

# Nature Aided In Settlement Of America

**Earliest Migrants Drove  
Towards Coast or Fol-  
lowed Interior Valleys**

Prepared by National Geographic Society,  
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Like most major discoveries, the finding of America by its first settlers took place in easy stages. Shortly after the retreat of the last great ice sheet, some venturesome Asiatic wanderer, a prehistoric Columbus of name unknown, crossed the narrow strip of sea between East Cape, Siberia, and Alaska.

The crossing at that time could have been made on the ice, but it might also have been accomplished in skin boats or canoes, a feat not infrequently performed by Eskimos of today.

The Americas were not populated by descendants of these first discoverers. It is likely that through many centuries Asiatic people, responding to population pressure from the south and west, found this natural route into the American continent, just as successive streams of European immigration later penetrated inland from the Atlantic seaboard.

Archeological evidence indicates that most of these migrants did not linger long in the far north but pushed southward along the coasts in their canoes, or followed the interior valleys.

So completely did they establish themselves that, when the Europeans arrived, the two continents, and practically all of the adjacent islands as well, were occupied from the Arctic coast to the extremity of Teira de Fuego.

**Nature Aids Indians.**  
From the fur-clad Eskimo of the frozen Arctic coast, living in his ingenious snow house, to the naked savage of the steaming tropical jungle of the Amazon basin, with his equally suitable palm-thatched home, the descendants of these first American immigrants demonstrated their adaptability in countless ways.

Thus the wandering bands of primitive Shoshoni, living in the



**Chester Yellowhair, Navajo Indian youth, is typical of today's Arizona Indian. In the face of generations of pressure to abandon his Indianship the Indian is coming back.**

thought and subtle shades of meaning. Their vocabularies were as complete as the experience of the speakers permitted, and the grammatical structure intricate and systematic.

The principal linguistic stocks north of Mexico are the Eskimauan, which includes the entire Arctic coast from Alaska to Greenland; Athapascan, which includes Alaska and most of the interior of Canada west of Hudson bay, and reappears in Arizona, New Mexico, and western Texas; Algonquin, which stretches across southern Canada from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic, thrusting south of the Great Lakes to Tennessee; the Iroquoian, which includes the valley of the St. Lawrence river and the regions around Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, south to northern Georgia.

The Shoshonean stock includes the Great Basin region and northern Texas; the Siouan takes in most of the Great Plains and parts of the Carolinas and Virginia.

The Mudkhogean stock covers most of the states of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

The varieties in physical type among the Indians were not so great nor so strikingly as the cultural differences.

All American Indians can be classified generally as belonging to the Mongoloid stock, to which the people of eastern Asia also belong.

The principal differences are in

## NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reviewed by  
**CARTER FIELD**

*Hopkins will be confirmed, but there will be considerable pelting first... Barkley, senate leader, in somewhat of a dilemma... Presidential politics likely to complicate national defense situation.*

WASHINGTON.—Individual senators and representatives, and for that matter congress as a whole, would like to throw the White House rubber stamp in the wastebasket, this session, but the Democratic majorities—still large in both house and senate despite the slaughter on last election day—do not want to throw away with it the key to continuance in power, and to patronage.

The real question is just how many White House recommendations Capitol Hill can kick around without upsetting the applecart of individual house and senate members in their own renomination and re-election campaigns. It will be rather a nice question of judgment, in many instances, particularly for the large southern conservative bloc, and for northern and western Democrats who for one reason or another do not like Franklin D. Roosevelt, or the New Deal, or the particular New Dealers who are close to the throne.

The hearings that are to come on the confirmation of Harry L. Hopkins will be rather revealing in this connection. Hopkins has not too many friends on Capitol Hill. And some of his best friends and warmest supporters may not be inclined to get their fingers burned too badly in defending him. Not that there is any real question, at the moment, of Hopkins' being confirmed. He will be. But there will be considerable pelting first.

For instance, consider the dilemma that will confront the Democratic leader of the senate, Alben Barkley, who fought to the death on the floor of the senate last spring to prevent any hamstringing of the political activities of the WPA under Hopkins, and who benefited by the political support of WPA in his fight for renomination probably more than any other candidate in 1938.

**Barkley Was Hurt Pretty Badly by WPA Business**

But the consensus is that Barkley was hurt pretty badly—as far as his reputation outside Kentucky is concerned—by that WPA business. If Barkley were not, in his own heart, a candidate for the presidency in 1940, he could afford a renewal of the scandal. But as it stands Barkley would like the country to forget how, on the floor of the senate, he defended the use of WPA in politics because it was necessary to meet the use of state employees on the other side.

It will be found, unless a good many minds change between now and then, that few stones will be put in the path of those who wish to do a lot of dirty linen washing over Hopkins' confirmation. At least few stones will be put there by senators. The White House, of course, and Hopkins' host of friends in the left wing of the New Deal, will try to move heaven and earth. However, there is no indication that anyone around the senate will pay much attention to efforts that Harold Ickes, Tommy Corcoran and Ben Cohen may make to protect their friend.

Even the senators who are still for the President do not all like his left wing lieutenants. There is the question of believing the best Democratic strategy, looking toward 1940, is for a slight turn to the right, as predicted by Gen. Hugh S. Johnson. There is the old fact of human nature that loyalty lies to the king, but not to the king's ministers.

**Alcohol as Substitute For Gasoline Is Up Again**

Agitation for substitution of alcohol—in part—for gasoline, and thus providing a largely increased market for corn, is with us again, but is not likely to get anywhere.

On the surface the idea is very appealing. Farmers could turn from other crops to corn, thus relieving not only the corn-hog surplus, but also the surplus in the other crops from which the farmers would turn to corn. It is easy to figure out, from department of agriculture figures, that virtually all the overproduction of farm crops in the country would thus be ended.

This would eliminate the \$400,000,000 a year now being paid farmers not to raise specific crops.

According to the bureau of chemistry and soils, and this finding is supported by an impartial survey which is soon to be published in detail, the idea is not so sound economically as might be expected.

In the first place, the survey establishes, to its own satisfaction at least, that blending the proposed quantity of corn-produced alcohol with gasoline would make the cost of this mixture two cents a gallon more than gasoline. This, it is estimated, would cost \$440,000,000 a year, which might be financed either by increasing the price of gasoline to consumers or by the government's subsidizing the whole move in the interest of agriculture.

Assuming the latter, the government would be only \$40,000,000 in the red by the operation as compared with present farm subsidies. But that is only part of the picture. In the first place the government might have to come to the relief of the oil industry.

**Motor-Car and Truck Users Would Let Out Big Howl**

Again, the idle capacity of the alcohol industry, which is about 250,000,000 gallons a year, is only one-tenth of what would be necessary to supply a 10 per cent blend of alcohol and gasoline for the motorists. So a capital investment of some \$300,000,000 would be required to provide the necessary facilities.

Then it would seem likely that the motor-car and truck users of the nation would let out plenty of complaints if the proposed blend were forced on them by government fiat. A road test was conducted this year by the American Automobile association, in co-operation with the U. S. bureau of standards. This revealed that the proposed 10 per cent alcohol blend would be nearly 5 per cent less efficient than straight gasoline.

What the big trucking companies would have to say about this can be imagined, and it so happens that for some time they have been organized, politically, and needless to say would make their views known on Capitol Hill.

**Politics May Complicate National Defense Problem**

Presidential politics promises to complicate the national defense situation amazingly. Actually the fight will be led on the one side by Louis A. Johnson, assistant secretary of war, and on the other by Sen. Bennett Champ Clark of Missouri.

Johnson will fight for prodigious appropriations and authorizations. For example, he wants 10,000 airplanes—for the army alone. Of these he figures about 3,500 will be necessary for training, so that the 10,000 would yield a net of only 6,500 fighting planes.

Clark will lead the fight against any such heavy appropriations. He will demand: Why are they necessary? What good will they be after a couple of years when they are obsolete? And so on down the line.

The interesting part of the situation is that neither of the two men who will thus be limelighted, before January is over, as the champions of the two sides are President Roosevelt's own choice for his successor in the White House, and yet both will use this fight as the stepping stone toward that big job.

Shrewd observers figure that no matter how important Harry L. Hopkins may make his job as secretary of commerce it will be completely blanketed, as far as publicity is concerned, by national defense. In fact, some point out, the better job Hopkins does as secretary of commerce, the less publicity he will get. It isn't a page-one story to do something to smooth the path of business, or to lighten its load. But it's a first-page story to scare the country about the possibility of the dictators coming over here, from Johnson's angle, and it's also a first-page story to attack the munitions makers as inspiring all the ballyhoo for national defense, heavier taxes, and endangering getting this country into war—especially the latter. And that will be Clark's bid for the spotlight.

**Widespread Feeling for More National Defense**

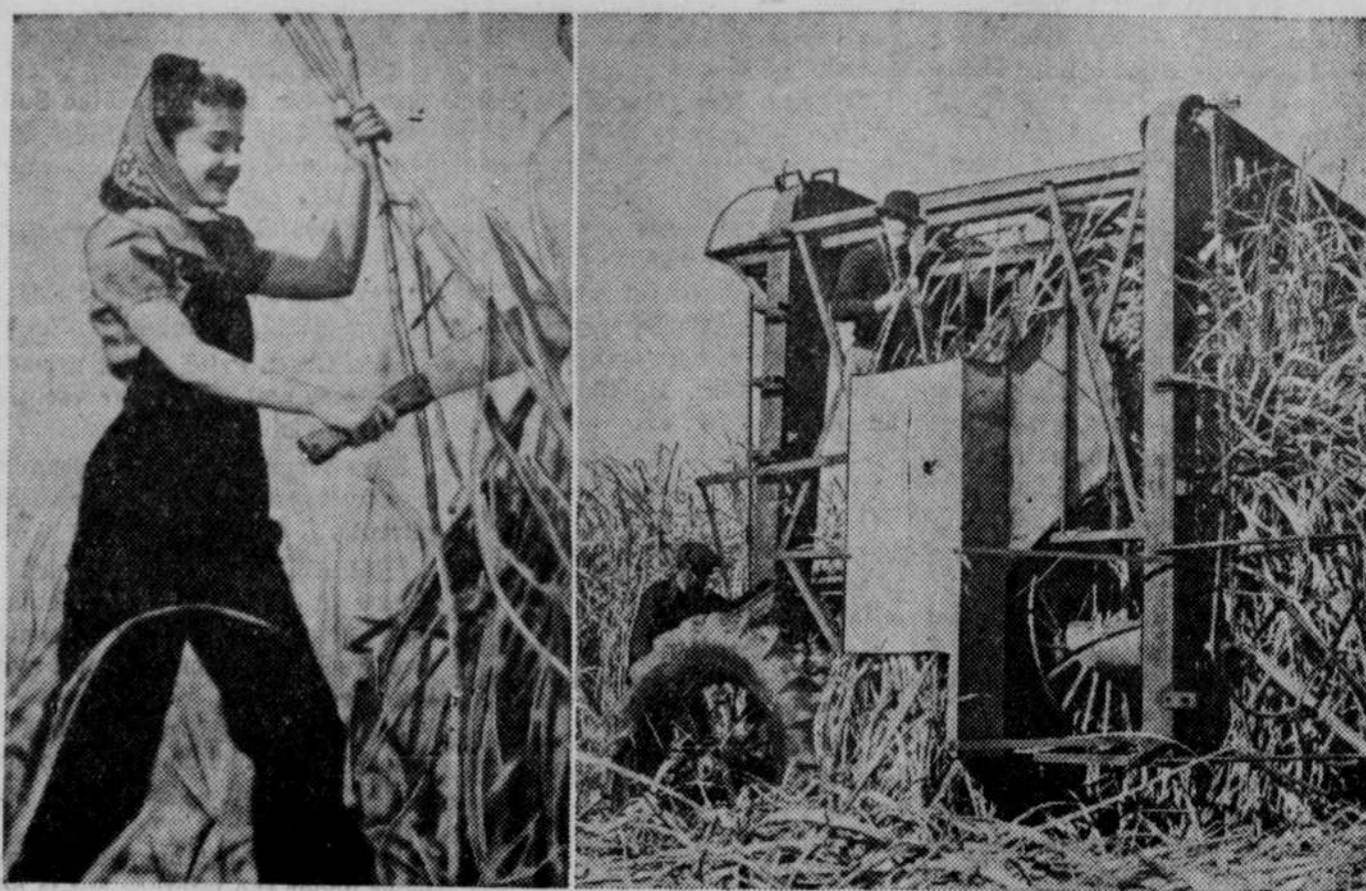
On the whole, congress is willing to go very far with the President on national defense. It doesn't think very much of the contention that this would provide employment, and therefore, lighten the relief burden. In fact congress will be told that the chief limit on the amount of money that can be spent for national defense is the scarcity of skilled mechanics. Unemployed, more or less shiftless individuals can be of little use in an armament program. And actually the shipyards, the gun plants, and the airplane factories are all reporting that they are having the greatest difficulty in getting the men they need right now.

As a matter of fact, it is common knowledge in Washington that the navy would like to put a great many more men to work immediately in its gun factory, but simply cannot get properly trained men.

But congress on the whole is for more national defense. More sections of the country are aroused than ever before. Congressmen will be found voting for big defense appropriations who a few years ago were regarded as staunch little navy men, if not pacifists. The reason is simple. Their districts have changed, and they are voting in accord with the new sentiment.

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## Sugar Cane Harvesting Is Modernized



**Pretty Jeanette Peltier, Cajun miss of the Bayou Teche in the Evangeline country, Louisiana, helps her father get his sugar cane to the warehouse. In sharp contrast to the old manner of harvesting cane is the new Thomson machine. Screws straighten the cane so that rotating knives can lop off the tops. It then cuts the cane with a three-inch spaced blade saw at its bottom. The tops of the cane are sent through the chute. The harvester cuts about 20 tons per hour.**

## Officials Find Victims of Careless Sportsmen



**Harry Armstrong, left, member of the New Jersey board of fish and game commissioners, together with Deputy Game Warden M. M. Barrien of Trenton, are shown a number of does and deer shot in one day near Pasadena, N. J. All of these were killed illegally and abandoned in the woods by hunters.**

### BR-R-R, IT'S COLD



**A sudden midwest cold wave didn't catch this newsboy unprepared. He folled the wintry blasts with a makeshift stove and a couple of gunny sacks. He also added a couple of sweaters to his ensemble.**

### One Hit—No Runs—No Errors



**Teammates on the baseball field and hunting companions in the field are Roy Johnson, left, veteran coach of the Chicago Cubs, and Larry French, one of the team's pitchers. They are untying a wild boar shot on Santa Catalina island, where the Cubs hold their pre-season training.**

### INVENTOR



**Professor Peter Kapitza, retained by the Soviet government, has perfected a new method of liquefying gases, only a few details of which are known. His discovery will have great scientific and industrial importance.**

### French Family Wins 20,000 Francs



**A prize of 20,000 francs was awarded Adrien-Jules Sandrin of Bourg La Reine, France, for their large family. The winners of the Cognac-Jay prize are seen here with 11 of their 12 children.**



**The Indian of today does not live the nomadic life of his forebears. Here a group of Santa Clara Pueblo Indians are making pottery at the doorstep of their home in New Mexico. The Indian population, according to government survey, is the most rapidly growing group in the country.**

parched deserts of the Great Basin, found food in the sparse and spiny plants of the region. They knew the location of the scattered springs and how to capture edible grasshoppers and fly larvae from the lakes.

Among these simple bands, the only recognizable social unit was the family group.

While these and other primitive groups were wresting a bare existence, the great civilization of the Maya developed and flourished for 1,500 years on the mountainous highlands of Guatemala, the tropical lowlands of the Motagua river, and among the thorny scrub of Yucatan.

The equally great Inca culture of ancient Peru arose on the arid desert of the Pacific coast and in the bare and chilly highlands of the Andes.

The Aztecs, shortly before the coming of the Spaniards, had succeeded in building up a mighty military nation in the temperate Valley of Mexico.

Wherever the early white explorers went, they found diversity in culture, adaptability to environment.

This variation is illustrated most strikingly by languages. North of Mexico alone, at the time of the conquest, there were more than 50 unrelated linguistic stocks, and 700 distinct dialects. These dialects differed from one another as English differs from German or French, and the linguistic stocks have nothing in common in vocabulary or grammatical structure.

It is evident, therefore, that numerous peoples of different origin had been isolated for long periods.

Since phonetic writing was never developed in the New world, there was no means of stabilizing and holding together a language for any considerable time.

**Vocabularies Are Complete.**  
All these native American languages were capable of expressing

physiognomy, head form, and stature. The Indians of the eastern United States and of the Great Plains area were usually tall and stalwart in build, frequently exhibiting the aquiline nose which we so commonly associate with the typical Indian face. Indians of this type also prevail in western and southern South America.

**Southern Indians Shorter.**  
On the other hand, the Indians of Mexico, Central America, and the Amazon basin were considerably shorter in stature and darker in complexion, with broad and flatter noses.

Ethnologists estimate the total population of this area at approximately 1,150,000. Of this number 846,000 were within the limits of the present United States, 220,000 were in Canada, 72,000 in Alaska, and 10,000 in Greenland.

**Norse Describe Indians.**  
After these enterprising people had discovered America, populated it, and developed their interesting and diverse cultures, it remained for the Europeans to discover the Indians.

When Norsemen visited the New England coast during the first two decades of the Eleventh century, their all too brief descriptions of the savages, or "skraellings," indicate that the latter were an Algonquin people whose customs changed but little during the next few centuries.

They were clad in skin clothing, armed with bows and arrows, and used stone axes. They navigated the rivers in birchbark canoes and eagerly traded their furs for strips of red flannels to bind about their heads.

The Norsemen also described "self-sown wheat fields," but it is impossible to say whether these were fields of cultivated maize or of wild rice.