

Americana

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disciplines, and solitary vision-quests and communal outpourings, upbore qualities of heroism, charity, and singing joy in child, woman, and man. Its social systems were exhaustively democratic. Greatness of personality was a matter of course, and personality merged with the radiance of this "climax" universe.

It is gone forever, that "climax" universe. But it is natural for young and old minds here and in many lands wistfully to be drawn toward it, and to want to know more than is yet told in the extensive literature. Robert H. Lowie's "Indians of the Plains" is as adequate a handbook as any authority could produce. Almost a long lifetime has gone to the making of it. Written with simplicity and clearness, it yet is encyclopedic and therefore, on any one phase of its subject, overabbreviated. It is enriched through 105 pictures and diagrams. Utilized, as for example by a study-group exploring the richness of the Natural History Museum of New York or the Chicago Natural History Museum, it can go far to illuminate an era of human life and of nature so tantalizingly recent and so utterly destroyed.

The handbook deals with Plains material culture, social organization, recreation, art, and supernaturalism. Its brief section on acculturation (rather, deculturation, as the crowded content of the handbook makes evident without saying so) is extremely inadequate. Only a shadowy hint is given of the nearly one hundred years of social genocide practised by our Government on the Plains Indians, a century intermitted after 1933 but now being renewed by the Administration and Congress. What the official killing of the Sun Dance (the "integrative" institution of Plains Indian life) did to the Indians' body and soul, is, for example, barely hinted at; and the wreckage and the paralysis of Indian life-energies caused by the forced land-allotment system is not mentioned; and the processes which changed the "climax" type of the Plains into the ever-widening dust-bowl of today are not intimated. These data could reasonably have been imported into the handbook, but their omission leaves intact the book's intended value of giving, with objectivity and out of exhaustive knowledge, the basic data of Plains Indian life.

And yet, a remark may be in order. American anthropology until rather recent years, and with such an exception as Frank H. Cushing, has done

its work within a somewhat limiting frame of reference. In one direction, that frame of reference scarcely admitted ecology, and the human group as a positive quantity and function within the ecological life-web. In another direction, that frame of reference practically ruled out any attention to politics—in the case of Indians, attention to the blind or wicked doings of the white man's incorrigible Government. But the shadow of a need-less doom, resting cold and black on the mind and heart of Indians who knew whence that shadow was cast, has been an anthropological reality of extreme importance, down the century; and the shadow rests there still. Not merely the necessary limitations of an admirable handbook, but the limiting of reference of much of American anthropology, is apparent in "Indians of The Plains."

Frontier Business

TRADE AND LAND IN EARLY AMERICA:

To the rapidly growing accumulation of published source materials in American history a noteworthy contribution has been made in the form of a handsome and rather thick volume entitled "George Mercer Papers Relating to the Ohio Company of Virginia" (University of Pittsburgh Press, \$10), compiled and edited by Lois Mulkearn. Included are records used by George Mercer prior to the outbreak of the American Revolution when, as agent of the Ohio Company, he conducted in England a fruitless campaign to obtain clear title to lands previously granted to the company by the King. As a part of his efforts in this connection Mercer prepared for presentation to the Privy Council a pamphlet, "The Case of the Ohio Company," which is reproduced in facsimile as an additional important item in the book. The pamphlet itself now reposes in the New York Historical Society, the other documents are from the Darlington Memorial Library of the University of Pittsburgh, of which Mrs. Mulkearn is librarian.

The letters, journals, and other documents brought together in this volume furnish a wealth of information on the operations of the Ohio Company and its agents and on the intense rivalry for trade and land among the various human elements on the colonial Western frontier. In addition the editor's "Commentary on the Case of the Ohio Company" and her annotations are outstanding features of the book. They reveal a deep understanding of the early trans-Alleghany West and scholarship of the highest order.

—JAMES F. HOPKINS.

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HARPER

SR's World Travel Calendar

NOVEMBER. DECEMBER. JANUARY

Austria

FEASTS OF ALL SAINTS (Vienna, provinces, Nov. 1): Important feast day in Catholic Austria.
FEAST OF ST. NIKOLAUS (Nationwide, Dec. 6).
WINTER SPORTS SEASON (Alpine resorts, Dec. 15-Apr. 15).
CONCERTS (Vienna, Jan. 8, 9; 22, 23. Furtwängler to conduct Vienna Philharmonic on first two dates; Kubelik on second two.)

Belgium

ST. HUBERT CELEBRATIONS (Brussels, at the Church du Sablon, Nov. 3: St. Hubert, exhibition of relics, Nov. 3; Montaigu, candlelight procession, Nov. 7; Tervuren, blessing of horses, dogs Nov. 7.)
LOVERS FAIR (Arlon, Dec. 2): Appearance of the giant Helleschman, the marriagemaker.
AUTO, CYCLE SHOW (Brussels, Jan. 15-26): At the Palais du Centenaire; 28th annual.
INTERNATIONAL CATTLE SHOW (Antwerp, Jan. 22).

Bermuda

TENNIS (Coral Beach Club championship, Nov. 1-6).
YACHTING (Royal Bermuda Yacht Club, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25): Compete for Submarine Cup.
FISHING (Nov. 1-April): Bermuda chub, bonefish tournament; prizes for largest fish taken in each species.
GOLF (Dec. 3-5): Goodwill Tournament by invitation of Golf Association only; (Jan. 7-10): Men's, women's two-ball foursomes at Mid-Ocean Club.

Britain

LORD MAYOR'S SHOW (London, Nov. 9).
NOVEMBER HANDICAP (Manchester, Nov. 11-13).
RACE VETERAN CAR RUN (London-Brighton, Nov. 14). The "race" immortalized in the movie "Genevieve."
DRAMA FESTIVAL (Harrogate, Nov. 22-27).
SMITHFIELD SHOW (London, Dec. 6-10): Agricultural exhibition at Earl's Court.
NATIONAL POULTRY SHOW (London, Dec. 9-11).
CHELSEA ARTS BALL (London, Dec. 31): At Royal Albert Hall.
BURNS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL (Edinburgh and Burns Country, Scotland, Jan. 17-25.)

Denmark

NATIONAL FLOWER SHOW (Copenhagen, Nov. 1-7).
BOYS' CHOIR CONCERTS (Copenhagen, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26): Organ, choir, soloists at Church of Christiansborg Castle.
BIKE RACE (Aarhus, Nov. 5-11): International professional meeting.
THANKSGIVING DAY (Copenhagen, Nov. 25): American Club and American Women's Club give annual dinners.
CONCERTS (Copenhagen, Jan. 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30, 31.)
BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP (Copenhagen, Jan. 14-18): International open.



France

FOIRE GASTRONOMIQUE (Dijon, Nov. 1-14): Most famous food fair in France, in the gourmet capital of a gourmet's country.
BURGUNDY WINE FAIR (Beaune, Nov. 20, 21): Various wines of the region displayed; samples offered for a small fee.
MIDNIGHT MASS (Les Baux, Dec. 24): One of Europe's best-known religious observances.
PROCESSION (St. Jean-de-Luz, Jan. 10): Traditional parade of the Three Wise Men.
INTERNATIONAL SONGFEST (Nice, Jan. 15-31).
SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS (Bareges and Cauterets, Jan. 16, 17; 23, 24.)
GRAND PRIX SKIING (Morzine, Jan. 22-24): Downhill, slalom title races. (Chamonix, Jan. 26-31): International de la Vallée de Chamoni.

Germany

ST. MARTIN'S PROCESSION (Bonn, Düsseldorf, Dujken, Nov. 10).
CHRISTMAS FAIRS (Nuremberg, Dec. 3-24; Berlin, Dec. 4-19; Ulm, Dec. 5-12; Marburg, Dec. 12-22; Darmstadt, Dec. 20-24).
SPORTS WEEK (Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Jan. 15-23.)
GREEN WEEK (Berlin, Jan. 28-Feb. 6): Annual agricultural exhibition.

Ireland

MUSIC, ARTS FESTIVAL (Wexford, Nov. 1-7): Films, drama, lectures, opera, recitals, conducted tours, discussions.
FEIS (Galway, Nov. 21-Dec. 5): Western music festival.
COURSING (throughout Ireland, January-February.)

Israel

WEIZMANN DAY (Rehovot, Nov. 2): Anniversary of death of first President of Israel.
MOHAMMED'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 19).
FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION (Jerusalem, Nov. 21): At Notre Dame Hospice.
FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Jerusalem and Mt. Carmel, Dec. 8): Special services to mark close of Marian Year.
CHANUKAH (Jerusalem, Dec. 21): Feast of Lights.
CHRISTMAS DAY (Nazareth, Dec. 25): Pontifical Mass at Church of the Annunciation.

Italy

RELIGIOUS FEAST (Venice, Nov. 21): Solemn religious rites in Church of the Madonna della Salute.
EXHIBITION (Milan, Nov. 1-15): Tenth Triennale Exhibition of Interior Decoration, Modern Architecture. Gardening, landscaping new additions.
OPERA SEASON (Milan, Dec. 7-April): The 1954-55 season at La Scala. Opening dates for seasons at Florence, Naples, Rome to be announced.
EPIPHANY FAIR (Rome, Jan. 4-6): Traditional festival at Piazza Navona.

Mexico

ALL SAINTS DAY (Nationwide, Nov. 1): Families hold reunions in cemeteries after attending special masses in churches.
PAN-AM AUTO RACE (Nov. 18-22): Fifth annual contest, Guatemala border to Rio Grande.
DEEP SEA FISHING CONTEST (Manzanillo, Nov. 4-6): First annual rodeo.
ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION (Mexico City, Nov. 20): Parades, sports contests.
GUADALUPE DAY (Nationwide, Dec. 12): Most important saint's day in Mexico; biggest

observance at Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe near Mexico City.

RELIGIOUS TREK (Chalma, Jan. 1-7): Visit Shrine of Christ of Chalma near Mexico City.
BLESSING OF ANIMALS (Nationwide, Jan. 17): Tribute to St. Anthony in churchyards.

Monaco

CORONATION ANNIVERSARY (Nov. 19): Fifth anniversary of crowning of Prince Rainier III inaugurates high season. Reviews, fireworks display.
BALLET SEASON (December).
GALAS (Monte Carlo, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31.)
MONTE CARLO MOTOR RALLY (Jan. 16-23): The twenty-fifth annual.
SAINT'S DAY (Jan. 27): Sainte Devote Fete Day, tribute to patron of the Principality.

South Africa

BARRACUDA SEASON OPENS (Natal Coast, north and south of Durban, Nov. 1.)
VOORTREKKER CELEBRATIONS (Pretoria, Dec. 16): Annual tribute to pioneers who settled South Africa.
COON CARNIVAL (Cape Town, Jan. 1): Celebration similar to one staged by Mummies in Philadelphia.
CRICKET TEST MATCHES (Cape Town, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, January 1-February 10.)

South America

RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL (El Quinche, Ecuador, Nov. 21): Indians pay tribute to the Virgin.
PATRIOTIC HOLIDAY (Columbia, Nov. 21): The 123rd anniversary of founding of Republic of New Granada.
CHRISTMAS NOVELTY (Bogota and Popayan, Columbia, Dec. 24): Natives mask, wear amusing costumes on streets.
KING'S DAY (Throughout South America, Jan. 6): Morality plays in front of churches.

Switzerland

AUTO RALLY (Geneva, Nov. 3-6): The 24th International.
TENNIS (Geneva, Nov. 9-14): International indoor championships.
"ESCALADE" (Geneva, Dec. 11, 12): Patriotic festival marked by dances, parties.
SKI JUMPING (St. Moritz, Dec. 26).
SKI RACE (Wengen, Jan. 8, 9): The 20th international Lauberhorn race.

U.S.A.

ANTIQUITY SHOWS (Boston, Mass., Nov. 2-5; White Plains, Nov. 15-20).
FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL (Seattle, Wash., Nov. 5).
ART SHOW (Wilmington, Del., Nov. 5-Dec. 5): For Delaware artists only.
ALL-WESTERN BAND REVIEW (Long Beach, Cal., Nov. 27).
MID-WINTER SPORTS CARNIVAL (New Orleans, La., Dec. 27-Jan. 1).
ROSE PARADE, FOOTBALL GAME (Pasadena, Cal., Jan. 1).
MOTOR BOAT SHOW (New York City, Jan. 14-23).
ANTIQUITY FORUMS (Williamsburg, Va., Jan. 24-28; Jan. 13-Feb. 4): Illustrated talks, discussions, tours of collections.
 —ROBERT MEYER, JR.

Further information may be obtained by writing World Calendar, The Saturday Review, 25 West 45th St., New York 36, N. Y.