

THE GOLDEN WEST

The basis for wealth in Phoenix was originally agriculture, and it is no surprise that most of the persons discussed here were past masters of land development and made their respective fortunes first of all in that arena. To be sure, Phoenix, as capital of the state, became an administrative center; later it was a commercial center; and after World War II a manufacturing center. But leaders in the early days saw wealth in the land, and the vision of the land generating wealth as part of the New West is perhaps the unifying feature that links the interests and lives of all seven men. Their collective vision gave a rationale for growth to Phoenix, which set the stage for the immense expansion that took place after World War II.

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