

Pueblos Have Many Friends

Senate Bill 3855 To Settle Land Claims Stirs up Nation-Wide Controversy

67TH CONGRESS ADJOURNS SINE DIE

FARM CREDITS BILL AND 98 OTHER MEASURES SIGNED BY PRESIDENT.

CROWDS WITNESS CLOSING

Many Members Answer Their Last Roll Call; No Legislation Was Vetoed.

Washington. — The sixty-seventh Congress which had spent a greater proportion of its two-year span of life in actual session than any other in the history of the country, adjourned sine die.

During the last few hours of the session, President Harding, spending part of the time at the capitol, signed the farm credits bill and 98 other measures. No legislation was vetoed.

Vice President Coolidge's gavel fell sharply at noon after an almost colorless morning senate session of two hours, and the house adjourned after a concert by a section of the marine band and a chorus of popular songs by members and spectators.

The departure of members, many of whom answered their last roll call, was in full swing with prospective suspension of activities at the capitol until next December brings in the 68th Congress.

Crowds witnessed the closing scenes, adjournment and presence of President Harding, cabinet officers, diplomats and other high officials bringing hundreds who packed the senate and house galleries.

The President reached the capitol at 11:25 o'clock and was kept busy reading and signing the final avalanche of bills. Before going to the capitol, he signed the farm credits and 43 other bills, turned out during the early morning session. In the presidential suite, off the senate chamber before the noon limit expired, 55 more bills received executive approval.

The last bill to become law was the better butter measure, changing butter fat standards. An important measure placed on the statute books at the last moment was the one providing for return to enemy alien owners of all property seized worth \$10,000 or less.

American Relief Spends \$12,000,000. Washington.—A review of American relief activities in the near east, showing expenditures during the past year of more than \$12,000,000, was given to Congress by Charles V. Vickery in his annual report as general secretary of the Near East relief.

Shipment of foodstuffs, equipment, machinery, medical supplies and clothing and textiles made from this country by the near east relief during the year totalled 53,000,000 pounds, and in addition large purchases were made in Anatolia and other areas. The number of orphans now under the care of the organization is 115,000 and Mr. Vickery predicted that this total would increase as additional victims of persecution and war are applying daily for aid.

The year's expenditures exceeded receipts by more than \$1,500,000, but the balance carried over from the year previous made up the deficit and left a surplus of \$328,000.

Bills Fail to Pass Congress. Washington.—Measures of importance which failed of passage during the closing days of the Congress included:

The administration shipping bill which was filibustered to death in the senate.

The resolution of Senator Smith, democrat, South Carolina, to appropriate \$10,000,000 for the purchase of nitrate to aid southern cotton producers.

The constitutional amendment proposal of Senator Norris, republican, Nebraska, to advance the convening dates of Congress and presidential inaugurations.

The resolution of Senator Brookhart, republican, Iowa, proposing investigation of the sugar situation.

Probe of Silver Price is Ordered.

Washington.—An investigation into the reduced price of silver and the low production of gold was authorized by Congress when the House passed a senate resolution authorizing the appointment of a special commission of five Senators and five Representatives to study the economic questions involved and to make recommendations. The expenditures by the special commission is limited to \$15,000 and the President is to name the commission.

Army Lieutenant Killed.

New York. — Lieutenant Stanley Smith, army air service, was killed, and Major Follett Bradley was probably fatally injured when a giant martin bomber in which they had just left Mitchell field for Chanute field, Rantoul, Ills., was forced down in Brooklyn.

Four students mechanics, privates who also were in the plane, escaped with only slight injuries owing to the skillful manner in which Major Bradley piloted the big bomber to earth from a height of 5,000 feet.

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

BOY SCOUTS ON THE FARM

One of the most fascinating places for a boy scout to live is on a farm. On the farm, out among the fields, on the open road, under the clear sky, a boy could easily imagine himself back in the company of the sturdy pioneers, scouts and brave frontiersmen who roamed through just such scenes. The country boy has a big advantage in being able to step from his front doorstep right out into the world of scouting—the great free out of doors.

Scouting gives the country boy a chance to acquire a wonderful fund of knowledge about nature. Knowledge that otherwise might be rather vague, through the systematic work of scouting, becomes a decided asset of clear facts. The country boy gets the opportunity through the scout troop to mingle with other boys and to satisfy the natural desire every boy has for the companionship of lads of his own age.

The nation is looking more and more to the country for leaders with fresh ideas and the spirit of progress. Thus the country stands in need of the country boy trained through the scout program for citizenship responsibilities and duties.

When it comes to that part of the scout program where working for merit badges begins to play a prominent part, how intensely interesting must the ordinary duties of the farm become. If the scout son is working for the merit badge in dairying, what a joy it must be to see that the cows are properly taken care of—that the milk is handled in a careful manner. Every step takes on the joy of achievement, of going forward in scout rank.

To provide for the rural boy the Boy Scouts of America have instituted a department for troops not under council, that is for troops which, because of distance, cannot be affiliated with a council, and for the lad who cannot because of distance join any troop, the ranks of the "Pioneer Boys Scouts" are open.

BOY SCOUT CHIEF ON TRIP



James E. West, chief executive of the Boy Scouts of America, who made an extended trip through the western states in the interest of scouting.

BOOKS FOR BOY SCOUTS

Among the thousands of books on the market purporting to be about scouting, there are many gross misrepresentations.

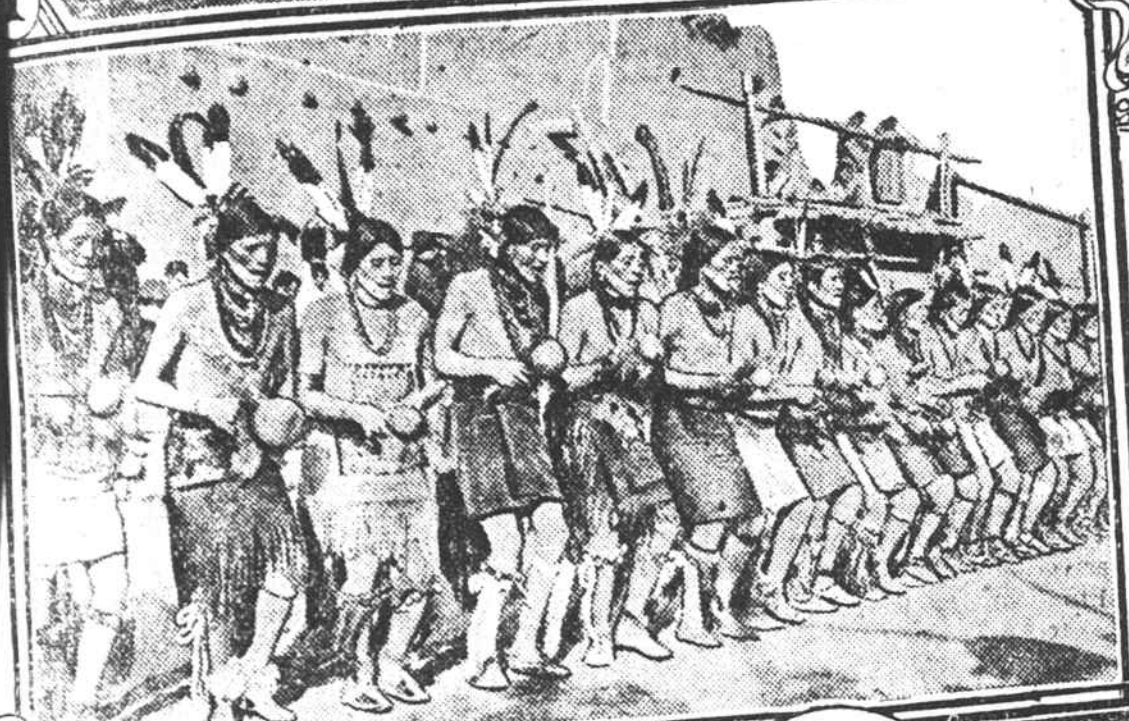
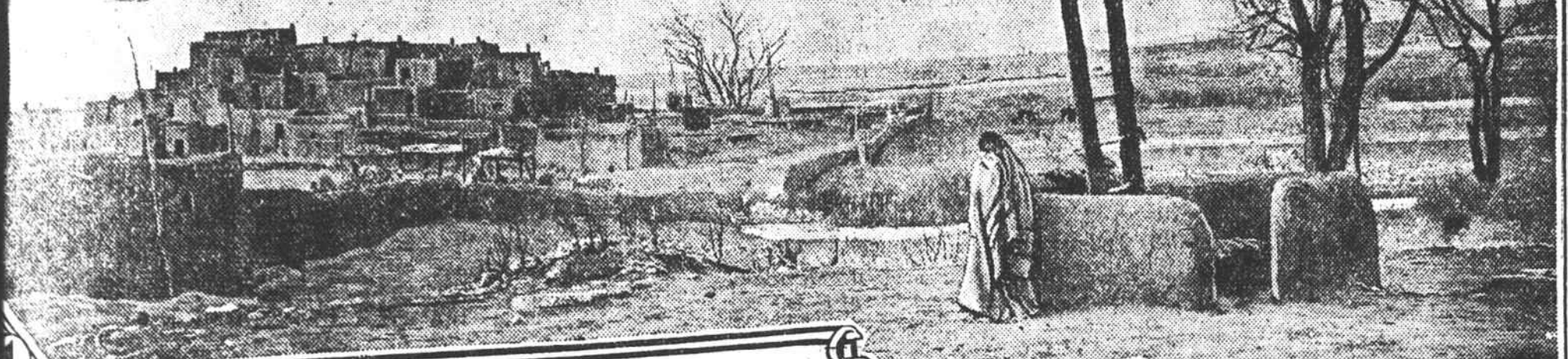
For a number of years the library department of the Boy Scouts of America has rendered the public the service of review of books for boys, in the belief that the indoor sport of reading good literature is as essential to character development as the outdoor sports so closely allied with scouting. Scout parents will be interested to know, especially now that the holiday season is approaching, with its time of intensive book buying, that the library department issues free of charge a list of books that have received the careful consideration and indorsement by the boy scout organization. The books have been selected not solely on the basis of literary merit, but also because of wholesomeness and proved appeal to the boy reader.

REMEMBER SOLDIER DEAD

For fifteen years Memorial day had passed without observance in a small community of Cerro Gordo county, Iowa. This year a troop of scouts was formed in the place and it followed that Memorial day was observed with scouts in almost complete charge, the scoutmaster making the address at the cemetery, the scouts decorating the graves, and the troop bugler sounding taps.

SCOUTS MAKE WARM FRIENDS

Troop No. 2 of East St. Louis, Ill., recently gave a practical demonstration of the spirit of scouting, and incidentally made eight firm friends when it presented a basket filled with good things to eat to a needy family that was stranded in that city. The family consisting of a father, who was suffering from tuberculosis; the mother, one daughter, and five small sons, had been traveling in an open auto. The scouts also provided warm clothing for the little boys.



JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN
THE Pueblo Indians of New Mexico have many friends. That is the outstanding feature of a most astonishing situation that has grown out of the passage by the senate of the Bursum land bill. For it certainly is surprising to see millions of the American people rising in aggressive nationwide protest against a bill drafted and sponsored by the secretary of the interior, the office of Indian affairs and a United States senator.



The purpose of this article is not to pass judgment on the merits of the controversy. My sympathy is with the Pueblos. But for obvious reasons I shall not indorse the protestants who charge in effect that the Bursum bill is a "land grab," nor shall I indorse the bill as a measure drawn for the benefit of the Indians, as claimed by its supporters. Nor shall I attempt to straighten out the complications of the situation; they are the outgrowth of a century. I shall merely attempt to give some information about the controversy and some of its features.

Said Chairman H. P. Snyder of the house committee on Indian affairs: "A tremendous propaganda has been carried on throughout the country. There has been nothing like it in Indian affairs, so far as I know. I received, in three days, 250 telegrams stating that the senders were absolutely opposed to the so-called Bursum-Snyder bill and in favor of the Leatherstocking-Jones bill."

Clippings from the news columns of newspapers, special articles, letters to the editor, editorials; articles in the periodicals and magazines, pamphlets and letters to members of congress would make scrapbooks by the carload. Addresses by the score have been made before all sorts of organizations; resolutions have been passed by all sorts of associations. All sorts of people are active—artists, writers, club women, mountaineers, archeologists, naturalists, sociologists; the list is a cross-section of American life.

And yet, to the student of the times, the uprising should not be surprising. There is a similar popular uprising every time the commercial interests try to break into the national parks through congress. The truth of the matter is that there is now a vast organized army of nature-lovers in this country who have made up their minds that birds and wild game and flowers and forests and natural scenic beauty are to have a square deal.

The Pueblos appeal to this army of nature-lovers in many ways, aside from the question of a "square deal," which always interests the American people.

The Pueblos of New Mexico are the father of agriculture and the mother of irrigation. Their pyramid houses stand today as they stood long before there was an English-speaking resident in the New World. Nowhere else in the world is there ancient history so brought down to date. Says Herbert J. Spinden of the Peabody museum, Harvard university:

"One of our most precious possessions—we should keep it tenderly and proudly. In these words Theodore Roosevelt characterized the arts of life and beauty created out of the painted deserts of the Southwest by the Pueblo Indians and our duty toward them. It was at Walpi . . . Romance is the most valuable commodity in the world today. A pale reflection of it on moving picture screens makes a vast business. The tale of real emotions to be felt draws eager travelers to undertake long voyages. Such a fine culture as that of the Pueblo Indians, without doubt the most complete expression of a stimulating group psychology in arts and ceremonies to be found anywhere in America, should be conserved with tender care. It is an irreplaceable thing. The best crop of the Southwest is scenery, and the slogan 'Our National Playground' depends for much of its effect upon Indian connotation. The Pueblo

villages are famous; musicians go to study the songs, painters to portray the life—and the petty produce of the small fields turned into the pockets of men who vote will not enrich the state or the nation."

The Bursum bill (S. 3855—"To ascertain and settle claims of persons not Indian within Pueblo Indian land, land grants and reservations in the state of New Mexico") was passed by the senate practically without debate and without a record vote. Later, upon motion of Senator Borah, a resolution was adopted withdrawing the bill from the consideration of the house. The bill was then re-referred to the public lands and surveys committee of the senate.

Secretary Fall wrote a letter of more than 8,000 words to Senator Borah, complaining of the "clamor" against the bill, explaining and upholding the bill and offering to any congressional committee all the information in the possession of the interior department.

Senator Borah read the letter into the Congressional Record and also his reply, which is short and contains this matter:

"If you will read the Congressional Record at the time the bill passed, you will find that I asked certain questions in regard to the purpose and effect of the bill. Senator Bursum replied to these questions, and I felt satisfied, upon an examination of the bill, that there was an entire misunderstanding by the senate, including Mr. Bursum, as to its effect. I therefore recalled the bill, not because I had felt the effect of propaganda but because I felt quite sure that the bill had not been sufficiently considered and that it passed the senate under a misunderstanding as to its terms."

Out of the opposition to the Bursum bill was organized the New Mexico Association on Indian Affairs. This association, in conjunction with the Indian welfare committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, has published and circulated a pamphlet containing the text of the Bursum bill and an analysis of its provisions. The conclusions are these:

"In general the bill is so full of inconsistencies, contradictions and language requiring construction as to render it impossible of amendment in such a way as to serve any useful purpose, either for the Indians or for the claimants adverse to the Indians. It should be utterly and wholly defeated because: (1) It stultifies the government and adds another failure to its record of dealing with dependent peoples; (2) it will ruin the Pueblo Indians by the loss of their lands and in a short time utterly destroy them; (3) it will not benefit the settlers, who will be trapped in endless litigation and unlimited expense thereto."

The conditions are declared by the pamphlet to be intolerable both to the Indians and to the bona fide claimants. It is recommended that a judicial commission be appointed by the President. The work of the commission would be facilitated and the welfare of both Indians and claimants would largely be assured by the development without delay of sundry self-sustaining projects of irrigation and drainage which have been formulated and recommended for years by the Fifth Irrigation district of the Indian bureau.

Senator A. A. Jones of New Mexico, at the request of organizations opposing the Bursum bill, has introduced a substitute measure (S. 4223) providing for a special court body to settle the claims and for the reclamation of arid lands. Representative H. P. Snyder, chairman of the house committee on Indian affairs, has introduced an amended Bursum bill.

Here are some facts which give an idea of the complexities of the situation:

There is no such thing in law as the Pueblo Indian tribe. There are the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, but there is no tribal organization that comprises all the pueblos in New Mexico. The bureau of Indian affairs has never exercised jurisdiction over them. It has never made any attempt to control their property. Each of these pueblos is incorporated as such under the laws of the state of New Mexico; the Pueblo Indians as individuals, have no property, for these separate pueblos as corporations own the property.

The settlements occupied by the Pueblo Indians are known as the pueblos and are as follows: Zuni, Acoma, Laguna, Isleta, Sandia, Santa Ana, Cia, Cochiti, San Felipe, Santo Domingo, Jemez, San Ildefonso, Pojoaque, Nambe, Santa Clara, Taos and San Juan, in connection with which may be mentioned Moqui or Hopi villages of Arizona.

The lands held by the Indians include Spanish grants, confirmed to the Indians during the first Lincoln administration. These grants date to a settlement between the Spanish government and the Indians about 1689; generally there was a grant of about 17,000 acres to each pueblo.

When the governors of the Pueblos appeared in Washington to plead their cause they brought with them their symbols of authority—silver-headed canes presented to their predecessors by President Lincoln in person when the Pueblo grants were confirmed by congress.

The vast majority of the claims have their origin prior to the date of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848, during Spanish and Mexican sovereignty. There are upward of 3,000 of these claims eighty. There are upward of 3,000 of these claims eighty. There are upward of 3,000 of these claims eighty. The claims are found in nearly all of the pueblo grants. In a vast majority of the claims the owners declare their title was obtained by purchase or contract with the governing authorities of the pueblo.

"An example of the encroachments upon the original grants is the San Juan pueblo. As confirmed and patented this grant had 17,000 acres. Approximately 4,000 acres are irrigable and of these 4,000 acres 3,412 acres are in the hands of the claimants. The San Juan pueblo contains 480 Indians. There are therefore less than two acres for the support of each Indian.

"We have reached the point where we must either live or die," says the appeal of the Pueblos to the people of the United States.

Of the pictures No. 1 is the pueblo of Taos and No. 2 an annual ceremonial dance there. No. 3 is a prehistoric home in Mesa Verde National park of the Cliff Dwellers, possible ancestors. No. 4 is a Pueblo delegate to Washington.