

## THE NOME NUGGET

Published Monday, Wednesday and Friday by The  
NOME PUBLISHING CO.  
Nome, Alaska

Telephone: Main 125  
\$1.50 PER MONTH

P. O. Box 618  
\$16.00 A YEAR

W. A. and EMILY BOUCHER.....Editors

Entered as second class matter October 14, 1943, at the postoffice at Nome, Alaska, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Monday, August 26, 1946

### OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

**A**T LONG LAST ALASKA HAS APPARENTLY found a real "friend at court" in Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug, who has just recently returned from his first inspection tour of the Northern territory.

In an amazingly short length of time Mr. Krug seems to have arrived at a comprehension of most of Alaska's multitudinous problems, and he has pledged himself to do everything in his power to solve them.

Coming from a man in his position, such a promise may mean more to Alaska than the Klondyke gold strike did—because gold represents only an infinitesimal portion of the vast natural resources which could end eventually will be exploited in the region.

Lack of population and its geographical position, entailing grave transportation difficulties, have retarded Alaska's development in the past. But an even greater factor has been the lack of sympathetic understanding in high places—and this is an obstacle which now seems to have been overcome.

The new official attitude toward Alaska can be of the utmost advantage to Seattle and all the rest of the Pacific Northwest—if the people here are willing to do their share toward the development of the territory.

A step in the right direction has already been taken in the decision of Pacific Northwest United, the new organization of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana interests, to include Alaska in its area unity program. But a great deal more effort will be required to convince Alaska that the Pacific Northwest as a whole recognizes its responsibility to help its northerly neighbors achieve their destiny.

One of Mr. Krug's most significant statements was his announcement that he is in favor of constructing both a railway and a highway to Alaska. If these goals are achieved there will be a boom which will dwarf the gold rush to insignificance.

But the Pacific Northwest cannot content itself with giving mere lip service to these projects. It must get to work, with its various existing organizations and its representatives in congress, and put them over. Thus it can prove its right to Alaska's friendship. (Seattle Post Intelligencer)

### TWO SORTS OF PLENTY

**I**N THESE DAYS OF ECONOMIC UPSETS, none of us should lose sight of the fact that the word "plenty," when applied to general living commodities, can have two meanings. We have seen this demonstrated many times in the last generation. We have seen periods when there was a great plenty of goods in the markets and we have seen times when available goods were scarce. Our economy—strange as this may seem—often stands in greater danger when there is an overwhelming supply of goods on the shelves than when shelves are swept clean by eager buyers.

In months of full employment, such as those through which we have been passing, the average man and woman has money with which to purchase both necessities and luxuries. These, for millions of Americans, are periods of comparative plenty, even if certain of the items they'd like to buy aren't available; even if dealers stocks are low. These are periods of plenty, too, for merchants and manufacturers, for sales are fast and profits generally good.

But when employment lags, sales decline and prices tumble—then comes another type of "plenty."

### THE LION'S SHARE



These are periods of plenty for people who are fortunate enough to have money, for they can buy anything they desire at sharply reduced tariffs. The number of individuals competing or individual articles is comparatively small—and shelves are loaded with slow moving merchandise. In such times a few of our people have everything they want. But a far greater number do not. Merchants, consumers, manufacturers—all suffer. There may be meat a-plenty in the butchers' shop, but John Q. Public can only look at it through the butcher's window. Neither he nor the butcher can enjoy its benefits.

America's problem today is to strike a happy medium between the "plenty" which spells shortages and the "plenty" which results from depression. Full employment, at reasonable wages, is the solution. Such employment cannot come with unrealistic prices; with runaway inflation. It will come if we keep cool and see to it—in one way or another—that our economic forces are kept under strict control. The law of supply and demand is a great beneficial instrument, properly controlled and balanced. But it must be made to serve the best interests of humanity. (Cincinnati Enquirer)

The law of supply and demand, like the law of gravity, has never been repealed.



By GEORGE S. BENSON  
President of Harding College  
Searcy, Arkansas



### A NATION'S GOOD

Gentlemen of the Continental Congress, who years ago made some important decisions for us, today they deserve a vote of confidence. Will we keep the form of government they outlined and set up for us or do we change to something like that in Britain, France or Russia? Let us make our decision on a basis of results. If we don't make it soon somebody will make it for us.

Selecting our course ourselves, doing so wisely and soon, is extremely important. Small items of business can be bungled today and corrected tomorrow, but not this one. If the United States should once go collectivist com-

pletely, it would never be a republic again until people who live now are forgotten. There are no practice shots; we make this decision once, and that's how it will be.

### A Nation's Brains

In comparing the American system with any socialistic plan, one point must be held in mind constantly: Freedom to think. Nothing is more valuable than good ideas and everybody has them. Nobody has a corner on them. Where any person is free to get ideas and put them to work at his own risk, good ones come to light in a hurry and are put to work in a way that helps everybody; that is democracy.

Under any socialistic system of central planning, only a few are considered worthy to think. They have ideas occasionally, of course, but do not try them out at their own risk. They put them to work on a big scale at the nation's risk. By this system the whole people must suffer for the blunders of a few. Collectivism, and the differences show up clearly in general prosperity.

### A Nation's Income

America is the most prosperous country on earth. At the last check, national income in the United States was equal to that of the six next highest countries; national income being the grand total of what everybody earns. Under the American system, incomes are different; some higher than others but all high. In socialistic countries incomes are more alike, uniformly low.

America's national enemies cry out against capitalism in tones that make the word sound like a dread disease. At least, under the American system accumulated wealth is used rather than hoarded. Savings in America are invested in machinery to help workers produce more and earn more. Where profits are unlawful, dividends are impossible, production and wages both low.

### A Nation's Progress

Let me illustrate what the American system is worth to the world: King Solomon, of Israel, George Washington, the first President of the United States, lived about alike. They rode in horse-drawn vehicles, wore hand loomed clothes, used animal oil and wood for fuel. They lived nearly 3,000 years apart. Think what you have now and remember that Wash-