

Nation On The Go; High Mobility Is Aid To Economy

Nine Out of 10 Moved At Least One Time In Lifetime

One of the extraordinary and invigorating aspects of American life is the mobility of the population as evidenced by the great number of persons who change their homes and places of residence every year.

Figures compiled by the U. S. Bureau of the Census from a sample survey show that approximately 20 per cent of the civilian population moved in each year between 1947 and 1952. The number involved exceeded 30 millions in the year between April, 1951 and April, 1952. The majority of these movers stay within the same community or nearby areas but millions move across state lines every year.

A Long Tradition

This mobility has long been characteristic of the American population. As a result, the Census Bureau found that nine out of every ten persons one year old and over in the United States in April of last year had moved at least once in their lifetime, and that only 2 per cent of the adult population can qualify as "old timers" in their particular communities in the sense that they have always lived in their present homes.

Americans come by this mobility naturally. It was the same spirit of restlessness among the first settlers and those who followed them, combined with the search for opportunity and the drive to get ahead, that built up this country and made it the great democratic power it is today.

The mobility of the population has contributed much to the dynamics of the economy. The fact so many people are willing to take advantage of opportunity wherever it turns up has prevented the development of rigidities which are common in other countries where people move about less freely. Mobility has likewise had a far-reaching economic stimulus, creating, for example, markets for new homes, building up communities and newly-opened areas as in the record migration from the cities to the suburbs over the last decade, and bringing the worker to the job from one part of the country to the other and to even comparatively remote areas.

Mobility By Age Groups
Mobility is found among all adult age groups, but the young tend to be much more mobile than their elders and particularly so if they are war veterans. Between 1951 and 1952, for example, nearly 38 per cent of those between 20 and 24 changed their place of residence, and nearly a third of all those between 25 and 29. Older people, of course, have had more chance to get established and tend to

FIRE FACTS

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stay put more than younger ones, but even so nearly 9 per cent of all those 65 and over change their place of residence in the 1951-52 period.

An indication of relationship between mobility and income is found in the fact that a larger proportion of persons with low incomes is found among those who had not moved before 1941 or always lived in the same house than among those who had changed their places of residence since that year.

Plan Now To Share Christmas With Those Away From Home

Has Christmas for you become just a matter of exchanging gifts? Has the holiday season become so crowded with hurried activities that the real meaning behind Christmas has been lost?

"If the exchange of gifts has become burdensome, we have lost the art of giving," says Corinne J. Grimsley, State College extension specialist in family relations. "Perhaps, many times, a brief visit, a telephone call, would bring more happiness and good will than a present."

"Often," says Mrs. Grimsley, "an invitation to come for tea or dinner, or to sing Christmas carols, will dispense more loneliness and reflect the true spirit of the holiday season than

the exchange of presents. It is the spirit in which we go about our holiday activities that counts. Money won't buy the spirit, nor can we buy happy memories."

Do you know any friends who may be spending Christmas alone this year? Why not include them in your family celebration and make theirs a Merry Christmas too?

Why not contact some of the colleges near your community and see if there are any students who live too far from home to be with their families this year. Invite them in to spend the holidays. "Plan to include some of the foreign students in your seasonal activities, suggests Ruth Current, state home demonstration agent. "Give them an opportunity to join in the American way of Christmas. Let us take time this year to put the true spirit into the holiday season."

ERUPTING VOLCANOES

Two new volcanoes appeared in recent months, according to the American Peoples Encyclopedia. One of these, El Boqueron, broke out on San Benedicto Island, 250 miles off the tip of Lower California. Within a few weeks it attained a height of 1,250 feet, with a crater a half mile wide and 300 feet deep. The other volcano, Didicas, rose 250 feet above sea level to form a 600-acre island off the north coast of Luzon, Philippine Islands.

It's In The Book

What Do You Know About Motor Vehicle Laws?

I am 15 years old and live on the farm. I've learned to drive tractors, cars and trucks. Can I get a driver's license now?

H.H.—Jacksonville.

No, the Motor Vehicle Manual says no one under 16 years of age may be issued an operator's permit. Wait until your 16th birthday, then make application at your nearest State Highway Patrol office for a license. Even so, applicants between 16 and 18 must have their parent's or guardian's consent before a permit can be issued.

70 Per Cent U. S. Land Area Privately Owned

Seventy per cent of the land area of the United States is privately owned, primarily by individuals. Included in this percentage is land in farms where the proportion of private ownership amounts to more than 92 per cent.

Individuals (including partnerships and estates) are the predominant landholding class, owning 63 per cent of all the land in the country and just under 88 per cent of the land in farms, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Corporate ownership represents only 7 per cent of the country's land area and less than 4½ per cent of the land in farms.

The Federal Government alone owns more than a fifth of all the land in the United States, about four times as much as is owned by State and local governments combined. Over three-fifths of all public lands are used for grazing purposes under leases and permits. Large areas are al-

KIDNEYS MUST REMOVE EXCESS WASTE

When kidney function slows down, many folks complain of nagging backache, loss of pep and energy, headaches and dizziness. Don't suffer longer with these discomforts if reduced kidney function is getting you down—due to such common causes as stress and strain, over-exertion or exposure to cold. Minor bladder irritations due to cold, dampness or wrong diet may cause getting up nights or frequent passages. Don't neglect your kidneys if these conditions bother you. Try Doan's Pills—a mild diuretic. Used successfully by millions for over 50 years. While often otherwise caused, it's amazing how many times Doan's give happy relief from these discomforts—help the 15 miles of kidney tubes and filters flush out waste. Get Doan's Pills today!

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so in forests, parks, fish and game preserves, and military reservations.

MOST PUBLICIZED WORD

The century-old word "Chlorophyll", aided by advertising men and joke-smiths, took honors as the most publicized "new word" of 1952, it is reported in the American Peoples Encyclopedia's new Yearbook. New terms like "poodle cut," "whistlestop," "countryopolitan" and "teleprompter" also ranked high.

LIFE ON PLANETS

Nobel prize-winning chemist Harold C. Urey voiced the opinion in 1952 that there must be several million planets in our galaxy sufficiently similar to the earth to support life, it is reported in the American Peoples Encyclopedia 1953 Yearbook. Dr. Urey pointed out that there are 100 billion stars and 100 million "solar systems" in the Milky Way much like our own.

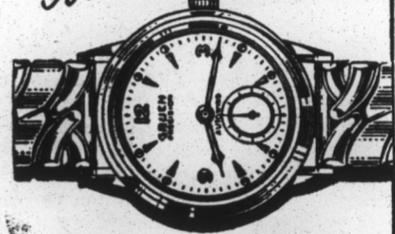
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