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ADDRESS

By

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GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO

At

A CENTURY of PROGRESS

CHICAGO

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NEW MEXICO DAY

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Glimpses Into A Vast Undeveloped Empire

A Land of Enchantment

A Land of Opportunity

In the name of the sovereign State of New Mexico, as its chief executive, I bring you greetings from the "Land of Sunshine, Silence and Adobe," from its towns that were before Columbus, from the most ancient state capital in the Union, from the modern bustling metropolis of Albuquerque, from busy marts of trade in towns old and new, from the native primitive peoples, from the descendants of Spanish conquerors and colonizers, from the sons and daughters of pathfinders and pioneers, and from the adopted citizenry representative of many nations and every state of the Union!

The oldest in point of settlement, and yet the newest in the sisterhood of states, New Mexico has been the land of heart's desire of many peoples for well nigh two thousand years. The Indians, first to arrive, found a land so fair and fertile that they abandoned their roving ways and settled in the valleys and canyons of the streams that flowed from the high sierras. They cultivated corn and other crops, the gift of the red man to the white race. In course of time, they developed an admirable form of government and a colorful culture which reached its climax a thousand years ago in the Chaco Canyon, in northwestern New Mexico, where the ruins of five and six-story communal houses and huge sun temples still excite the wonderment of every visitor. Then came the white men upon the scene, seeking a Golconda in the Seven Cities of Cibola, eighty years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. These Spanish adventurers sought gold and souls. Of the former they found little; for the latter, more than fifty Franciscans suffered martyrdom. As far east as Kansas, the disappointed Spanish conquerors made their way, little dreaming that New Mexico after all was a land of untold riches and resources.

Fifty years later came the Spanish colonists and planted the seeds of European culture and Christianity in the valley of the Rio Grande. Since that date in 1598, when the first permanent settlement was established, wave upon wave of newcomers have taken hold of the land and have slowly uncovered its wealth.

The southernmost of the states that sit astride the Continental Divide, New Mexico became the cross-roads of commerce between the Atlantic and the Pacific, and between the United States and Latin America to the south. Here the Argonauts, who made their way to California, found welcome and rested along their way. With them came the pathfinders and pioneers, who gave a new touch to the culture which had been established by the Indian and the Spaniard. It was a slow process, but from the melting pot of races, tribes and nationalities there came forth the present New Mexico, the most colorful of the forty-eight states of the Union! Its area is greater than that of the middle Atlantic states, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware, with their teeming millions and accumulated wealth. It can produce within its own bounds sufficient to maintain a large population, independent of any other state or country. No other state is so self-sufficient. Its climate, ranging from the south temperate to the sub-arctic, permits the cultivation of varied crops, ranging from cotton to wheat, and of every fruit of the temperate zone. Its cattle and sheep graze on a thousand hills and mesas. Its mineral products include not only the gold which the conquerors sought, but silver, copper, lead, zinc and many of the rarer minerals such as molybdenum, lepidolite and precious stones. From time immemorial, its turquoise has been sought by people far and near. Its coal beds are sufficient to supply the world with fuel for centuries to come. Its production of oil, only lately developed, has placed it among the leading oil producers of the Union. Its potash mines have within the last year yielded in sufficient quantity to fulfill the promise that they can make the United States independent of Europe for this the most valuable fertilizer known to science and agriculture.

It is one of the curious facts of history that art

and literature first flourished in arid regions. New Mexico has been no exception. Truly "Climate is Fate!" as a great author has written. In the days when Europe was still steeped in the darkness of the Middle Ages, the pre-historic peoples of New Mexico wove fine fabrics of cotton, made artistic pottery, governed themselves in true democratic spirit, worshipped with brilliant and poetic ceremonies, and lived as beautiful a philosophy as was ever evolved by human mind. The descendants of these people still live their quaint old ways in the homes of their ancestors, scarcely touched by the modern advancement of their cosmopolitan neighbors. In the mountain recesses are still to be found vivid reminders of ancient and picturesque Spain and Mexico, people who live in the peaceful poetic ways their forefathers brought from Andalusia.

Against this background and a mosaic of magnificent mountains, tablelands, canyons, valleys and plains, the modern state has evolved with its university, teachers' colleges, museums, art galleries, an up-to-date public school system supplemented by church colleges, academies and schools. Great railroad systems bisect the State in each direction. In the construction of highways, New Mexico has made surprising strides, making accessible to thousands of tourists scenic grandeur and archaeological and historic landmarks unsurpassed. It is axiomatic that wherever mountains and desert meet, there are to be found developments of universal interest. In its wild life, flora and fauna, New Mexico offers a variety which excels that of the other commonwealths of the Union. Its forests cover twenty thousand square miles, the greater part owned and conserved by the national government, which has inaugurated a program of road and trail building, reaching sylvan retreats of quiet beauty or overwhelming magnificence. These forests have become the recreation grounds, free and open, to the people not only of New Mexico, but of the entire world.

In New Mexico are located the Carlsbad Caverns, a major world wonder, colossal and brilliant underground palaces, which neither tongue nor pen has been able to describe.

New Mexico stands unique in that it has maintained its public credit and pays its way even in

these times of depression. Its cost of government is far below that of other commonwealths, the tax burden falling upon the individual is comparatively small. The state has been free from crime waves and law and order are rigidly maintained. In every sense of the word, it is a modern state, which at the same time has conserved for future generations antiquities, ancient ways, colorful ceremonies and quaint places which have drawn to it groups of artists and writers of wide renown.

New Mexico is proud to have been permitted to contribute to the attractions of the Century of Progress exposition, which in a way symbolizes so much of its own achievements as well as those of the entire world. As representative of this old-new commonwealth, we marvel at what has been attained in the fields of science and art, and yet we are conscious of the fact that New Mexico has contributed in no small way to the progress and to the wealth of the nation. In fact, in the intangible values of culture, New Mexico may well claim to stand at the head of the procession of states. In material wealth, it has poured forth metallic ores, useful minerals, as well as precious gems running into the tens of millions of dollars. We might quote statistics to bear out the fact that long before California and Alaska produced gold, New Mexico was gathering the precious metal from its placers.

However, the state has far from exhausted its natural wealth. Only a beginning has been made in the way of irrigation works, power development, mineral production, the growing of crops and the exploitation of tourist attractions. There is room in the state for thousands upon thousands of people who command the means, enterprise and wisdom to make the most of what nature has so abundantly provided. Sunshine and dry atmosphere, coupled with a choice of altitudes having a range of ten thousand feet, have restored multitudes to health and vigor. From its snow-clad peaks, gush many streams carrying fertility to the valleys and plains below, creating three great river systems, those of the Rio Grande, of the Colorado and of the Arkansas. Huge irrigation and drainage works have been constructed making available large areas for intensive cultivation. The time is coming when the power

from the Boulder Dam and from the great irrigation systems will help to produce wealth untold. The plan of our President to decentralize manufacturing industries and to create subsistence homesteads is bound to make New Mexico one of the regions to be benefited in a large degree. Producing raw materials in vast quantities, offering cheap power and climatic advantages, the day does not seem far distant when the population and wealth of the state will double and triple almost overnight. The foundations have been laid in centuries of plodding and pioneering, and the time of the harvest is at the door.

Certainly the enterprise which has created the Century of Progress Exposition, indicates that there are still men of vision in these United States, and it is men of that type who will pour the needed capital and scientific knowledge into New Mexico, in order to make available to all peoples the untold riches of which we merely have an intimation at this time.

Glory and honor to the master minds, who have created this magnificent Exposition in a period of deep depression from which New Mexico too is suffering and to which have been added the ravages of unprecedented drouth; thanks and praise to the forward looking citizens of our State who have enabled New Mexico to make this attractive display of its lure and resources. Hope and faith in the future despite present tribulations are undiminished. New Mexico welcomes the world to view its wonders and to share in its marvelous resources, which Providence has so generously bestowed!