

Boston Changing From Historic 'Hub' to Modern City Rapidly

By DICK DEW
United Press International
 Boston—The demands of modern life have begun to rock this cradle of liberty with more and more vigor.

Though Boston, the historic "Hub" for more than three million persons, was slow in getting itself untracked from the past, the last two years have seen the launching of several major commercial and government-aided highway and housing projects.

Elevated traffic arteries, skyscraper business developments and sprawling residential projects pose no threat as yet to such storied areas as bumpy Beacon Hill, but city planners say the day is coming when at least part of "Old Boston" will have to go.

Rising Taxes
 Plagued by rising taxes, crooked, congested streets, and tremendous mass transportation problems, Boston has taken several preliminary steps forward.

One important accomplishment was a 110-million-dollar central artery, an elevated highway providing swift, limited access means of crossing the city. The highway was only recently linked to major entrance routes including the 60-million-dollar Southeast Expressway, Boston's South Shore feeder route.

The Expressway, which will eventually join a divided highway from north of Boston to the tip of Cape Cod, was completed just in time to avoid chaos when the New Haven Railroad closed down its "Old Colony" line, primary commuter system for 10,000 Boston workers residing on the South Shore.

Boston's lag in economically-necessary redevelopment was pointed up two years ago when a group of businessmen collected \$100,000 to form the Greater Boston Economic Study Committee.

Changing Function
 The committee's investigators promptly focused their attention on the changing function of downtown Boston and concluded the city badly needed redevelopment.

Its first four-ply plan called for a downtown office building center, a decorative arts center, an apparel trade center and a graphic arts center. The committee declined to suggest who should launch the various projects but suggested the areas were and would continue to be of vital importance in sustaining the city.

The city's Planning Department has been immersed in a proposed government office center to include buildings housing Federal, state and city offices. The project, scheduled for early turnover to the Boston Redevelopment Authority for land-takings, would include a city office headquarters worth 20 million dollars, a 28-million-dollar Federal facility and a 30-million dollar state office building. The center would be constructed in the deteriorating Scollay Square section.

Urban Removal
 An example of Boston's blossoming interest in redevelopment and urban renewal is the Planning Department budget. Just 10 years ago, the annual appropriation was \$33,000. The latest budget was a quarter of a million dollars.

The area's railroads, meanwhile, have contributed heavily to the 150-million-dollar Prudential Insurance company center in the city's aged Back Bay section. The project, already underway, is being built on 31 acres of what was once the Boston and Albany Railroad's freight yards.

City officials call that project and the so-called West End redevelopment program keys to what they believe will

be a sweeping modernization program.

The Prudential project, in addition to the office buildings for the firm and other tenants, will include a conven-

tion hall and a major new hotel.

West End Project
 The West End project cleared several hundred families and dozens of decaying, abandoned

substandard buildings from a 43-acre tract that will eventually be a city within a city.

The area already has been stripped and the families relocated, most of them to their

own advantage. The area, taken up for 40 million dollars, will eventually provide 2,200 apartments in 18 buildings up to 20 stories tall.

The area will be complete unto itself with plans already

completed for schools, churches and a shopping center.

William J. Bird, executive vice president of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, believes that although the Hub was slow to get started, "We are now among the leaders in the country in actually getting things done. Plans for future work are nice but Boston is really moving. We've taken property and begun construction in many cases. This is the important thing."

Key to Program
 Bird, whose Chamber membership pressured for several years to get redevelopment started here, said the key to the program was "establishing the machinery for progress."

"In the last four years," he said, "we've gotten off dead center. Boston is beginning to demonstrate its ability for metropolitan growth. The thing that held us back was lack of an authority to accomplish the mechanics necessary to action."

"We've accomplished more in the last two years than in the 20 years before them."

11,000 Pounds of Milk Per Year Good Figure

Ithaca, N.Y. —(UPI)—When a cow produces more than 11,000 pounds of milk a year she starts costing her owner money, according to a study of 464 New York State dairy farms.

The survey, conducted by the State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, shows that when Bossy goes over that figure, she tends to cost more for labor than the extra milk is worth. Economists say the best yield is between 7,000 and 11,000 pounds per year.

Family Has Six Men On Police Force

Boston —(UPI)—When Charles H. Pugsley joined Boston's police force recently, his family became possibly the largest family of police officers in the United States.

Besides Charles there are the father, Sgt. Arthur Pugsley Sr. and Patrolmen Arthur Jr., Ernest, Robert and Stanley.

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Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

The Primitive Silverfish Is Still With Us

If a silverfish would be foolish enough to bite on a hook, we would have to use an old piece of newspaper, a hunk of glue or a piece of starch for bait, as these creatures consider these seemingly unpalatable things as rare delicacies. And, to make the whole thing even more ridiculous, this character has three tails, scales, but no fins or gills.

You've guessed it, the silverfish is not a fish but an insect. A troublesome one that lives in dark, damp places about the house, especially where papers, books or starchy materials are stored.

The silverfish has an appetite that is almost constant. It spends just about all its time during every night of its life nibbling. It does considerable damage once it gets established.

Lowest Order
 These so-called silverfish, are members of the lowest, most primitive order of insects. They should have passed from the scene decades ago, but they didn't. They emerge from the egg perfect replicas of the parents, an unusual occurrence among the insects.

Most undergo several changes, but not the silverfish. These creatures require about two years to reach full maturity, during which time they moult five or six times. Full grown they are about half inch long. They are wingless, with many jointed legs.

Soon after they are hatched they have the characteristic silvery color, and the lightning speed of the adult. This activity makes them a troublesome pest, as they move so fast they escape poison spray, hiding in cracks and crevices the instant light strikes them.

This natural "speed on their feet" gave someone the idea they were swimming; hence the "fish." The color of the body and the fine scales that cover it all add to the fish idea.

The long tapered body, with the smooth scales makes it

Two Women Face Trial for Swimming In Half of Suits

Newport Beach, Calif.—(UPI)—Two French-born women arrested for swimming in only the bottom halves of their bikini bathing suits on a public beach said they couldn't understand what all the fuss was about.

To swim without the tops is common among women at French beaches, Aurelie la Mar, 34, and Ilena Rovira, 32, were reported to have indignantly told arresting officers.

The women, both residents of Los Angeles, went on trial yesterday on misdemeanor charges of outraging the public decency.

Birds Grow Larger On Isolated Island

Washington—(Science Service)—Island life agrees with the birds—they apparently grow larger than their mainland contemporaries.

In a report on the uninhabited Caribbean jungle Isla Escudo de Veraguas, Dr. Alexander Wetmore of the Smithsonian Institution here describes three new sub-species of birds. The birds, a blue tanager, a manakin and a tropical wren, are all mainland types apparently isolated on the four-square-mile island for thousands of years.

Although many of the size differences between the two types of birds would be too small for the average person to detect—a difference of 2.5 millimeters in bill length, for example—larger than mainland ones were observed.

Dr. Wetmore also obtained

Lab Animals to Live In Germ-Free Room

Notre Dame, Ind.—(Science Service)—Laboratory animals at the University of Notre Dame will live a germ-free life in a plastic room. The sterile, plastic room, which can be deflated and stored when not in use, will replace the less convenient metal isolators.

Filtered air keeps the room's atmosphere clean. Before entering, technicians must don plastic suits sprayed with germ-killing peracetic acid. The air the technicians exhale is cleaned by a portable purifier attached to their plastic suits. Animals who live their entire lives germ-free are valuable for nutrition and cancer experiments, Notre Dame researchers explained.

one spiny rat belonging to an unknown species. There are few other mammals, he said, except for wild pigs.



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