



Tribute to a Hero . . .
(This column is from a Wenatchee World editorial.)
If you have visited parts of Minnesota you must have noticed giant statues of the great legendary figure of Paul Bunyan and his Blue Ox.

Our Northwest has its share of Paul Bunyan legends, too—how he dug the Puget Sound, for instance, and along with his crew, including the fabulous scribe Johnny Inkslinger, gouged out the Columbia river and a few other trifling matters.

Paul, of course, is just a sort of national gag in American folklore, but he is typically American and symbolizes something that is typically American—bigness.

Ours is a country of bigness—whether it is the State of Texas, Grand Coulee Dam, Grand Canyon, the automobile industry, or our forests.

The American people have become so imbued with the bigness of things everywhere, that we have developed into a nation which expects big things to be done.

Paul Bunyan Outdone . . .
Where, less than a century ago, Indians roved the plains and flitted through the forests of Michigan and other midwest areas, there are now some of the greatest industrial plants in the world.

Gigantic steel mills belch forth their smoke and turn out steel products to feed into the hungry maw of these and hundreds of industrial plants everywhere. From millions of acres of rich farmland in the Midwest pours a stream of golden grain, funneled through grain elevators into railroad cars and ship holds to be spread into processing plants and converted into food products to feed a 160,000,000 people.

Oil wells tap the bowels of the earth beneath our prairies and provide fuel and power for planes that wing their way everywhere, and furnish the sinews of might for our war machine, should we need it.

And so it is only natural that our people, a cosmopolitan mixture of the races of the world

generally, should by association with big things have developed a bigness complex.

The Paul Bunyan statues that are scattered over the country, in the lumbering regions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and in the Northwest area of Seattle, are just the natural symbol of this phase of our national life, woven into the fabric of a nation through our folklore.

That it is exaggerated is taken for granted—all legends and folklore are. It is easy to point a finger of ridicule at such ebullience, and call it childish boastfulness, but it is probably the most typically American symbol to be found anywhere in our nation.

Despite an obvious element of horseplay and youthful exuberance, which it certainly has, stripped down to its elemental factor and its intent the Paul Bunyan lore typifies our country, its growth, its people, and its future.

If our youth, who like to have a hero of some sort to worship, could become better acquainted with Paul and his exploits, as an American mythology that stands for a predominant trait of their country and its people—well—they could do lots worse. Paul Bunyan is a much more desirable character than many of the comic strip heroes of the day.

Scientists Can Divide Air Into Thin Streams

Philadelphia — (U.P.)—Scientists now can divide air into such tiny streams that it is possible to divide an inch into millionths.

W. I. Wilt and H. Kiefaber, of the Sheffield Corp., Dayton, O., told a meeting here of the American Society of Tool Engineers that "new ways are being found every day in which air can be used to divide that inch smaller."

Such revolutionary developments, they said, "make it easier for production and inspection people to turn out and accept good parts in accordance with prints at lower cost of production."

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



Back Stairs: Tom Stephens To Be Missed

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House Writer

Washington — (U.P.)—Backstairs at the White House:

It takes less time for President Eisenhower to fly to Augusta, Ga., than it does for him to motor to his farm at Gettysburg, Pa.

The White House won't be the same without Tom Stephens, Mr. Eisenhower's appointment secretary who returns to private law practice in New York Feb. 19.

He read one day that it was possible to grow mushrooms in the clothes closet of a midtown apartment. He sent away for some mushroom spore and other growing equipment. It was only a few weeks before he was bringing fat, clothes-closet grown mushrooms to his friends.

Tom leaves the White House without being able to complete one of his more ambitious experiments—freezing fishing worms alive, then selling them like frozen peas to fresh water fishermen who would then thaw

the worms and have live, wriggling bait.

Stephens is stepping out of one of the most irritating jobs in government—the task of arranging the President's daily schedule of appointments. No man in the federal establishment must say "no" quite as much as the appointment secretary, who also must do much of the planning for presidential trips.

A small girl was visiting the White House lobby with her father the other day and met big Bill Simmons, the President's receptionist. She gave Bill a searching eye, then asked, "Where's your wife?" Simmons didn't quite understand.

"Where's Mamie?" piped the child. Simmons flushed visibly and explained with all his old Virginia dignity that he was not the President, but one of the President's helpers.

The officers of the National Association of Postmasters visited the White House too, last

Tuesday, February 1, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

Technology Not Expected To Outstrip Science Field

(Editor's Note: Ever since the industrial revolution, men of science have turned their knowledge to the advance of technology. Some say this demand for material things has hampered basic research in "pure science" and that an imbalance between the two could seriously hamper progress. The head of a leading research organization gives his views in the following dispatch.)

By ROBERT BOYCE
United Press Correspondent
Columbus, O. — (U.P.) — Dr. Clyde E. Williams, president and director of Battelle Memorial Institute, believes that the big problem in research today is the training of enough scientists and engineers.

The head of the world's largest independent research organization gave two reasons why he thinks there is no danger of technology outstripping the progress of basic science.

"First, we have a long way to go before we adequately put to use the basic information we already have," Dr. Williams said. "Secondly, there is being generated constantly by our industrial, university, and governmental laboratories a tremendous volume of new basic information."

The research head added that "since 1940, we have developed more basic information than we have been able to put to work—the atomic energy field being the outstanding example."

Ratio To Increase
Dr. Williams pointed out that although "most of our scientists are working with useful end results in mind, it does not follow that they are not making contributions to basic science."

He explained that both industry and government sponsor research in fundamental science areas that look promising for producing information that might be useful.

"This research is just as fundamental as that conducted by investigators who have no ultimate objective in mind," he added.

Dr. Williams said he expected

the ratio of basic to applied research to increase as the result of industrial needs.

Regarding the effects of atomic energy development, the research director said it would "spur both basic and applied research."

"At present," he continued, "we have more knowledge about the atom than we have ways of using that knowledge. We will probably need even more basic knowledge before we have a broad enough base to put it to work."

Automatic Balance
Dr. Williams mentioned the use of radioisotopes as a tool to help gain new fundamental knowledge in many fields of science.

"Whether that knowledge comes as the result of someone deliberately going after it in hope of solving practical problems, or whether it comes through purposeless experimentation is immaterial," he said.

Dr. Williams said the problem of balance between fundamental and applied research "occurs automatically under our competitive industrial system."

He warned, however, that Russia "seems to be making faster progress in solving technical manpower problems than we."

The director suggested that universities give more attention to the training of personnel and less to applied research.

Fundamental Research
He also suggested more encouragement of interest in science "at the high school level" and improvement in the quality of high school teachers.

Dr. Williams said that his own organization does much of its work in fundamental research. Such work is usually "directed" to supply information that might be helpful to a useful end.

He explained that the purpose of a project might sometimes be so loosely defined as "try to find

Missing Bridge Found; Thieves Face Penalty

Bemus Point, N.Y. — (U.P.) — A bridge created a problem for officials of the town of Ellery.

A government surveyor studying creeks and roads was unable to locate the Cozy Hollow bridge listed in a township map.

Finally town police discovered the bridge's steel framework on the shore of Chautauque lake where someone apparently had planned to use it in constructing a ramp to haul boats from the water.

The bridge had been closed for nearly two decades—but had not been abandoned by the township. If police catch up with the thieves—and if a value more than \$100 is placed on the bridge—the culprits will face a grand larceny charge.

out why glass breaks" or "find out what is plastic flow in metals."

Some projects take the Batelle researcher on ventures into the unknown.

"For instance," he explained, "in the development of xerography we had to uncover new knowledge about tribo-electricity before we could make xerography work."

Xerography is the process of reproducing pictures and printed matter by a "dry" method, based on the electrostatic principle. It was developed by Batelle and was one of the outstanding achievements in the graphic arts field in 1948.

Klamath Falls — (U.P.) — John H. Hobson, dean of men at Oregon Technical Institute, have been granted an 18-month leave of absence to become assistant director of the Eugene Vocational school.

Roseburg — (U.P.) — Federal forest agencies in the Douglas county area expect to sell about 378,000,000 board feet of timber during 1955.

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