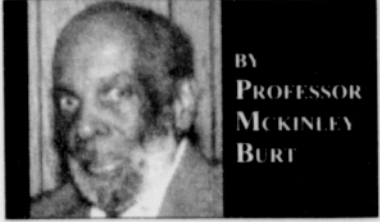


Columbus Sailed The Ocean Blue, Was In 1492 I



BY PROFESSOR MCKINLEY BURT

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That was part of the little ditty we sang in the lower grades of our segregated elementary school in St. Louis, MO.

We also sang of the "Nina, Pinta and the Santa Maria", three brave little ships that carried Christopher Columbus and his off course companions to the so-called "New World." We supposed that the white

kids rocked to the same tune each October 12, since our books were their hand-me-downs.

This is a well-chronicled misadventure; Columbus sought a route to the 'East Indies' and its fabulous wealth, but ended up "discovering" America. Since the inhabitants of the New Worlds found by Europeans possessed markedly inferior firepower - if any - their lands were always described as "discovered".

Actually, Columbus had not discovered America as we know it to day. Better put, we could use the plural "Americas," referring to the islands of the Caribbean or "West Indies as they are

known. Columbus asked God to sanctify these new colonies he seized in the name of his patrons, the king and queen of Spain, Ferdinand and Isabella.

One might raise an eyebrow at this placing of the explorer in a religious context - considering the well-documented cruelty of the greedy Spanish explorers. We have the following from the notes of Columbus (5) and those of 3 contemporaries, as translated by Cecil Jane.

"Columbus was undoubtedly deeply imbued with the religious spirit. It is impossible to read his extant writings without realizing that he was ever ready to perceive the finger of God in all that might

come to pass.

He seems to have been almost eager to convert the commonplace into the miraculous; he could divine a special dispensation of Providence in every change of weather and could see the hand of the Almighty constantly shaping the course of his life".

"He was very certain that nothing ever happened by chance, that the most trivial incidents of everyday existence had been fore-ordained from all eternity. Like St. Joan before him, he heard voices and saw visions; like Cromwell after him, he was profoundly convinced that he enjoyed the special protection of the Deity, that he was, as a Puritan

field preacher might have expressed it, 'a chosen vessel,' ordained to be an instrument by means of which the high purposes of Heaven might be accomplished."

These passages are from, "The Four Voyages Of Columbus", Translated and edited by Cecil Jane as cited earlier; with a very informative introduction and maps.

You will find the Spanish text on one page and the English translation on the facing page. Obtainable at a very economical price from, Dover Publications Inc., 31 East 2nd Street, Mincola, N.Y. 11501
Phone (516) 294-7000 Fax (516) 742-6953.

The late African American

historian, John Henrik Clarke points out that "Columbus set in motion political forces that established a global system of exploitation. This system [Colonialism and slavery] produced European World domination."

Next week, excerpts from Columbus' "Book of Prophecies" where he says that he has found "The Garden of Eden" (while indigenous peoples are tortured and slaughtered). Also how major American figures in the development of America inherited this viewpoint; Olmstead, et al, and the environmentalist, and Columbus' verification of an earlier African presence, arrow heads from Ghana-Olmeca heads.

Safety Belt At Record High

A statewide survey completed in August shows a record number of Oregonians - 87% - using safety belts.

The new figure represents a two percent increase from last year's survey, according to Carla Levinski, occupant protection program manager for the Oregon Department of Transportation. "The high use rate undoubtedly will keep Oregon among the top three or four belt-use states in the country," Levinski said.

Oregon's high use rate is attributed to its primary law, meaning an officer can make a traffic stop specifically for failure to use safety belts or child safety seats. In addition, Oregon partners with Washington and British Columbia in an international safety belt enforcement campaign. The campaign features 10-day periods throughout the year when officers concentrate on enforcing safety belt laws. They also enforce DUII and speeding laws at the same time.

September's effort will emphasize child passenger safety, Levinski said. "Oregon law requires children under 4 years old and weighing less than 40 pounds to be in an approved child safety seat," said Levinski.

Process of Changing ZIP Codes

The State of Oregon is working with the U.S. Postal Service to change the ZIP codes for Salem area state agencies from the previous single "unique ZIP code" 97310 to the correct ZIP code for each department's physical address.

Under the unique ZIP code system, mail for all state agencies is delivered by the Postal Service to the Department of Administrative Services in Salem, sorted for delivery to each of 219 agencies. State employees then deliver the mail via a courier system to the appropriate agencies.

The change in delivery will result in the agencies receiving their mail faster and reduce work hours involved with handling state mail.

Mailers with questions about the correct ZIP codes for state agency addresses may call the state information line at 503-378-3397.

Arvin
traveled by
flying carpet
to **Paris**
to **spy on**
Dr. Monday
who stole the
brass idol

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