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FROZEN FOOD WEEK

Charles V. Stanton

This is Frozen Foods Week. While that particular fact may not be startling, as we consider all the special days and weeks we are asked to celebrate throughout the year, some interesting features connected with the anniversary are now being observed.

It was on the date of June 6, 1929—just 25 years ago—that a man by the name of Clarence Birdseye, who had been working on a machine that would freeze foods quickly, sold his idea and invention to what was then the Postum Company. The Postum Company later was renamed General Foods, and it is from data furnished by General Foods that we discuss the frozen foods industry.

Birdseye invented his machine in 1923. It took him six years to perfect the equipment and find someone to finance its development. But since World War II, home freezer manufacturers have sold more than 6,000,000 freezers, approximately 500,000 frozen-food cabinets are in use in 250,000 retail stores, railroads operate 30,000 refrigerated railroad cars, and refrigerated warehouses can store from eight to ten billion pounds of frozen food.

Such is the impact of an idea.

Invention Creates Jobs

Birdseye's idea and invention have created thousands of new jobs. They made a change in farm equipment, opened the door for manufacture of commercial and home freezers, created opportunities for packers, utilities, railroads, warehousers, retailers and others.

Going back only a few years we find very limited facilities for food preservation.

Grandmother preserved foods by processing them at home into glass jars. Potatoes and some other vegetables were stored in cellars. Prunes, apples, apricots, etc., were dehydrated.

Then came the tin can. Commercial canneries took over Grandmother's chore. The can opener became the most used utensil in the kitchen.

In very late years, since the frozen food process was introduced, it has become possible to enjoy almost all meats, fruits and vegetables in a near natural state and flavor throughout the entire year.

Quick-frozen citrus fruit juices now take about 47 per cent of Florida's citrus production. Since 1946 per capita consumption of poultry has risen from 18 to 30 pounds. Fish consumption, which held between 10 to 12 pounds per capita for almost 50 years, has increased almost 50 per cent as a result of quick-freeze.

Last year, it is reported, American families ate $1,200,000,000 worth of frozen foods produced by 1,400 companies. This represented only the commercial products and did not include foods in home freezers or rented lockers.

Labrador Furnished Idea

Clarence Birdseye was an explorer as well as an inventor. It was on a trip to Labrador that he gained his idea for the quick-freeze process. He observed that fish or meat left out in the 40 to 50-below-zero temperature froze almost instantly. When thawed out months later, frozen food still retained its flavor and quality.

Studying the difference between quick-freeze and the cold storage process then in use, it was determined that the speed of heat removal prevented ice crystals from damaging cells or tissues of food, at the same time preserving vitamins.

From that observation it was a matter of experimentation to develop equipment. Studies into refrigeration progressed remarkably and reached a peak during World War II, when the job of feeding millions of service men brought quick-freeze into its place as a part of our war effort.

The industry still is growing by leaps and bounds. From the humble beginning only 25 years ago, we have developed processes by which nearly all foods can be preserved indefinitely. Today's housewife can buy an entire frozen meal, which needs only to be thawed and cooked in the oven and served on the same plate from which it came from the grocer.

The housewife, in particular, has good reason to think twice about the celebration of Frozen Food Week.

Hal Boyle

By CHARLES MERCER
For HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — Now that summer is nearly here a lot of people are preparing for the rigors of touring by auto. Mosquito bites, sun burn, flat tires, dyspepsia—the hazards are familiar.

But let's not forget one. That is the pilgrimage to the historic shrine, especially the birthplace of this and that President of the United States.

Many a father bent on fishing and many a mother determined to sun herself on a warm beach will drive many miles out of the way so the kids can see the birthplace of a President—just any President. And scarcely any of these Presidents was born beside a four-lane highway.

I know. I've visited the birthplaces of more Presidents than I can remember. That is because my father was an ardent fisherman. Every summer he'd want to go fishing in a different part of the northeast. To justify this frivolity he'd always hunt up a birthplace or two on the way.

"It's educational," he'd say as we pulled up before another presidential birthplace. Perhaps it was, though it never had any noticeable effect on my history grades.

Have you ever visited the birthplace of James Monroe? Well, neither have I. Monroe was born in Westmoreland County, Va., and there may be signs all over the place now telling you how to find the house. But in the good old days there weren't any, or at least we couldn't find them. We drove all over the county and had a flat and the radiator boiled once, but we never found the birthplace of James Monroe.

We made up for it that summer in Virginia, however, by taking in Wakefield (Washington), Shadwell (Jefferson), Port Conway (Madison) and Staunton (Wilson).

Then there was the summer we joyfully killed two birds with one stone by visiting Quincy, Mass., where two Presidents have obliged the weary young pilgrim by being born in the same town. Thank you, John Adams and John Quincy Adams.

If you're determined to take the kids to a presidential birthplace and you're around New York this summer may I recommend that of Grover Cleveland in Caldwell, N.J. This home lies on a main-traveled road and the last time I heard of anybody knocking at the door there was no response. But it's well marked and the kids can go back to school in the fall and write a neat composition on "My Pilgrimage to President Cleveland's Birthplace."

The point of all the nostalgic thinking is simply this: What is going to happen about the birthplaces of the Presidents of the future?

Everybody is born in a hospital these days. Are we going to have plaques placed in hospital delivery rooms marking the birthplaces of Presidents? Impossible. You can't let droves of kids go trooping through hospital corridors disturbing the patients just so they can see the birthplace of President Melvin McIntyre (1984-1992).

There's another possibility. An expectant mother who is certain her son will become President could have her little future President at home—if the doctor consents.

But this, too, raises difficulties. Houses just aren't as permanent as they used to be. They're constantly being knocked down to make way for super-highways. Or suppose the future President's parents live in an apartment? How will future occupants feel about all those tourists coming up in the elevator to gawk at the rooms?

It definitely appears from here that the birthplaces of future Presidents just won't have any future. That may be sad. Or could be a great relief to generations of summer tourists yet unborn.

"Glad To Hear It's Only A Game"

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — Washington's Number One hostess, Mrs. Perle (Call Me Madam) Mesta, just laughed it off as a joke when she was queried about reports that invitations to her big "coming out party" on Saturday night, May 29, were valued at $500 a pair.

This is the big blowout, planned for more than a year, to mark Mrs. Mesta's return to the capital. It was a by-invitation-only affair, and tickets weren't for sale for any amount. The $500 price, however, is what one Washington publicity man offered to pay for a couple of the precious Mesta cardboards marked "Please Present at the Door."

The story got out through one whose husband was approached to act as middleman in trying to cadge another two tickets. The offer was, of course, turned down.

Mrs. Mesta had prepared for gate crashers. She stationed two secretaries and two butlers at the door. The butlers collected the cards and read off the names to the secretaries for checking.

YOU'D NEVER KNOW, by going into the office of Francis V. duPont, U. S. Commissioner of Public Roads, that he's a highway expert. On one table stands a huge model of a railroad train on the track. All around his large office are models of planes he has owned and flown.

The only clue to his connection with highways is a set of small model automobiles someone gave him not long ago.

CORPORAL Claude Batchelor, who is awaiting an Army court-martial for collaborating with the Communists while a prisoner of war in North Korea, is getting his brain rewashed.

His attorney, Lt.-Col. Joel Westbrook, of the Texas National Guard, has given Batchelor selected books on American history in an effort to remove any ideas that may have been planted in the corporal's brain on the worth of communism.

Before he accepted the case, Colonel Westbrook insisted on agreement that he could drop the case if it was discovered that either Batchelor or any members of his family had any Commie connections before he went to Korea.

In addition, Colonel Westbrook has reserved the right to reject any defense - fund contributions which may come from left - wing organizations or individuals.

GOV. ROBERT B. MEYNER of New Jersey tells a story about ex - President Woodrow Wilson. When Mr. Wilson was governor of New Jersey, a politican called him up in the middle of the night to inform him that a member of his cabinet had just died.

Quite annoyed, the governor said he thought there was no need to wake him up to tell him that, and there would be plenty of time to name a successor. "That's just the point," said the politician. "I thought you might name me to take his place."

Governor Wilson thought that one over a minute and then replied, "It's all right with me, if it's all right with the undertaker."

CIO PRESIDENT Walter Reuther paid Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey an unusual compliment after his speech before the big labor organization's convention in Washington.

The atmosphere at this session was anything but friendly. The union delegates sat on their hands, looked the other way and made it clear they didn't believe a word he was telling them about the Eisenhower administration program.

But after the speech, Reuther observed: "This Humphrey is a tough man. He doesn't just make a speech. He believes what he's saying."

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

claims, with some justification, that the Republican party was founded there in 1854.

There will be a big parade down Ripon's Main street — and tonight the keynote speech will be delivered by Senator McCarthy, whose home is Appleton Wisconsin.

As to Ripon's claim to being the birthplace of the Republican party, a meeting was held there on February 28, 1854. It was a coalition meeting made up of representatives of the Whig party, the Free Soilers and the Know-Nothings.

The Whig party by then was old and tired and torn by factional strife. The Free Soilers were reasonably clear in their purposes. By Free Soil they meant NON-SLAVE soil. They were dead set against the admission of any more slave states into the Union.

The Know-Nothings were a queer lot. Their party was a secret society not unlike the later Ku Klux Klan. Its members had to have a password to get into the meetings. The password was "I Don't Know," and from this the party took its name. They were against Catholics. They were against foreigners of all kinds, and they were against immigration. They held a fuzzy common belief in America for Americans, but they insisted on defining Americanism according to their own rather screwball notions. On the all-important issue of human slavery they were split — some for and some against — and this split on slavery later blew them up as a party.

The Ripon meeting, after plenty of cat and dog fighting, got together on a recommendation for the organization of a new party on the common platform of opposing the extension of slavery into the territories.

The meeting suggested "Republican" as the name for the new party. The name Republican has been used by the followers of Thomas Jefferson about 1792, and again by the political groups headed by Henry Clay and John Quincy Adams about 1825.

That gave it some historical background as a party name. The name was OK'd by a meeting of Michigan citizens held in July of the same year and received further sanction later at meetings in Ohio, Indiana and Vermont.

The new party took a bad licking in 1856, but came into its own in the great and soul-searching campaign of 1860, when Lincoln was nominated and elected.

I've been led to this recital of the Republican party's origins by the fact that at the Ripon meeting tonight (these words are written on Saturday) the keynote speech will be made by Senator McCarthy. That will turn the hair up on the backs of a lot of necks.

But —

We must not forget that a lot of screwballs took part in the ORIGINS of the Republican party. I doubt if Senator McCarthy is any farther off the beam today than were the wild and wooly Know-Nothings who took part in the Ripon meeting at which the party got its start.

And the Republican party that eventually developed out of the Ripon meeting was a great and sincere and devoted political organization dedicated to the principle that all men must be free.

So let's not lose faith in the reborn Republican party of today, headed by Dwight D. Eisenhower, as sincerely dedicated an American as was Abraham Lincoln. Personally, I don't think McCarthy is going to wreck the party. The crackpots who took part in its organization didn't wreck it. Eventually they were pushed aside by men of high and noble character.

I'm reasonably sure that will happen in McCarthy's case.

Full Use Of Its Power Not Used, Rotarians Told

SEATTLE (AP) — Delegates to Rotary International's 45th annual convention were told by their president Monday that the big, far-flung organization has not made full use of its potential for progress and peace.

Joaquin Serratosa Cibils, Montevideo, Uruguay, opened the first day's session with the assertion that Rotary, despite its 388,000 members in 8,211 clubs in 89 countries is "still in the stage of its first growth."

More than 7,000 delegates packed Seattle's big civic auditorium for the first business session of the four-day convention.

Among its first acts of business was the nomination of Herbert J. Taylor of Chicago as president for the coming year.

President Eisenhower wired his greetings to the international organization and expressed hope "that it may result in promoting one of your organization's chief objectives — the advancement of world-wide understanding, good will and international peace. I am sure that your fellowship of business and professional men, united in the ideal of service, can contribute significantly toward such progress."

In reply, Serratosa told the President that "we all join heartily in your great endeavor for world peace."

Convention For Drafting New State Constitution

SALEM (AP) — A state committee recommended Saturday that a constitutional convention be called to draft a new constitution for Oregon.

The recommendation was approved by a narrow 7-6 vote with the possibility that mail ballots from three missing members could overturn the result. The missing members were given until midnight Saturday to get their votes in the mail.

The recommendation will go to the next Legislature. The probability is that both a majority and minority report will be submitted.

The majority Saturday was for a convention to draft an entirely new document to replace the 97-year-old state constitution. The minority was for revision of the constitution by amendment. Minority members argued that only six or seven major amendments would be needed to bring the constitution up to date. The constitution has been amended more than 110 times.

The majority said the document needs complete rewriting, and argued that a constitutional convention would have the added benefit of making the people more aware of what is embodied and what is needed in the constitution.

The recommendation came from the Constitutional Revision Committee, composed of eight legislators and eight persons appointed by the governor.

Personnel Of Committee

Those at the session were Sens. S. Eugene Allen, Portland, Dean Bryson, Portland, John Hounsell, Hood River; Reps. Rudy Wilhelm Jr., Portland, John Misko, Oregon City, Mark Hatfield, Salem; appointees Colon Eberhard, La Grande, Mrs. V. N. Freeman, Eugene, Lloyd William Hagenstien, Portland, Lloyd Hammell, Salem, Robert Ingalls, Corvallis, Justice Hall S. Lusk of the State Supreme Court and Egnert S. Wengert of the University of Oregon.

Missing were Sen. Eugene E. Marsh, McMinnville; Rep. Alfred H. Corbett, Portland, and J. O. Bailey, former chief justice of the State Supreme Court.

For Oregon Wins Favor

If the constitution is to be drafted by a convention, the Legislature and then a vote of the people would be needed. If revision by amendment is tried, a vote by the people is needed on each mendment.

In early geologic ages there were insects with wing spans as much as 30 inches and body lengths of 18 inches.

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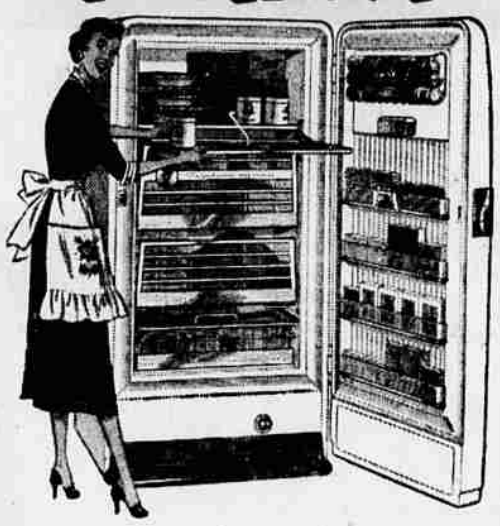

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