



NAVAJO BLANKETS AGAIN POPULAR

VICE PRESIDENT MARSHALL "Started Something" when he gave Mrs. Woodrow Wilson a fine specimen for her wedding present—Strange American Industry is flourishing.

BY MALCOLM McDOWELL

When the President Marshall selected a Navajo Indian blanket as a wedding present to Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, he unwittingly started a novel vogue in domestic fashions. The gorgeous products of Navajo looms are now being worn by the wives of many of this country's leaders. The war has almost stopped the importation of Turkish and Persian rugs, and it is predicted that Navajo Indian blankets, which are used for rugs and couch covers, will become a fad with connoisseurs who, heretofore, only had eyes for oriental floor coverings.

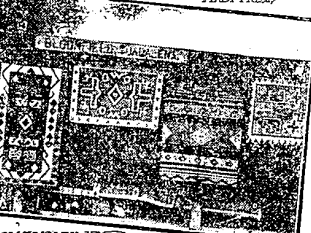
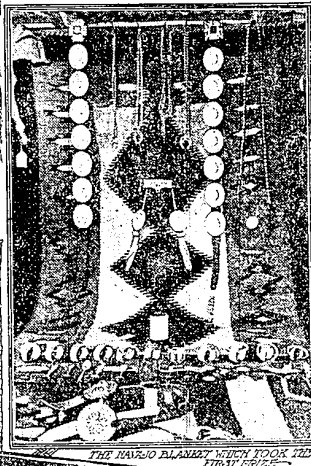
The particular kind of a blanket which the vice president secured is known only to himself, but it is said to be one of the rarest of its kind. The gift was unique in its genuine Americanism, for it was woven by an original American, on an original American loom, from wool sheared from Navajo sheep, bred and reared on the Navajo reservation, and colored with the vegetable dyes which only Navajo squaws know how to make—a singularly appropriate gift for the bride of an American president.

Navajo blankets range in value from a few dollars for the common kind usually purchased from traders, to \$500 and upwards for the stunning fabrics woven by expert and famous weavers only for head chiefs. The latter are hard to find, and their value is constantly on the increase.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs Cato Selts is bending his energies to the development and encouragement of income-producing industries among his wards, and in his last annual report he lays strong emphasis upon the Navajo blanket industry, which, he shows, continues to be the most important and remunerative of the native Indian industries, giving the Navajos an annual revenue of over \$700,000.

Nearly seven hundred blankets were displayed; many of them were packed overland for a distance of 125 miles, through the rough, arid country which is characteristic of the Navajo reservation. Mrs. Yabiny Begay, an uneducated squaw, but famous for her fine weaves, captured the first prize of \$100; the second prize of \$50 went to Miss Susie Bainbridge of Crocker, N. M., an Indian school graduate. No-nah Gorman, a seventeen-year miss of Fort Defiance, N. M., and Annie Klade of the same place, also were prize winners. Over \$10,000 worth of blankets were sold at this fair, and the exhibit, selected from blankets displayed at Shiprock, which was sent to the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco, attracted much attention and gave a decided impetus to the Navajo blanket vogue.

The Navajos, the largest tribe of Indians in the United States, are a pastoral people, tending their numerous



PLANNERS FROM TOMBURA, INDI.

flocks of sheep and goats on their reservation of more than eighteen million acres in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. The last census counted over twenty-seven thousand Navajos, and the tribe is steadily increasing in numbers. They are regarded as the least spoiled of the Indians, for not only is it government policy to interfere as little as possible with their civil life, but their remoteness and the generally unvarying character of their lands have had a tendency to keep white men away from them. Because they have retained, to a greater degree than have some other tribes, their primitive nature, the Navajos are eagerly studied by ethnologists and other students of America's native peoples.

Oscar H. Lipps, supervisor in charge of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pa., regarded as one of the best-informed men on Indians in the service, made a study of the history and weaving of Navajo blankets. In an article written for the Red Man, a monthly magazine produced and printed by the Indian students of Carlisle, Mr. Lipps describes the manner of weaving Navajo blankets.

"While many people," he writes, "believe these blankets are made in eastern factories by 'Yankies,' and shipped to western traders to deceive 'tenderfoot' tourists, this is a mistake. The Indian buys the factory-made blankets for his own use. The machine-made robes are worn by all 'blanket' Indians. They are usually of bright colors and elaborate patterns, the designs being often from the sheep with his hands, but with the advent of the trader came the common sheep-shears, and he at once began the use of them. Were you to visit a Navajo weaver's Hogan or lodge, you would expect to see a large, old-fashioned loom and spinning wheel, but you would find different appliances used in carrying on this textile industry. By comparison the loom and spinning wheel of our colonial ancestors were as intricate and complicated as the machinery of a modern woolen mill.

"The Navajo spinning wheel consists of a small wooden spindle made of hard wood and about eighteen inches in length, on which is fastened a wooden disk three or four inches in diameter. This spindle is twisted with the fingers, while the soft wool, which has been carded with a pair of old-fashioned hand-cards into small rolls, is twisted into smooth, strong thread.

"After the spinning the yarn is dyed. Formerly native dyes were used exclusively, but grew more mellow and beautiful with age. It is to be deplored that the ordinary dyes of commerce have largely taken the place of the vegetable dyes in the manufacture of Navajo blankets. In their native dyes they never had many different colors. They had a beautiful yellow, which they made from the yellow flower that grows in their country. They also had a very beautiful dark red, but they had no bright red such as they now get with the dyes of commerce, except when they purchase the dyed yarns from the Spanish traders. This was their first bright red.

"The inventive genius of the white man has never yet been able to reproduce the Navajo effect in a blanket. In the white man's loom, when a color starts across the beam it must be carried all the way across and appear on one side or the other in the finished product. Not so with the Navajo loom. Their loom is, if possible, even more primitive than the spinning spindle.

"The Navajo weaver does not have a pattern to go by but makes up her design as she goes along. These designs reflect, largely, the state of her mind at the time and the power of her imagination. Many sacred emblems of the great religious ceremonies have been woven into her blankets. Oftentimes they are very intricate, and if they could be read would unfold many a sacred rite or legend and reveal the thoughts of the imaginative soul who so silently and patiently weaves."

WHEN THE MEAT IS BOILED

Some Simple Rules That Must Be Observed If the Best Results Are to Be Had.

Boiled meats to be palatable and juicy must be cooked with care and always below the boiling point. To boil meat plunge it into a kettle of boiling water, boil rapidly for five minutes to seal or cement the juices on the outside, then push it to the back of the stove where it cannot possibly boil, but will remain at about 180 degrees Fahrenheit for six or eight hours. A piece of boiled meat should be juicy, tender and rich in flavor. Add salt one hour before the meat is done.

In all methods of cooking the object is to make the meat tender, to succore its flavor and to retain its juices. No matter which of the methods you choose to accomplish this, we must quickly seal the outside of the meat to prevent the entrance of water and the escape of the juices.

In making soups purchase the shin or leg of beef, and use cold water to draw out the flavoring juices. The object is directly opposite from boiling. By using cold water and cooking the meat at a low temperature, we get the flavoring and stimulating parts of the meat, but we cannot make a meat soup nutritious unless we add other materials. One had not it is stimulating, but has no food value.

DAILY MENU FOR BREAKFAST

First Meal of the Day Is of Considerable Importance to All the Family.

The question of the breakfast menu depends upon the individual taste. The fruit should not be too cold. The fruits in season should be naturally served. If the tray is of ample size a small compute filled with cherries and currants arranged together on shaved ice is attractive. Oranges should never be sent up on a tray unprepared. Hot toast, preferably buttered, seems to be growing in favor for breakfast, though other hot breads are frequently served.

Popovers and crisp corn muffins are excellent for breakfast if they are baked as soon as possible and with them there should be marmalade of some variety. It is a wise plan to see that the tray is always supplied with a little jar of jam or marmalade.

Starfish and English Mice Tart.

One-half pound of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, four ounces of lard and one teaspoonful of baking powder and enough cold water to mix dough. Sift dry ingredients, rub in lard and mix to a stiff dough with ice water. Let it stand for one hour in a cool place. Roll out thin and cover a pie plate with the paste. Fill with mice, then put strips one-half inch wide across the pie, in lattice fashion, to cover the pie. Brush with white of beaten egg and bake in moderate oven until well browned. When ready to cut place one teaspoonful of orange marmalade on each piece. Serve hot with a mug from the wassail bowl.

To brew the wassail—Place in a large punchbowl one lemon and one orange sliced thin, two slices of cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful of grated nutmeg; pour over this one gallon of boiling cider. Let this mixture cool and then cut into quarters four apples that have been previously roasted. Serve this drink in punch glasses or mugs.

Make the Bed Correctly.

To make up a bed so that it will be smooth, turn the clothes in, one piece at a time, at the sides, and complete the work all but tucking the clothes in at the foot. Now draw the clothes down, one at a time, as far as possible, and tuck them in at the foot. The bed will be far nicer looking than would be otherwise possible. If the bed is of iron or brass, which does not permit of tucking in the coverlet, tuck in the other clothes as directed, placing the coverlet over all.

Fish Souffle.

One-half pound cooked fish, two eggs, two ounces butter, and pepper and salt to taste; anchovy sauce if liked. Pound up the fish, melt the butter, add it to the fish with the beaten yolks of eggs and seasoning. Beat up the whites of eggs to a stiff froth, and then lightly to their other mixture in the pie dish and bake in a quick oven about twenty minutes.

Barley Water.

Wash one and a half teaspoonfuls barley, cover with cold water and soak overnight; in the morning add water to one pint, boil until tender and the liquid reduced to one cupful. Strain, season with salt and sugar, add a little milk or cream if desired. Rice water is prepared as barley water, only shorter cooking.

Lung-Trouble Drink.

Wash clean a few pieces of Irish moss, put in a pitcher and pour over it two cupfuls boiling water; set where it will keep at boiling point, but not boil, for two hours; strain and squeeze into it the juice of one lemon; sweeten to taste. If the patient cannot take lemon, flavor with vanilla or nutmeg.

Ironing Calicoes.

Dark calicoes should be ironed on the wrong side with irons that are not too hot.

To Darn Old Linen.

The ravaged threads from old linen will be found best for darning table cloths or napkins.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course, Moody Bible Institute.)
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LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 27

THE SEVEN HELPERS.

LESSON TEXT—Acts 6. GOLDEN TEXT—Bless ye one another's souls, and so fulfill the law of Christ, Gal. 6:2.

It would be a source of great blessing if every teacher and scholar would read through the book of Acts several times during the year. Such reading will give vision, inspiration and a more comprehensive idea of the continuation of what Jesus "began" and which record is not yet fully written. The time of this lesson is about A. D. 35, though Ramsey places it at 32, 33; and the place, the city of Jerusalem.

I. The Occasion, vv. 1-2. For a time the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus continued in Jerusalem, but soon the pressure of circumstances thrust it forth as prophesied (1:3). There were two groups of men in the early church: those who had been born in Judea who spoke Hebrew (Aramaic), and those born in foreign cities and who spoke the Greek language. Trouble arose over the distribution of funds among certain of the dependent widows—the text suggests "secret displeasure." There was imperfection, selfishness, suspicion and jealousy in that early church.

II. The Method, vv. 3, 4. It does not appear that God gave the church a cut and dried program according to which it must act. Certainly the church had no precedent to follow, and step by step God was developing it. This lesson gives us a suggestion of these steps: (1) As the occasion demanded. (2) The Apostles refused to diminish their praying and preaching, literally it was "not pleasing" to such work must be done, certainly, but it was not to be done by these God-appointed and selected leaders, their duty was clearly stated. The minister's business is praying and ministering the word. These things should fully engage his attention, and in them he is to continue steadfastly. The minister cannot manifest "know more about books than the schoolteacher; more about politics than the politician; more about medicine than the doctor; more about psychology than the college professor." No, that is out of the question, though he should be intelligent in these lines. But he should be pre-eminently in prayer and in the ministry of the word, and furthermore he should preach that word pre-eminently. (3) The church, not the apostles, must select these new workers. (4) The qualifications of these men, who were thus to care for these temporal affairs, were (a) "men of good report," not those bearing doubtful reputations, nor chosen because they were rich or shrewd in business. (b) "Full of the spirit." It demands the Spirit-filled man as certainly as it does to teach or preach the word. (c) "Full of wisdom." Men of common sense, a quality often sadly lacking among spiritually-minded men. Men meeting such qualifications will be men of "the spirit of power, of love, and of a sound mind" (literally sound sense). (11 Tim. 1:7).

III. The Method of Choosing, vv. 5, 6. (1) The people did the choosing. The early church seems to have been remarkably democratic. (2) The choice was made after and not before, prayer had been offered. This is a suggestion and a warning for present-day practice of choosing church officials. (3) It was a legal selection, not the selection of a minority, and it was confirmed by the laying on of the hands of the apostles.

IV. The Result, vv. 7, 8. The first "in-crescent" (2) The number of disciples "multiplied greatly," and (3) Some of the priests of the Jews were "obedient to the faith." Secondly, the result in the lives of the thus chosen and Spirit-anointed men gave evidence of the good hand of God. They were "full of grace" (Eph. 4:19, Acts 15:15); they were "full of power" (1:8). The first two of them soon became great and mighty preachers as well. Indeed as far as we can read they even outstripped the apostles themselves in real achievement for God. Stephen, of course, stands out pre-eminently. His character is suggested in verse eight. He was (a) "full of faith," (b) "full of the Holy Spirit," (c) "full of grace" (R. V.), (d) "full of power." How sad it is that so frequently our churches fail to make a wise and spiritual choice of its leaders, and are content with few, or perhaps none, being added to its membership.

No man is fit to be an officer in the church of Christ unless he is filled with the Holy Spirit, (Acts 1:8, Luke 24:49).

Such a man will always stir up opposition of the powers of evil, even as did Stephen.

Men who opposed Stephen were moral and religious men (v. 9). Frequently the opposition a Spirit-filled man encounters is not from the immoral, the worldly, or the utterly ungodly; but those who stand out against him and reason against him (v. 10), and often seek to kill him, are moral and religious men.

THE EVIDENCE IN THE CASE

Results Following Settlement Show That Conditions in Western Canada Are Highly Satisfactory.

Until a few years ago Mr. Henry Lohmann lived at Effingham, Ill. He thought he would better his condition in a new country, where he would have wider scope for his farming operations. It would not seem essential to refer to Mr. Lohmann, at this particular time, as of German blood, but for the fact that so many false statements have come out to ill treatment of Germans in Canada.

Writing from Willmott, Sask., under date of January 20, 1916, Mr. Lohmann says:

"We are perfectly satisfied in this country, and doing well up here. I bought a half section of land and took up a homestead; my three sons also took homesteads, two of them buying each 160 acres of land as well. I sold my homestead, and I and one of my sons own a threshing outfit.

"The crop this year was good; the oats went 80 to 90 bushels per acre, and wheat went 40 to 50 bushels and the price is fair."

Sam Morrow, of Millet, Alta., in writing to Mr. J. M. MacLaughlin, Canadian government agent at Watrous, S. D., says: "I am well pleased with the country. The climate is better than I ever thought it could be so far north; ideal climate for stock. I have some cattle and cattle that have not been inside of a stable in four years. I consider this a fine country for mixed farming. I know of farmers around here who had 42 bushels of barley to the acre and 55 bushels of oats to the acre."

James Gault of Piquet, Sask., had 42 acres of wheat from which he got 1,200 bushels, and got an average of 50 bushels of oats to the acre.

Golden Prairie, Sask., is a district largely settled by South Dakotans. Horace Biale is one of those farmers. "The crops of 1915 were immense."

Wheat in his locality went from 40 to 55 bushels per acre; oats about 50 bushels on an average. One hundred bushels of potatoes were grown on a quarter of an acre of land; twelve potatoes weighed 50 pounds. His horses run out all winter, and come in fat. He raised excellent corn, and fat-tended hogs on it. He considers an interested letter by saying: "There are schools in every district. The people here are most all hustlers and are fast pushing to the front. When I first came up here on almost every half section stood a little 12x14 shack, now almost everyone has real modern homes and barns."

Some Southern Alberta yields for 1915:

L. H. Hecker, 92 acres, 2,520 bushels Marquis wheat, No. 1, 61 pounds per bushel.

I. L. Lee, 40 acres, stubble, 1,550 bushels; 40 acres summer fallow, 2,320 bushels.

Peter Brandon, 161 acres, 7,561 bushels Marquis wheat.

R. Marand, 135 acres, 6,920 bushels, 61 pounds per bushel.

M. McClelland, 45 acres, 1,675, stubble.

Ole Christoffersen, 50 acres, 2,647 bushels.

Arthus Gault, 155 acres wheat, 6,412 bushels; 30 acres oats, 2,000 bushels.

Robert Mathews, 46 acres wheat, 2,016 bushels, machine wheat.

D. Dunbar, 130 acres wheat, 5,925 bushels.

Ingauld Hopp, 80 acres wheat, 2,800 bushels, all stubble.

Louis Kragt, 39 acres wheat, 4,600 bushels.

W. J. Pate, 25 acres wheat, 580 bushels.

W. Roentke, 150 acres wheat, 5,337 bushels, 50 of this stubble.

I. C. McKinnon, 50 acres wheat, 2,536 bushels.

Gordon Swinehart, 50 acres wheat, 1,140 bushels.

Albert Hanson, 85 acres wheat, 3,760 bushels.

Elmer Hamm, 110 acres wheat, 5,158 bushels; 90 acres oats, 6,550 bushels.

John Larson, 80 acres wheat, 3,000 bushels; 30 acres oats, 2,000 bushels.

John Hecklin, 37 acres, 1,484 bushels.

Wm. Hecklin, 100 acres, 3,476, stubble and breaking.

O. Salsburg, 60 acres Marquis wheat, 1,650 bushels on breaking—447 bushels.

Use Insect to Bore Wood.

When the Sioux Indians wish to bore a hole in wood to make a pipe stem or a musical instrument they move the pit from one end for a distance of an inch or so and place in the cavity a wood-boring larva taken from a dead ash tree. In order to accelerate the work they sometimes heat the wood below it. The larva quickly cuts a smooth round hole, following the path of the wood. The Indians regard this manner as sacred. When the work is done the larva is carefully returned to the tree from which it was taken.

Modern Journalism.

"Good heavens! Another war extra!"

"Yes, but don't be alarmed. It's merely yesterday's news warmed over."

TAKEN FROM EXCHANGES

Jerusalem has olive trees eight hundred years old.

No fewer than 176 different kinds of bananas are grown in various parts of the world.

For automobilists who wish to sleep out of doors an attachment for cars has been invented that extends to form a bed and folds to hold baggage when not otherwise needed.

Advice Not Needed.

A man from the backwoods visited New York for the first time one Christmas, and went into a restaurant to have his dinner. All went well until the waiter brought him a serviette. The eyes of the backwoodsman flamed as he pulled a six-shooter from his hip pocket; he told that waiter his mind. "You take that blamed thing away at once," he said, evenly. "I reckon I know when to use a damned kerchief, without having them darned things thrown out."

Of Spain's 15,500,000 population, 4,000,000, or about 21 per cent, are engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The Italian state railways are to be supplied with 10,000,000 Chilean sleepers at the rate of 2,000,000 a year.

A new automobile muffler is featured by a spinning turbine wheel that is said to keep the exhaust gases moving and to cool them.