

American Indians Are Staging A Come-Back

Figures Show Population Gaining Steadily and the Red Man Is No Longer a Rover and Warrior, But a Useful Worker and Good Citizen

Washington, October 29 — Like his old friend, the buffalo, the American Indian is making a come back. Figures recently announced by the Bureau of Indian Affairs show our American Indian population is now 344,303, a gain of 1,144 over last year.

"Not only last year, but for thirty years, the redmen have steadily been gaining on their death rate," says a bulletin from the Washington D. C. headquarters of the National Geographic Society.

"Today there are six Indians per square mile of reservations which comprise an area not much smaller than that of all New England. According to the best estimates available there was an average of only one Indian for every three square miles when white people first came to American shores. If only two-thirds of the United States were occupied by red skins at the present reservation population rate, there would be 12,000,000 Indians in the United States today.

Aboriginal Population Small
"Massasoit gave the Pilgrim fathers corn, but the fact is that Massasoit and his kith and kin lived for the most parts by products of the chase. Deer, buffalo, bear, and rabbit were their pork and beef, and berries and nuts were their potatoes. Even verdant America could not support an intense population living in this fashion. The total Indian population at the time Columbus landed at San Salvador is set at about 846,000. If all the tribes, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and from the Gulf to the Great Lakes, had assembled at one great meeting, they would have made up a community not so large as Detroit and only a few thousand greater than Cleveland or Boston.

"White men's guns decimated some tribes, disease, dissipation and epidemics which came with the white men spread death more surely. Small-pox epidemics swept through the western tribes three times between 1781 and 1837 with more fatal result than the influenza plague of 1918. A peculiar fever killed 70,000 Indians in California and Oregon in one year. By 1880 the Indian population represents an increase of nearly 100,000 in thirty years.

Richest Group On Earth
"One American Indian tribe today is the richest people on the face of the earth. Beneath the lands of the Osage Indian tribe in Oklahoma oil was discovered. Their wells produce \$100,000,000 worth of oil annually, and Uncle Sam, who handles the business for his red brother, distributes to each member of the tribe from \$10,000 to \$12,000 each year. In 1922 more than 29,000,000 barrels of oil were produced on Osage lands.

Partial adaptation to the white man's way and care by Uncle Sam are responsible for the increase in Indian population. The redman may still be a hunter, but the visitor to a reservation will find the red skin useful as well as noble. He is often a rancher, dairy farmer, gardener, weaver, pottery maker, rugmaker, poultry raiser, typist, bookkeeper, miner, lumberer, guide, and he even clips coupons.

Two Hundred Tribes Salvaged
"Out of the ruin of Indian civilization more than 200 tribes have been salvaged. These tribes are lodged on nearly 200 reservations varying from tiny rancheries in California to the great Navajo reservation in Arizona and New Mexico larger than the State of Maryland. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is their guardian. It is a government by itself, having a cabinet of six commissioners, and undertaking all-encompassing activities typical of which are a probate court, trust company, public roads commission, orphan asylum, town building, and operation of a philanthropic association, bank, and employment agency.

"Recently the red man once more daubed himself with garish war paint, dressed himself in all his feathers, and hit the war path. The path led to Hollywood and the Indians broke into the movies. Uncle Sam gave permission for the Shoshoni and Arapaho tribes of the Wind River reservation in Wyoming to go to the movie city to be used in the making of pictures.

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Opera Star Forms Her Own Company



FLORENCE MACBETH

To be of royal blood and a famous opera star is not enough for Florence Macbeth of the Chicago operatic forces, who has now become an impresario, formed her own company and is planning to tour the United States with the opera "The Secret of Suzanne." Other women before her, like Mary Garden, have achieved distinction by directing an opera company. By promoting the company in which she will be the principal factor, Miss Macbeth has gone further than her contemporaries.

Present Portrait Judge Montgomery

Exercises To Be Held Tuesday Morning In Supreme Court Chambers In Raleigh

Raleigh, Oct. 29.—A portrait of the late Judge Walter A. Montgomery, associate justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court from 1894 to 1904, will be presented to the State by the late jurist's family with appropriate exercises in the Supreme Court chamber at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. Thirston T. Hicks, Henderson attorney, will make the address of presentation. Mrs. Montgomery, widow of Associate Justice Montgomery; Dr. Walter A. Montgomery, professor of Latin at William and Mary College, a son; and Miss Betsey Montgomery, of Raleigh, a daughter, are expected to attend, besides a

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number of citizens of Raleigh and years he practiced law at Memphis, Tennessee, but the rest of his life from out of town.

The portrait recently was completed by Gebhard, of Washington, D. C.

Judge Montgomery was born at Warrenton, North Carolina, February 17, 1845. As a lad of 16 years he enlisted in Company E, North Carolina Cavalry, the army of the Confederacy, and fought for the cause of the South during the War Between the States, in which he participated in many of the major battles and received two wounds.

After the war he studied at Warrenton Academy. In 1867 he was admitted to the bar. For several

years he practiced law at Memphis, Tennessee, but the rest of his life was spent in North Carolina.

A vacancy occurring in the Supreme Court in 1894, Judge Montgomery was elected to fill it. In 1896 he was elected to a full term of eight years.

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