

Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage



U.S. Postage Honored First Norse Immigrants

A friend, who is one of the six or seven million descendants of the immigrants who came over on the Mayflower, happened to mention it the other day at a party.

"So," said another member of the group. "Well, two of my ancestors came over in ships 800 years apart. My name is Erikson."

Erikson's point was that any person of Norwegian descent must be related to the famous Leif Erikson who discovered America around 900 years ago. His logic is unanswerable. The population of Norway 900 years ago could not have been more than a million or so, while the number of ancestors anyone must have at that time, if all unrelated, runs into the hundreds of millions.

As for the ship Erikson's second ancestor came over on, it was the Restauration that arrived in 1823 with the first load of Norwegian im-

migrants to reach the United States.

He had a picture of it with him, he said, along with another of a model of Leif's longboat. He produced two stamps from his pocketbook. They were the Norse-American commemoratives put out in 1925. The two-cent carmine and black one had a picture of the Restauration. The five-cent indigo and black showed a Viking ship that was sailed across from Norway in 1925 and is now in a Chicago museum.

When I asked Erikson how he happened to have the stamps with him, he said he had taken them to a dealer to check on the value.

He had found a sheet of each of the stamps at home, plus some loose ones. His father had bought them in 1925.

The catalogue value of the sheets of 100 each, today are \$75 for the two-cent stamp and \$475 for the five.

MINTED COINS ADVERTISED GOLD RUSH

This should be a good year for anyone who has any of the privately minted Colorado gold coins and wants to sell them.

In any event, a friend who got carried away at the thought of celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Pike's Peak gold rush of 1859 found himself the owner of a ten-dollar gold piece for which he had paid \$150.

The piece was one of those minted by the firm of Clark, Gruber & Co., that operated for two years in Denver beginning in 1860.

On its face the coin has a representation of Pike's Peak that is rather reminiscent of Japan's Fujiyama. Beneath is the word DENVER. Around the edge is the legend "PIKE'S PEAK GOLD" and the denomination, TEN D.

On the reverse is a very fierce looking American eagle,

almost identical with the one on the regular U.S. coins of the period. The firm name is about the edge and the date 1860 appears beneath.

The coin was by no means in mint condition. Nonetheless, it hadn't seen hard use and would make an interesting ornament for a bolo tie pin, for which the owner currently intends to use it. If he does that, and wears it much at the centennial celebration, his chances should be good for making a tidy profit on his investment. In fact, even if he keeps the coin for a few years and then sells it, it should prove a worthwhile investment.

Clark, Gruber & Co. \$10 gold pieces of the 1860 date were bringing a top price of \$75 in 1940. By 1949, their value had risen to around \$125. As of last year they had gone up another \$50.

BONE BUTTONS RECALL REIGN OF EMPRESS

The use of plastics is generally thought to be a development of modern civilization, but actually it goes back for many centuries, one of the oldest plastic materials being horns and hooves.

Basically, the two are the same substances—keratin—and one of its earlier uses as a plastic is for making buttons. There are many steps in making buttons from horn, but the most important consists of the application of heat and pressure. I have seen buttons that were made by this process probably three or four hundred years ago, judging from the design and workmanship, and, so far as the end product is concerned, there has not yet been any improvement.

The latest type of horn button is no better than that produced a century ago, and a horn button of 1859 can not be better than one of 1589.

An Empress Eugenie button I saw the other day is a case in point. The button, about as big as a half dollar, was of horn that had been dyed black. The surface was plain except that it carried the sculptured profile of the French Empress, done in high relief. Around the edge of the button was a thin piece of gold wire, a fitting frame for the portrait that must have been done by one of the better artists of France some 90 years ago.

There are several other types of Empress Eugenie buttons, those that I've seen with values ranging from a dollar or so to \$20, but the addition of precious metals—and, sometimes, jewels—naturally enhances the value of the piece.

The Empress Eugenie button, described above, sold for \$40. (Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

HILTS Group Meets For Bridge

By MRS. M. F. CAVIN
Hilts-The Bridge club met at the home of Mrs. M. G. King on Thursday, Jan. 15, with high score going to Mrs. Al Simmen, second high to Mrs. Fred Haynes and low to Mrs. Art Blanchard.

Others playing were Mrs. Ernest Spannaus, Mrs. Frank Groves, Mrs. Frank Ohlund, and Mrs. Malcolm Robinson of Montague.

A party honoring the eighth birthday of Lynn Rae Marin was given at her home on Jan. 14.

Various games were played and refreshments a nd ice cream, cake and punch were served to Frankie Marin, Tommy Shuck, Linnie Mae and Johnny Marin, Jackie Sandiford, Becky and Robert Hamilton, Linda Goodwin, Gloria Chase, Elizabeth Brannon, and Connie Marin.

Another party honoring the tenth birthday of Ikey Hamilton was held at his home on Jan. 16.

Games were played after which gifts were opened. Attending were Carleen De Clerck, Janet Cavin, David Simmen, Cathy Whitaker, Phyllis Jordan, Alfred Rife, Louise Brannon, Kenneth Preston, Linda Goodwin, Karen Hughes, Helen Shepherd and Becky, Robert,

Gary, Danny and Cathy Hamilton. Refreshments of cake, jello and whipped cream and punch were served.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Catuzzo, former residents of Hilts, moved to their new home in Redding upon his retirement on Dec. 27 from the Southern Pacific railroad.

Catuzzo was section foreman here at Hilts since 1938 and was with the Shasta division for 47 years. Last April he was transferred to the Hornbrook section after the Hilts crew had been discontinued.

Mr. and Mrs. Catuzzo are the parents of Mrs. Tony Marin.

On Friday, Jan. 16, several friends called at the home of Mrs. Henry (Tillie) De Clerck to help her celebrate her 72nd birthday. Coffee and cake were served to Mrs. Donivan Ward, Mrs. James Cain and children, Karen and David, and Mrs. M. M. Sief. Others sent gifts, being unable to attend.

CRASH KILLS THREE
Amman, Jordan - (UP) - A Jordanian airliner carrying 14 persons crashed 10 miles west of here Thursday. Three persons were killed and three were injured.

Most Legislators Found To Favor Sly Report With 'Yes, But' Reaction

Editor's note: This is the second of four dispatches analyzing key problems of the 1959 Oregon Legislature.

By DICK HUMPHREY
Salem - (UP) - Although most Oregon legislators polled by United Press International reveal strong leanings this session toward economy, they are more hesitant to commit themselves to the \$298.6 million budget suggested by ex-Gov. Robert D. Holmes.

Individual estimates range from something below the Holmes figure up to \$310 million.

Some legislators also feel they haven't studied the Holmes budget thoroughly enough to know whether it is realistic and don't care to be quoted.

Rep. Clarence Barton (D-Coquille), chairman of the House Tax Committee, is one who feels the budget is on

the low side. Many Republicans felt the line could be held but several key Democrats saw pressures developing from education, welfare and other sources that might force it up.

Barton said: "I would anticipate a budget of from \$307 to \$310 million." "As a sidelight," he added, "for the past decade Oregon has been just two years behind Kansas in its spending. The current Kansas budget is \$307 millions."

Thought Realistic
Democrats Monroe Sweetland, Milwaukie, and Keith Skelton, Eugene, gave flat "no" answers to the Holmes budget and Sen. Ward Cook, Portland Democrat, agreed with Barton that the budget might reach \$310 millions.

Senate President Walter

Pearson (D-Portland) thought the Holmes budget realistic in the light of Oregon's per capita income decreasing in the last six years to below the national average.

Sen. Loyd Key (D-Milton-Freewater) thought the budget would not meet Oregon's needs "but I think we can live with it," he added.

Rep. Joe Rogers (D-Independence) was echoed by several of his Republican colleagues when he said the budget was "all that we can provide under the current tax structure," warning "the voting populous will not take kindly to any new tax."

Rep. Katherine Musa (D-The Dalles) was one legislator who thought the budget could be brought under \$299 millions "without harming the essential services of government."

Related to the budget is the method for financing \$30 million asked for higher education and institution buildings.

Bonding Program Asked
The Holmes budget includes only \$2,500,000 for the purpose, but the ex-governor suggested a \$70 to \$80 million bonding program to take care of building needs for the next six years or so.

Most legislators seemed to prefer the bond route or a

possible combination of bonds and general fund financing.

A lesser number, mostly Republicans, favored the "pay as you go" approach and were opposed to bonding.

Sweetland, chairman of the Senate Education Committee, favored in general a capital budget program, spreading the payments over the expected life of the projects rather than paying all now.

Opponents of bonds like Sen. Francis Ziegler (R-Corvallis) argued that interest on bonds could build "a new building every year." Some were also fearful that if bonds were tried now the need might be even greater in 10 years and additional taxes would also be needed.

Rep. Al Flegel (D-Roseburg) argued that increasing inflation made a bond program desirable now.

Lumber Price Index Goes Higher

Portland - Crows Lumber Price Index climbed \$1.08 in the last two weeks. The major gain was in the green Douglas Fir segment, but dry Fir and Western Pine species also moved higher.

The market continues to exhibit exceptional strength for this time of year, with green Fir dimension, from low grade on up, showing the most activity. Kiln-dried dimension is also on the up beat. Fir dimension for water shipment continues strong, holding recent price gains.

Dry White Fir dimension from the Western Pine region reflects the firmness in green and dry Douglas Fir. No. 3 common 12-n-c-h Ponderosa Pine boards and some widths of No. 4 common have made price advances, with No. 2 common unable to keep pace. Douglas Fir plywood prices are feeling upward pressure, both sanded and unsanded.

WINDSOR THREATEND

London - (UP) - Scattered floods in the nearby Thames Valley turned the playing fields at Eton into a vast lake today and threatened the gardens of Windsor Castle.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Beatrice R. - Should the full responsibility for caring for an aged mother fall on a working woman?

My husband and I live in a small apartment. We have no children. My brother and sister have their own homes with loads of space. They each have three children. That's plenty of responsibility, I know, but it would mean nothing to them to have our mother in their homes. How can I care for our mother if I have to work every day? I would have to find a large apartment and that would be almost impossible at a reasonable price.

Mother has been staying in my brother's home since our father died several months ago. She is very unhappy and says she doesn't care what becomes of her. But I think she will gradually cheer up if she stays near her grandchildren. She loves them so much.

Cynthia S. - For years Beatrice has been talking of quitting her job and setting down to being a homemaker. All we've heard from her is how much she hates her job and how she envies women who have "nothing to do but look after a home."

Well, now is her chance. My brother and I are willing to make a fair contribution to Mother's board. The larger apartment would not cost Cynthia any extra money.

My sister-in-law has little patience with Mother and I have even less. After all, we have the children to worry about. Beatrice would have nothing at all to do but look out for Mother. I have even offered to spend one full afternoon a week with her so that Beatrice can get away. Mother is not really an invalid anyway, but she is too depressed to be left alone for long. I think Beatrice is being unfair.

The Council: If Beatrice and Cynthia think about it, we are sure that they'll remember that not long ago they battled one another fiercely for their other's love as they now battle to be rid of the responsibility of caring for her. Their eagerness to foist a burdensome problem on one another is deeply rooted in childish, selfish attitudes.

It is impossible to say who "should" take the responsibility or which type of home would be best for the mother. The best home would be the one in which she could feel



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Career Program Planned at High School Feb. 3

The Jackson county career program, which will feature speakers in seven vocational areas, will be held at Medford High school at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3. Lindsay M. Vinsel, director of adult and vocational education, has announced.

Dr. Leonard B. Mayfield, superintendent of Medford schools, will welcome parents and students in the high school auditorium, and introduce Francis B. Nickerson, executive secretary of the Oregon state system of higher education.

Nickerson will speak on career planning.

Participants will meet in rooms devoted to the subject area of their choice. Vinsel said. Those attending will have an opportunity to meet with two career speakers for a 35-minute period each.

Vocational Areas

Speakers and the vocational areas for the career program include Dr. Eva Seen, Oregon State college, teaching; R. L. Richardson, O.S.C., engineering; Dr. Bernd Craseman, University of Oregon, physical science; Dr. W. D. Richins, University of Oregon, business administration; Frank Stanko, Oregon Technical institute, technicians; and Dr. Arthur Kreisman, Southern Oregon college, humanities.

A session on nursing with a speaker from the University of Oregon medical school also is scheduled. The speaker will be announced later, Vinsel said.

Following the sessions, refreshments will be served in the cafeteria and speakers will be available for individual questions.

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Bond Sales Show Increase in Month

Sales of savings bonds in Jackson county last month showed an increase over December, 1957, according to George W. Minnaugh, state director, but the total sales during 1958 were less than in 1957.

Sales last month totaled \$76,156, compared to \$62,820 in December, 1957. The total for the year was \$905,098, or 91 per cent of the 1958 quota, compared to \$975,746 during 1957.

Statewide, sales during the year showed an increase of more than \$700,000. Total sales last year were \$37,632,348, compared to \$36,903,640 during 1957, Minnaugh noted.

SENTENCED TO DEATH

Algiers - (UP) - A French military court in Oran has sentenced six Moslem nationalists to death for killing five persons and wounding several other in 23 separate terrorist attacks, the government reported Thursday night.

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