

But I looked at that rooted and evil-smelling morass and had nothing to say. There was nothing a devoted wife could say. Other people were to be less considerate.

We left the sandy strip and went back to the boat. But Carl did not forget it. He tucked that dream city away in his mind, where he held the secrets of so many other plans, many of which would not come alive for him. He had no time now for more concrete planning of the playtime city.

Collins Bridge opened with impressive ceremonies on June 12, 1913. Mayor Watson of Miami led the long procession of automobiles, wagons, carriages and bicycles in the first motorcade to travel to Miami Beach. Many of the boards had not been nailed down, and rattled under the wheels. An ancient bridge-tender cranked by hand a crude turnstile that fanned the bridge open to let boats go through. On arriving at Bull Isle, the cars turned on a corduroy turntable and went back to the mainland. Bull Isle was still a marsh and no road led across it. One of Carl's first acts after starting Miami Beach was to fill in Bull Isle and change its name to Belle Isle.

It was characteristic of both Collins and Carl that neither was present at the opening of "the longest wooden wagon and auto bridge in the world." With true Quaker modesty, John Collins refused to ride in the flag-draped motorcade, but dedicated ten acres in its honor that later became Collins Park. Carl was in Indianapolis at this time planning to go with the Trail-Blazers across the continent.

"Collins' Folly" became Collins Bridge. John Collins brought his tropical harvest to the tables of America and became wealthy and famous as the avocado king.

When Carl had first heard of Collins and the bridge he was building, he asked: "Where does it lead to?" Now he knew. It would link two of his greatest projects—Miami Beach and the Dixie Highway.

Two weeks after the formal opening of the bridge linking wilderness to mainland, Carl was setting out from Indianapolis on the great cross-country trek that would begin the building of the Lincoln Highway. But before he left Florida for Indian-