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THE FIRST ONE HUNDRED YEARS

By Charles V. Stanton

We are closing out our centennial year. If, as we are told, "the first hundred years are the hardest," we should expect smoother sailing from here on out. But we imagine the next 100 years will be just as rugged as those of the past century, although the problems will be much different.

In 1842, when a handful of rugged pioneers decided they wanted a political subdivision, Douglas County was a mighty wilderness. The compelling reason for formation of a new county was that of distance. Settlers were forced to make arduous and dangerous trips to the county seat of Lane County in transaction of legal business. They needed government closer at hand, even though population was small.

Settlements were few. Farms were widely separated. Agriculture was confined largely to stockraising. Mining was the principal industry. The few people who lived in Douglas County at the time it became a political unit were surrounded by vast unexplored forests known only to the Indians. They struggled desperately against natural forces to carve for themselves homes, farms and pastures where they could raise and grow the stock and produce needed for existence.

Development Moved Slowly

Douglas County's development was slow. For many years we complained that we were "in the icebox." Our timber resource, larger in volume than that of any other county in the state, remained virtually untouched until only a few years ago. Even today it has not reached the allowable sustained yield cut, although we are overcutting privately-owned lands while undercutting publicly-owned forests.

For many years we existed in what may be called a "peasant economy." Imports exceeded exports. Our per capita income was far down the list.

We had numerous handicaps contributing to late development. Our timber, for one thing, was of poorer quality than that of counties to the north. In fact, quality deteriorates the farther south one progresses.

Another handicap was that of transportation. Excessively high freight rates were barriers in a competitive field.

It was not until the industry had cut itself out of raw material supply in areas more favorably situated as to quality and accessibility that the huge Umpqua Basin reservoir was tapped.

Delay Proved Blessing

While we resented our "icebox" status and criticized industry for delays in moving into our vast resource, that delay has proved a blessing.

Before our timber was brought into the industrial picture, the federal government formulated the program of sustained yield. Under this plan timber is cut only as fast as it grows, thus assuring a perpetual supply of material from the public domain. During this same period the industry has changed its policy from tree "milling" to tree "farming."

As we go into counties from which the timber was removed earlier, we can see extensive areas given over only to brush and weeds. Forests were removed with no thought for the future. No seed trees were left. No planting was undertaken. These areas today are worthless. Had the tree farming policy been operating 50 years ago, those same lands today would be covered with growth nearing merchantable size.

We need not fear the ghost town status of many older industrial sections. We can plan for continual industrial development for centuries to come.

As we go into our second century of activity, we can do so with a spirit of optimism with gratitude to those who pioneered the wilderness which now is beginning to yield its bounty.



MENDING BASKET

Vahnett Martin P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

Recently I tuned in to a talk by Rear Admiral S. W. Salisbury, chief chaplain, U. S. Navy. Due to an interruption I failed to hear all, and I wrote Admiral Salisbury, asking if I might have a copy of his address for this column. Very graciously the text came. Perhaps you might like to share it. (Voice of Democracy program on N.B.C.)

"Some time ago, I read where a college sophomore was caught in the act of attempting to chip off a piece of Plymouth Rock. Immediately, he was hailed before a judge. The judge severely reprimanded the young lad for his lack of reverence and utter disrespect for one of the cherished relics of America—the great monument of our freedom."

"For a few moments, I want to speak to you about one aspect of our freedom, namely, religious freedom. What that young lad was doing literally with his chisel and hammer, many others seem to be doing figuratively by viewing our religious freedom with a certain amount of carelessness and indifference. There is no surer way of chipping the rock upon which our religious freedom rests. I hardly need remind you that America was founded because of a religious freedom."

land, the Dutch of New York, the Quakers of Pennsylvania, and the Catholics of Maryland, mention only a few. All came seeking a place where they would not only be able to conserve, but to perpetuate the moral and religious ideals which were so deeply ingrained in their lives.

"From the very beginning, this religious impetus has shaped and influenced our whole American life. While our founders represented many different creeds, their views on the purpose of life and the spiritual nature of man, were basically the same."

"They believed in a Divine Creator, they believed that men were endowed with certain rights that had to be respected, they believed in the existence of a moral law. From these basic religious drives, there followed certain results. Under this banner of religious freedom, and all that that freedom implied, tremendous strides were made intellectually, socially, politically, and economically."

(Concluded tomorrow)

NOTED NOVELIST DIES

LONDON (AP)—Mrs. Margaret Gabrielle Long, one of Britain's most distinguished historical novelists, best known under her pen name of Marjorie Bowen, died Tuesday in a London hospital. She was 64.

Bringing Along His Own Guessing Game



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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WASHINGTON — In his inaugural address or at some appropriate time shortly thereafter, President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower is going to lay down the law to government regulatory agencies which have used business as a whipping boy for the past 20 years.

Eisenhower has already set his ideas down on paper — ideas that will constitute his declaration of philosophy for his administration — and discussions are underway to determine when it will be best to issue the statement.

For present and new members of such agencies as the Federal Trade Commission, the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal Communications Commission, the declaration will serve as a code of conduct during Eisenhower's stay in the White House. The President-elect will announce that he wants the regulatory agencies to continue policing business behavior in general, but that he also wants them to adopt a philosophy of helping business do a better job.

During the past 20 years, it is Eisenhower's belief, many of the federal regulatory agencies have mirrored themselves in the philosophy that their major function was to throttle business. This was accomplished by countless unnecessary rules and regulations which not only hampered the operations of many private concerns, but which required vast expenditures of time and money in complying with requests for reports or other documents to help federal investigators.

The President-elect will make it plain to agency heads and commission members that if they are not in agreement with his declaration, their resignations will be accepted. Instead of being badgered, business is expected to get a boost from officials who are charged with keeping an eye on private enterprise.

The President-elect and his patronage advisers are keeping this in mind in making appointments below cabinet rank. For instance, Lyle Newcomer, prominent California attorney and campaign aide to the Republican National Committee, is to be appointed chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board. Newcomer is in agreement with Eisenhower's plan for stimulating business instead of smothering it with regulations.

The President-elect will also appoint Dillon Anderson, Texas cotton broker, to the important post of solicitor general of the Justice Department.

John Minor Wisdom, of Louisiana, is to be named head of the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice, another post that has been used under the Democratic administration to chastise what the party labels the "economic royalists." Wisdom was an early Eisenhower supporter. He, too, concedes that too much regulation of business, too many anti-trust suits impede economic progress. He will not be inclined to use the anti-trust division of the Justice Department as a political weapon, as it has been used frequently in the past.

Thurston Morton, of Kentucky, is a third southerner who will be asked to join the Eisenhower administration. Morton will be offered the job as assistant secretary of state in charge of congressional relations. He is a present member of Congress who did not run for re-election this year.

Morton was selected over Senator Owen Brewster, of Maine, who is available for a federal appointment. Brewster was defeated in the primary election. He is reported by friends as being interested in a State Department post, preferably one where his contacts in Congress would be useful. Morton, however, was decided upon as a result of the plan to give the South a stake in the new administration. Brewster presumably will be offered another position, since most Republicans think highly of his political acumen, which makes his

Security Wage Records Should Be Checked Up

Over three-fourths of employed people are now building credits for themselves under old-age and survivors insurance. These credits are not given to them. They are earned and paid for.

Therefore, since these workers have an increasing financial stake in this contributory system, they should take some responsibility in seeing to it that their wage records are correct.

All workers should take good care of their social security card. This is the key to their account and becomes more valuable as time goes on. "Use it!—Don't lose it!"

Workers who work have an additional responsibility. When they change their name they should report this at once to their nearest field office. This is important to assure that their record with social security be kept straight. Otherwise, one social security number with two names causes complications.

Workers should be sure to show their social security card to their employer when starting work, so that the correct number is used. One incorrect digit will prevent proper crediting of wages to a worker's account. They should also be sure that the correct spelling of their name is used by the employer.

While these precautions should be taken by ALL workers covered by social security, it is especially true for those who came under the newly amended law for the first time on January 1, 1951. In addition, in this group are some household and farm workers, and certain employees of government (federal, state, and local) and non-profit organizations.

In addition all these people should check on their accounts occasionally to make sure their earnings are properly recorded. Post cards for this purpose are available at all field offices of the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance.

The angler fish goes fishing for other fish with a rod and artificial lure that grows out of his head.

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

fear are those who stay under cover, who carry no cards, who sign no party rolls, who profess to be GREAT LIBERALS but bore constantly from within, like termites, to weaken and destroy the American system. They're the dangerous ones.

I suppose you've noted the fact that all the convicts who, with infinite toil and patience, bored a tunnel under the walls of the Washington state prison at Walla Walla a week ago and escaped are now back in custody. There were the usual mutterings that they were desperate and would never be taken alive, but with the exception, as I recall it, of one who got shot in the jaw in a brush with police they all submitted more or less tamely when caught up with.

Most of them (if memory serves me right) made the mistake of coming over into Oregon, whose law enforcement agencies are generally able, sincere and honest. Where that condition exists, known crooks have little chance to remain at large.

This is the point that intrigues me.

Why did these men toil and slave and plan and contrive to dig a tunnel under the prison's wall and then, after having escaped, submit more or less tamely to re-arrest and re-incarceration? It doesn't seem to make sense.

I think this is what happened: They were BORED beyond endurance. They planned their escape attempt TO RELIEVE THEIR BOREDOM. If I had to guess, I'd guess that most of these prison ruckuses that have spattered the front pages of the newspapers with black headlines in recent months have had their roots in convict boredom.

What to do about it? Again I have to confess I don't know. I'm no social science expert. I'm even a little suspicious of a lot of the fine-spun theories of the social science sharps. I hold the personal theory that good, hard, constructive work is the best possible way to cure human mistakes—and turning to crime is a TRAGIC mistake.

I think that if the inmates were given good, hard, CONSTRUCTIVE work to do and paid a reasonable wage, which would be turned over to them to do with as they pleased when they had served their terms and were released, our penal institutions would be MORE CORRECTIVE and LESS DEBAUCHING than they now are.

Produce Warehouse Burns; Loss \$50,000

ONTARIO, Ore. (AP)—Fire destroyed a produce warehouse Friday night on a farm at Cairo, 3 miles south of here. The loss was estimated at more than \$50,000 by the owner, Earl Winegar.

The warehouse was located on his farm. Destroyed were 30 carloads of onions, crates, fertilizer, and automotive parts. Several trucks and tractors were saved.

The farm is outside any fire district so there was no equipment to fight the blaze. Hoses on the farm were frozen. Cause of the blaze has not been determined. About one-third of the loss was covered by insurance.

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Gunman's Grab Nets Cake Instead Of Cash

NEW YORK (AP)—This is the story of a gunman who now has his cake and can eat it too—but he expected a lot more. The gunman Friday surprised Mrs. Alice Badener, 42, on the way to her husband's lamp and shade firm. He snatched a bulky envelope from her and fled. Mrs. Badener on Friday usually brings the weekly payroll to her husband's firm. But this week Pierre Badener paid his employees on Wednesday because of Christmas. It wasn't cash the handout but the snack Mrs. Badener was carrying her husband—holiday luncheon.

CANINE FIRESUG

MCPHERSON, Kas. (AP)—There are dogs who steal, dogs who are vandals—but here is a mutt who sets fires. The canine arsonist picked up a lighted cigarette from the smoking stand at the Nick Young home and started to play with it. He set fire to the divan. Firemen said it was their first dog-set fire.

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