**Service - Stories & Illustrations**

**In the oceans, photosynthesis is carried on mainly by algae. Long before anything could live out of water, these plant dynamos did most of the work of changing the earth's atmosphere from poisonous gases to breathable air -- a process which probably took some 2 1/2 billion years. Today, tiny algae called diatoms carry on the bulk of aquatic photosynthesis. (Rutherford Platt, in The Living World of Nature, p. 235)**

**The bee is more honored than other animals, not because she labors, but because she labors for others. *(St. John Chrysostom, Greek Archbishop of Constantinople, 4th century)***

**DOGS OF WAR: During World War I, forty thousand Americans donated their pet dogs to serve in the Armed Forces. Seventy-five thousand dogs were used as messengers and to locate bodies. Dogs were even trained to jump out of airplanes and parachute to the ground. *(Don Voorhees, in The Indispensable Book of Useless Information, p. 194)***

**The elephant-trunk fish, an electric fish, swims in streams of West Africa. When water around it becomes polluted, it emits electrical impulses. Germany’s technicians have imported it to their rivers and rigged the waterways with detectors. So the fish warns them of pollution by buzzing buzzers and lighting lights. (L. M. Boyd)**

**Although the Kiwanis Club was chartered in 1915 in Detroit, Michigan, to exchange business ideas, members also were involved in helping those in need. In 1919, the club’s mission was changed to focus on community service. (American Profile magazine)  
  
Back in the early 1900s, my grandmother came to live in Chicago with her four sons. She became a midwife in the Lincoln-Belmont area. She received 25 cents for assisting in the birth and 25 cents a day for caring for the mother and baby. Grandma told me many times, “Sonny, there are a lot of people out there who haven’t been paid for. *(Henry Koch, in Reminisce Extra magazine)***

**Missionary recruitment ad in Maryknoll Magazine: “Ever think of going into your Father’s business?” *(Reader’s Digest)***

**For Anuson Poolsawat, customer satisfaction always comes first. The Alaskan restaurant owner had already done Mike Laiti and his friend a favor by staying open late. When the two called from the highway to cancel their takeout order after a closed bridge halted their drive, Poolsawat shrugged off the hassle. “He called and said, ‘Not a problem, I’ll come cross the waters,’” said Laiti. “‘Should I bring a boat?’” After a 25-mile drive, Poolsawat forded a cold, waist-deep creek carrying cartons of Thai barbecue ribs and fried rice over his head. “He’s just a good guy,” said Laiti. “Definitely a goofball.” (The Week magazine, July 4, 2014)  
  
Albert Schweitzer is what service is all about. He gave up a prestigious career as a doctor and went to Africa to build hospitals for the poor natives. Many of his friends, who felt that he was throwing away his talents and training, sent a delegation to Africa to attempt to persuade him to come back to his native land. They asked, “Why should such a gifted man as you give up so much to labor among African natives?” Schweitzer replied: “Don't talk about sacrifice. What does it matter where one goes provided one can do good work there? Much as I appreciate your kind words, I have made up my mind to stay here and look after my African friends.” He remained there until he died in 1965, at the age of 90. He worked until the very end, maintaining his zest for living. (Joe Griffith, in Speaker's Library of Business, p. 290)**

**The 1905 peace treaty ending the Russo-Japanese War was signed in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Though the United States had nothing to do with the war, the treaty was arranged and negotiated by United States President Theodore Roosevelt. (David Louis, in Fascinating Facts, p. 180)**

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