians pull with the workers, a peaceful, speedier and far more effective change will be the result.

A few years ago I was sitting in a cottage in a Welsh mining town among a small group of Communists to whom I had been relating the story of the Columbia experiment. I finished my tale with the prophecy that the great economic changes in America would come peacefully because of a changed attitude on the part of the technicians. One of the Welsh coal miners remarked: "They will never get off the backs of the workers until they are kicked off."

I admit that overwhelming evidence to date is in support of that statement and against my prophecy but here and there experiments are being made. If these explorers can be given encouragement by those who profess belief in the processes of peace rather than war, and who favor a radically different relationship than the one existing now between the owner and the worker, and if they will support such experiments both by purchasing their products and by investment in them, then the number of such democratic experiments may increase rapidly, and in a few years we shall be able to test conclusively the results, both material and spiritual, of a democratic government in industry. I know several business men and women who are very eager to democratize the industries in which they are active. Some of them cannot do it because they do not own a controlling interest and are unable to convince the other stockholders of the wisdom of such a plan. If they could get financial assistance from others who approve of government by the workers, then buy out the unwilling stockholders and then add such enterprises to the democratic experiment. I know other business men who would change to the democratic form if they could get technical assistance.

For several years I have tried to interest business men in the formation of an organization for the study and support of genuine representative government in industry. It seems likely now that such an organization will be formed in the near future, and it will have two main purposes.

It will search the field for those industries whose owners have already given their employees some opportunity

"Relief" Problem Solved, Let All Stop Eating!

DUNCAN, Okla. — Men who have been on relief at any time will no longer be rehired by Eric P. Halliburton, oil man who employs more than 1000 persons, he announced recently.

"I do not believe any person who would make a good employee would accept a dole. If all industry would do the same, the relief problem would be solved in a hurry," he said.—The American Guardian.

Sure! Persons most quickly driven to "relief" are those with children, according to figures on unemployment conditions published in the June "Harper's," by C. Hartley Grattan. "The Road to Destitution." If those shoved out to starve by the profit system would only obligingly consent to starve themselves and families in their land of superabundance instead of accepting "relief," the number of people to be on relief would be reduced. That's simple! Now we know what we are supposed to kindly do!

Thanks, Erle, for letting us see into the depths of the thinking of the American entrepreneur of early 1935!

Only remember, old man, that American business is now "on relief" as much as the individual. And that every dole check goes to support profits and capitalization of the business man. Relief be stopped, and flat as a pancake he goes too!

for self-government and who are sincere in their determination to increase the authority of their employees. When such industries are discovered, if their program and particularly their attitude is satisfactory, they should be federated in such a manner as will be of the greatest possible assistance to all of them.

In addition to the work just suggested, the association will accept as a member any business man who may wish to study such experiments without any commitment on his part that he will ever make a similar experiment in his own business. If, some time, he becomes sufficiently interested to wish to make a similar experiment, the association or some of the member experimenters will give him every possible assistance.

Often when I have discussed the progress of the Columbia employees in production, in the earnings of the business, and in the better understanding of the art of living together, I have been asked if they are not an exceptional group. I have replied that although they may be now, in the beginning they were not above the average American manual worker. In (Continued on Page 3)

LABOR'S LOW SHARE MAY BRING CRASH

Same Unsound Distribution of Wealth Which Caused Depression Still In Operation, Metal Trade Head Finds.

By George L. Knapp

John P. Frey, president of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, publishes in the current number of the American Federationist one of the most thoughtful and factful articles on our economic troubles that has yet been seen in print.

Mr. Frey holds that the chief cause of our difficulties is that labor and the farmer get too little of our national income, while management and capital get too much. For proof, he points to the "rapidly widening gap" between what labor can produce and what labor can buy of its own product. Labor makes more goods in a given time than ever before, and gets a smaller share for doing it. In this gap this piling up of goods which cannot be sold because labor has not the money to buy, Mr. Frey sees the prime source of our evils.

Four years ago, in 1931, Mr. Frey published a study which he called "The Calamity of Prosperity." In this he showed that the feverish boom from 1923 to 1929 was insuring its own destruction by cutting down the share of the national income paid in wages.

Disastrous Process Still in Operation

"Federal statistics then available," said Mr. Frey in this first work, "showed that there had been a marked increase in the individual worker's daily production, particularly since 1921. There had also been a rapidly widening gap between the total volume of wealth created annually by industry and the total volume of wages paid in the manufacturing industries. . . ."

"Federal statistics since 1929 seemingly show that the same economically unsound distribution of wealth created by industry is in operation at the present time. The economic maladjustment will as surely prove disastrous in the years to come as it did during the six years ending in 1929."

In other words, we are now going through the "Calamity of Recovery," which is the title of Mr. Frey's present article.

Asks Why Poverty Is Hinder of Plenty?

Mr. Frey gives a moving summary of our present plight, contrasted with our producing power. At the end of six years from that crash which ushered in the depression, we find 10,000,000 wage earners wholly unemployed, and 24,000,000 persons depending for their existence on Federal relief. Yet this is the richest nation in the world. Its natural resources are greater than those of any other country. Its methods of production lead those of other lands. Our capacity to produce wealth is almost unlimited. Then why are so many millions compelled to eat the bread of relief?

FREY FINDS THAT—

"Previous to 1923, there had been a rapid growth in the national capital investment structure. After 1923, there was an enormous increase. In the six years following 1923, the national capital investment structure was increased by 44 1/2 million dollars.

"It became a physical and financial impossibility for the industry to pay satisfactory interest and dividends upon this additional 44 1/2 billions; partly because the wealth distributed in the form of wages was insufficient to permit the mass of the people to buy those articles that would keep our industries busy."

As an early step in finding what causes our disaster, Mr. Frey cites (Continued on page 4)

LETTERS TO JOE

Dear Joe:

You ask about Llano's place in the co-operative movement. We have been accused during the recent weeks of deserting the movement and becoming only a selfish group. This accusation has come because we did not see fit to further waste our resources in a useless and unwise expansion program. Rather we desired to concentrate all our efforts and finances here.

This does not at all mean that Llano has deserted the movement. We are still vitally interested in seeing the development of integral co-operative units everywhere. We believe that we have a real message and a real lesson for the world in overcoming many of its economic difficulties.

The only question arising, then, is whether we shall try to finance and control and direct the development of these units. That has been a policy followed during the past several years, and it has drained away much of the best man-power and equipment from

this place, not to mention the money squandered in unsuccessful attempts.

"Our attitude is this: If we develop a truly successful demonstration of our ideas here at Llano others will follow. The more successful we are the more they will follow in our tracks.

It is not necessary that we direct and control. When we have demonstrated our success and others have built similar units, co-operation between them will naturally result.

If at some future time we become successful enough to do so without any injury to this place, it may be of value to the movement for us to help in establishing other units. At that time when Llano can do so without injuring our own people, we shall be glad to step out and assume such a position in the movement. At present it is much better for us and for the development of integral co-operation if we concentrate our efforts and finances here and offer only a pattern of leadership and guidance for those who seek it.

FORM OF PROXY
KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:
That I, _____ the undersigned stockholder in the LLANO DEL RIO COMPANY OF NEVADA, do hereby constitute and appoint _____ my true and lawful attorney in my place, name, and stead, to vote at the Annual Meeting of said Company to be held in October, 1935, for shares of Capital Stock standing in my name on the books of said Company.
Witness my hand and seal this _____ day of _____ 1935.
(Seal)
Witness _____