

Arizona's Saguaro Monument Has Colorful Spanish History

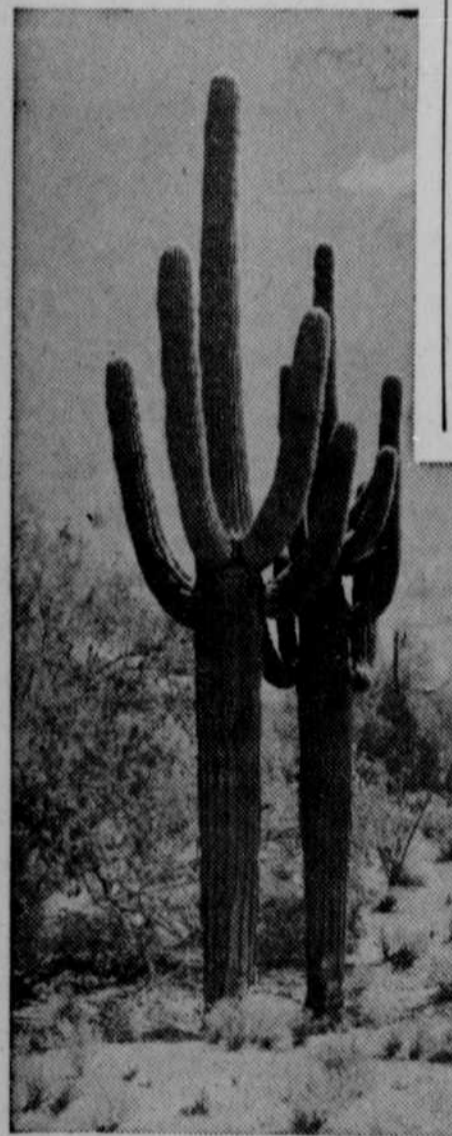
Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

IN THE Saguaro National monument east of Tucson, Ariz., as you listen to the hum of a transcontinental plane passing overhead, you recall the records of this historically oldest portion of the United States. The Pilgrim fathers were unborn, for the year was 1539, when the first white adventurer gazed upon the immense forests of giant cactus. The Seven Cities of Cibola were not yet proved a myth.

Coronado and the Conquistadores, marching north next year from Mexico City in search of the cities of gold, also found the giant cacti and named them saguaros. A century and a half had been ripped from the calendar of the ages before this forest was again visited by a white man. This time a man of peace looked upon the futed giants and wondered at the marvels wrought by the divine Creator. The highly educated Jesuit, Father Eusebio Francisco Kino, did not pass on northward as did Coronado, but remained to build the beautiful mission, San Xavier del Bac, which you can see standing out pure white in the haze of the sunset far to the west. Construction was begun about 1700.

The white man was a late comer in this region. Everywhere are pit houses and old grinding places; and at your left and farther north lay a great pueblo like the Casa Grande. It is now a university project, where the youth of today will study the civilization of the distant past.

Before the Spaniards had set foot on American soil, even before the Romans had entered Spain, this



A landscape in the Saguaro national monument shows these weird but beautiful cacti festifying that the soil is good but dry.

land had been used by man; the fruits of the saguaro had sustained him, and the forms of these giants had influenced his arts. Everywhere the area lives in rich relics of past civilization.

Looking back toward the old pueblo, you think of the Mormon battalion, a half-thousand determined men, their wagons drawn by tired and famished mules, pushing cautiously up to the walled city of Tucson in December, 1846. It was the strongest presidio of Sonora, well garrisoned, walled and equipped with cannon. Not surprising it was that the half-naked, half-armed Mormon band approached with apprehension.

A few days before they had been attacked by wild bulls on the San Pedro, where they had lost several mules and in self-defense had killed from 20 to 60 of the cattle. But the citizens and soldiers of Tucson alike deserted on their approach. The former soon returned and furnished flour, meal, tobacco, and quinces for the men of the battalion, and grain for the mules.

Tucson, the Gateway

The "Old Pueblo," now a part of Tucson, is the natural gateway to the saguaro forest. The city of Tucson was first an Indian village, later a Spanish settlement, then a pioneer town. Now it is a modern university city. It was a walled city when the Declaration of Independence was signed, and remains one of the oldest communities in the United States. Still retaining something of the Spanish atmosphere, it is the home of the cattlemen of the old southwestern ranches.

The desert about Tucson is unusual; perhaps it should not be called a desert. It is marked by broad expanses of creosote bush with delicate, lacy, deep-green, lacquered leaves which glisten in the sunlight, hardly in keeping with a desert environment. In places, you see the creosote bush give way to many species of cholla, treelike. The tuna, or flat-stemmed Opun-

tia, forming low masses, is covered in the spring with yellow or purple flowers and later in the year with large, deep-purple or carmine-colored fruits. Nor is the beauty of the desert limited to cacti and desert shrubs. The many kinds of flowering plants give constant change to the landscape. In winter plantains, primroses, and geraniums, and in summer never-ending displays of yellow and white composites, characterize the ground cover.

As you approach the saguaro forest and travel to higher land, the desert becomes more luxuriant and the paloverde appears, a beautiful tree in which the branches are as green as the leaves and which in late spring is covered with a mass of lacy, lemon-colored flowers. This tree stands so close on the higher ridges that it constitutes what would be called in many parts of the world an orchard steppe.

Commercialized Cacti

You see numbers of the large barrel cactus, the bismaga, which is in flower in late September. The barrels, leaning toward the southeast, are capped by dense crowns of copper-red flowers and later by light-yellow spineless fruits. This cactus has been used as a source of drinking water and also for making cactus candy, a practice generally discouraged since it was rapidly destroying one of the most attractive of the larger cacti.

The ground is sometimes completely covered with the papery flowers of the small white composite *Psilostrophe* or the somewhat larger and equally papery yellow-flowered *Zinnia*. The white buckwheat adds beauty to the desert; and the annuals, which spring up following the rains, carpet the desert floor with varied colors. Probably at no time is the desert more interesting than after the summer rains in August or September when it becomes as green as Ireland.

You enter the Saguaro National monument near the south gate, and pass first by an old claim shack, the owner of which first acquired

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reviewed by CARTER FIELD

Carter Field discusses the political outlook . . . He finds Republicans have lost Negro vote which gave them edge in several states . . . Roosevelt expects big advantage in having friendly chairman of the house rules committee.

WASHINGTON.—"Herbert Hoover said, in the spring of 1932, that there was one more victory in prohibition," said a shrewd Republican leader in discussing the present prospects of the Republican party. "He knew there was only one, because he had seen, in the primaries and elections in 1930, that the tide had turned. What he did not see was how fast it was running."

"Some of my friends think they see one more victory for the Republican party in the very obvious cleavage among the Democrats as perfectly illustrated in the purge primaries. Maybe they are right, but maybe they are making the same mistake that Hoover made—underestimating the speed of the tide."



Herbert Hoover

"But," a friend of this leader commented, "some folks think the purge primaries and some of the polls showing that while Roosevelt is still popular he is not as strong as he was prove that the tide is now running the other way."

"I am talking about the tide which has been ebbing for the Republican party since 1928," the first retorted. "Certainly I think the New Deal is less popular. Certainly I think it is running slowly against Roosevelt. But it is not running in a direction that will sweep the Republican party back to its once dominant position in this country."

"What most people overlook is that we have lost the Negro vote, and apparently lost it for good. A very casual study of election figures for the entire period from the close of the Civil war until 1932 will disclose that the Republicans would not have won a single election in all those years had the Negro vote been cast as solidly Democratic as it was Republican."

"It has been generally realized, though not much talked about, that the Negroes held the balance of power in New York, New Jersey, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. Actually it is much more potent than that. Once you measure the effect of the switch of a solid bloc of votes from one side to the other, it is apparent that many other states, with much smaller proportions of Negro population, are affected."

Republicans, Conservative; Democrats, More Liberal

"Meanwhile our old full dinner-pail appeal, so potent used in behalf of McKinley, has vanished. Once we were the high tariff party and Democratic success seemed a threat against the wages of every industrial employee. That day is gone for ever. At present the nearest one can come to defining the difference between the Republican and Democratic parties is that the Republican is more conservative, the Democrat more liberal."

"But that is a lineup which means murder to the Republicans, because the conservative—from that standpoint—section of the country is that lying below the Mason and Dixon line, from Maryland to Texas. And without some religious or other very disturbing issue we normally do not have a Chinaman's chance in any of those states."

"Of course, if the Democrats should split at their next convention and put up two tickets, one conservative and one New Deal, we might have a chance. That would be an excellent thing for some Republicans who would like to have important-sounding jobs. They might have them. But not for long. "That is, they would have them unless the tide against the Republicans is running as fast as that against prohibition was in 1932, when Mr. Hoover made such a bad mistake that he would not even take Mable Walker Willebrandt's advice to 'come out for beer.'"

"If it's running that fast, the Republican party might be a poor third in the next election."

Conflict Between Two Groups of Republicans

Controversy about the candidacy of John J. O'Connor, chairman of the house rules committee who was recently defeated for renomination in President Roosevelt's first "purge" victory, has brought out a curious conflict between two groups of Republicans. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say two groups who had been Republicans. Or to say between the Republicans and a group of former Republicans.

The point is that those who hope to see the Republican party restored to its former grandeur in power at Washington, Albany and Harrisburg, seem for the most part to be distressed over the fact that so

many Republicans in the Sixteenth New York district voted to nominate as their candidate for congress O'Connor, whom they regard as a discarded Democratic hack.

But some of the former Republicans, who are just as bitterly anti-New Deal as their former colleagues, glory in O'Connor's candidacy, and are hoping he will be elected. This group has no particular affection for O'Connor. Had it not been for the "purge" they would have cared nothing about his defeat. They agree heartily with most folks who know something about the Sixteenth district that it was the fact that O'Connor had "gone high hat" on his old friends which defeated him.

Only Hope Seems to Be Triumph Over New Dealism

The real difference between these two groups of anti-New Dealers is that one of them hopes to defeat Roosevelt and all his works by the triumph of the Republican party. The other has no hope that there is anything left of the Republican party which can possibly overthrow the New Deal. Their only hope, not as would-be office-holders and sitters in the seats of the mighty, but as patriotic Americans, as they see it, is the triumph over New Dealism by the conservative Democrats, and eventually the creation of new parties.

Strengthening of the Republican party now does not, as the dissenting group sees it, help in this program. On the contrary it retards it. Worse than that, it tends, again according to this viewpoint, to perpetuate the New Deal.

On the other hand, if the Democrats engage in a knockdown and drag out fight at their convention when it comes to choosing Mr. Roosevelt's successor, there is the distinct prospect that there will be a party split.

Advantage in Having Friendly Rules Chairman

There is no discounting the tremendous advantage President Roosevelt expects in having a friendly chairman of the house rules committee—and probably a friend instead of a "Yes, but" Democrat in place of Rep. William J. Driver of Arkansas, who was defeated in an upset in which national leaders had not even thought of the word "purge."

But the further assumption that the President will have more of his own way in the next two years on Capitol Hill is very violent indeed. In the first place, there will be more Republicans in the house. How many? Nobody knows, but it will scarcely be less than 40 more, and it is more likely to run up to about 70.

Assuming the minimum, there will be 40 Republicans sitting in seats which in the last house were occupied by Democrats. Further, the probability is that most of the 40 changes will displace pro-New Deal Democrats rather than "Yes, but" Democrats. The answer to that is simple. The vast majority of the "Yes, but" Democrats were from the South. In the senatorial purge the big drive was concentrated against three of the nine senators who opposed the President on the Supreme court issue. This big drive was below the Mason and Dixon line—in Maryland, South Carolina and Georgia. No real effort was made in Connecticut, or Missouri, or Nevada, or Colorado. The President himself did not speak about the Iowa primary, though his son James did.

By the same token the representatives friendly to the insurgent senators are from the South. Most of the northern and western Democrats were inclined to go along with the President. John J. O'Connor, of New York, was exceptional in this respect. Perhaps that is why he was singled out for attack. Perhaps that is why the attack succeeded.

Insurgent House Members Mostly From the South

The importance of the fact that most of the insurgent house members are in the South, and most of the hundred percenters are in the North and West, is that it is the two latter classes who are in danger from Republican opponents. No one, not even John D. M. Hamilton, is predicting Republican gains in the house from the South.



John Hamilton

In fact, the three banner states in the list where the Republicans expect gains are Illinois, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

In addition three "hundred percent" New Deal members were replaced in Texas alone in the primaries by "Yes, but" Democrats, Maury Maverick being the only one of the three whose name means anything nationally. Norman R. Hamilton, of the second Virginia district, was beaten by a man loyal to the Harry F. Byrd machine.

But even more important is the obvious effect on southern Democrats of the primaries in which the President failed to displace southern senators. The members who come back to the house will know that it is not certain political death to be put on the President's black list. They know that it is not certain re-election to follow him 100 per cent. So they will use their own judgment as to the politically safe way for them to vote on any given issue.

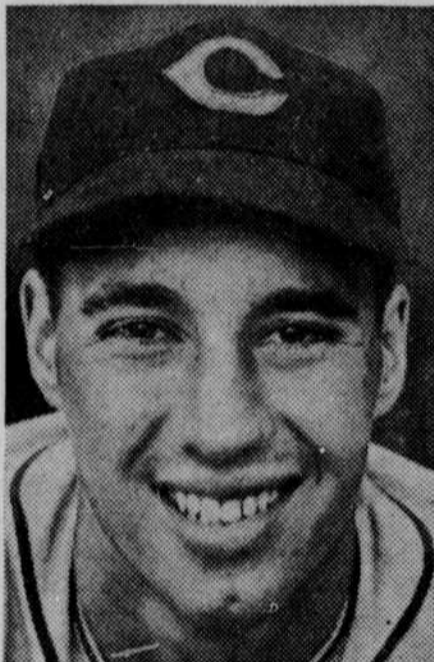
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Maine Governor Wins Potato-Picking Duel



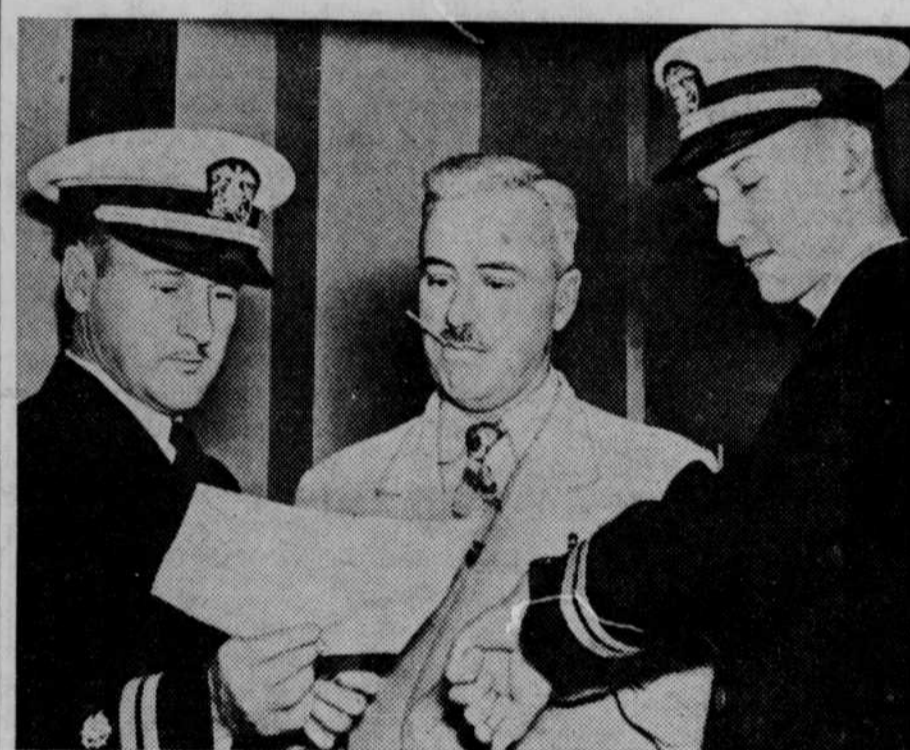
Republican Gov. Lewis O. Barrows of Maine, left, and Democratic Gov. Bazilla W. Clark of Idaho are shown as they competed for the gubernatorial potato-picking championship of the western hemisphere in "Bot" Smith's hilltop field at Fort Fairfield, Maine. The chief executive of the Pine Tree state, with height and reach on his side, picked 201 pounds of potatoes in five minutes, compared with 197 pounds by the Westerner. A crowd of 4,000 persons stood in the rain to watch the unprecedented contest.

STRIKEOUT KING



Nineteen-year-old Bob Feller, only two years out of high school, struck out 18 batters to shatter the old major league record held jointly by himself and Dizzy Dean. Oddly enough, his sensational feat did not result in victory for the Cleveland Indians, who were defeated by Detroit, 4 to 1.

Doctor Takes Dose of Own Medicine



Dr. Thomas Parran Jr., United States surgeon general, gets a taste of his own medicine as he passes through quarantine at Miami, Fla. Returning from a tour of Latin American nations, Dr. Parran goes through the regular procedure of having his temperature and pulse taken and his yellow fever certificate examined by Dr. Gilbert L. Donohue, left, and Dr. Stephen A. Hrinko.

Taking Soft Ball to Japan



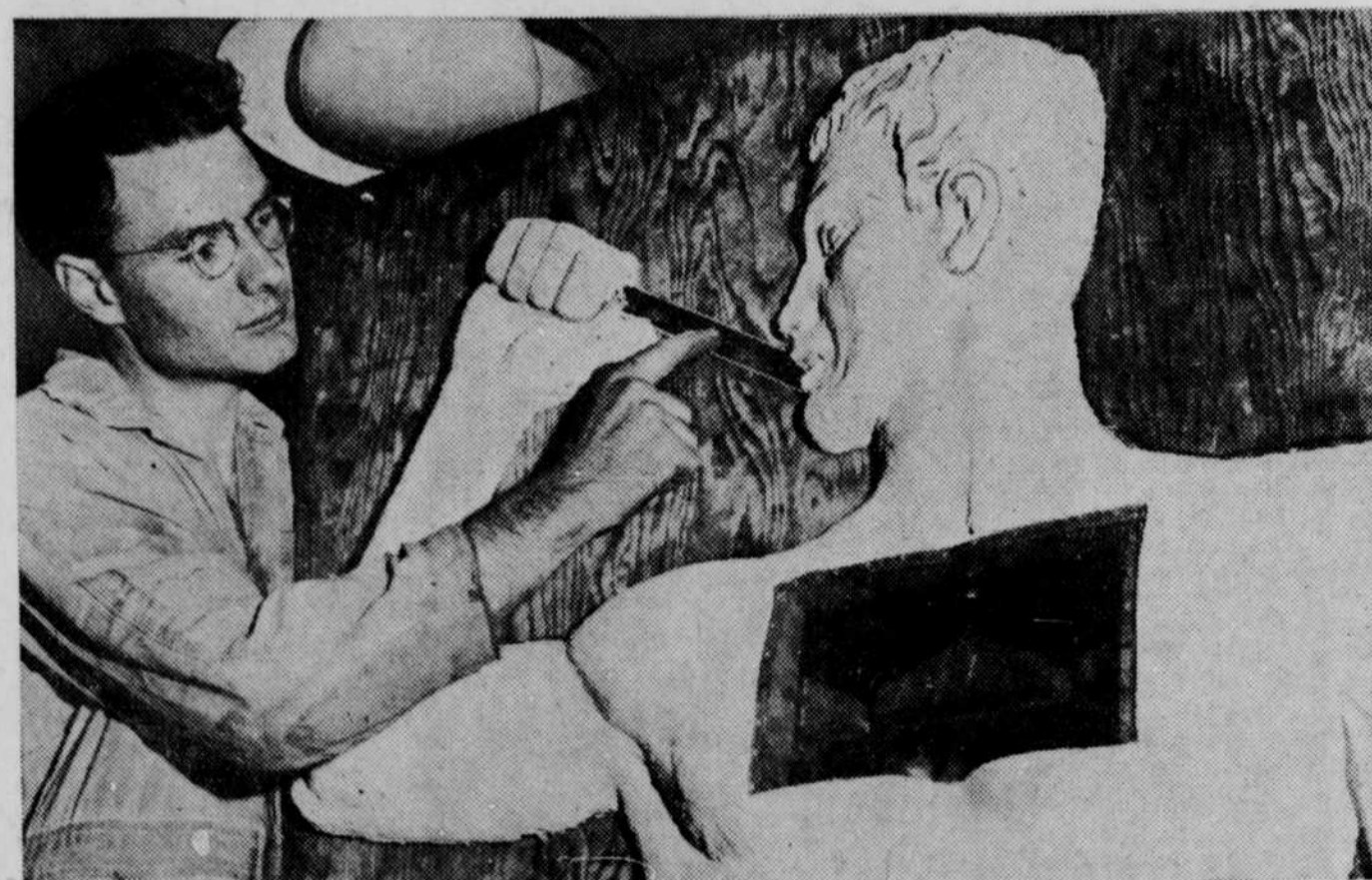
Some members of the squad of 31 girls from all parts of the United States who sailed for Japan where they will introduce the game of soft ball. Left to right are Dorothy Day, manager, of New York; Genevieve Best of Indianapolis, Masuko Fujioka of Los Angeles, and Muriel Cox of New Orleans, wearing the uniform with its crossed flags.

WOMAN COMMANDER



Commander of a full-fledged American Legion post, not an auxiliary, is Mrs. Pearl Vetter of Miami, Fla. The commander of the only all-woman post in Florida served as a yeomanette in the World war.

Only a Robot, But He Eats!



"Rollo the Robot," the University of California's radioactive man, poses with Harold Welch, laboratory assistant. Rollo has windows in his chest, arms, legs and stomach, through which next year's spectators at the Golden Gate International exposition may see how the human body reacts to radioactive substances placed in Rollo's mouth through the tube he is holding. The exhibit is being prepared as part of the \$200,000 display of the university in the hall of science.