

'Sonora full of energy in the year 2031'

The following are excerpts from the Annual Report that the governor of the State of Sonora is imagined to give to the State Legislature in the year 2031. The Annual Report was distributed in the thousands by the Sonora government Secretary of Planning and Budget during the Sonora '81 Industrial Fair. The governor reports on the tremendous levels of economic growth and high increase in the standard of living achieved during the previous 50 years as a result of an ambitious industrial development plan for Sonora.

Industry

Sonora sharply orients toward the food industry. That specialization has become ever more accentuated to the degree that its food research institutes have developed new technologies. Thus, Sonora has more than overcome the food problem which was approaching Mexico and other regions of the world. Agriculture and fishing, which have long been fully mechanized, remain the largest employers of skilled labor.

Energy

The huge uranium deposits which were first brought on stream 45 years ago are the basis for generating nuclear energy in the state and throughout Mexico. . . .

The state has its energy needs assured up to the year 2080, thanks to the functioning of the fourth stage of nuclear plants which generate electricity and desalinate seawater. Natural gas pipelines were extended to all the state's towns over 20 years ago.

Education

Since 1981, 100 percent of school age children have been educated. By 1985, the state had eliminated illiteracy, opened kindergardens for all children, and made 11 years of education compulsory.

Today, in 2031, 70 percent of secondary school and university students study technological careers with the remaining 30 percent in the humanities. . . . The state has two graduate schools, five universities and 35 technological centers.

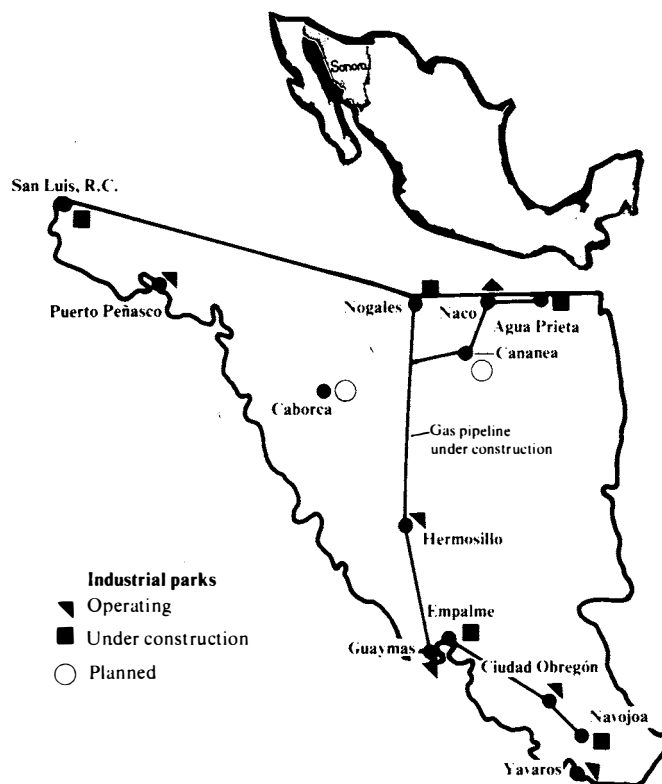
Health and social security

One hundred percent of Sonora's population belongs to a social security system. . . . Heart disease and cancer have been reduced to 10 percent of the levels of 50 years ago. Sonora's population is healthy; even with the difficulties of modern life, its life span now extends to 80 years. . . .

Population

The State Plan for Human Settlement redistributed the state's urban population, breaking the historic migration pattern from the interior to the coast and promoting an orderly growth of cities. Five of our cities have more than 50,000 inhabitants, seven more than 250,000 people, 38 between 50,000 and 100,000, and 53 municipalities have less than 50,000 people.

The arrival of abundant irrigation water with the Northwest water plan construction resulted in 11 new population centers with more than 50,000 people. Mexicans from all over the country come to the state. This, in addition to natural population growth, brings our population to 5 million. But we have no overpopulation problem, and life in our cities is pleasant and comfortable.



Out of the 13 industrial parks that the industrial development plan for Sonora calls for, five are already operating, five are under construction and the rest are in planning stage. The gas pipeline currently under construction will supply the industrial parks with cheap and abundant gas.