

ARTHUR C. PARKER

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latest edition of "Who's Who" or of "American Men of Science." Both registers enumerate Mr. Parker's affiliations. Of particular interest is his connection with many New York State organizations, including the New York State Archeological Association, of which he is the founder.

Mr. Parker has investigated many Indian tribes throughout the continent, but his knowledge of the Iroquois and their history has given him the greatest fame. No other authority equals him in this field.

Though museum work and exploration, writing and lecturing, have consumed most of his time, he has not neglected the work of helping his own Indian people, and he is found in every council where their welfare is discussed. His prominence in this respect led the magazine, "Adventure," to declare him the most noted living Indian. It is probable also that he is the only person of Indian ancestry who ever attained the 33rd degree in Masonry, a distinction that few white men ever attain.

Mr. Parker's work in Rochester, N. Y., has resulted in a new type of museum, and it is certain that he has made the museum an institution that gives a real inspirational thrill to the student. In an address delivered before the Museums' Association in Washington recently he stated, "Museums must be linked to life, not tied to tombstones; museum values are those of life and activity, not mummy dust and mold."

"Work and achievement by careful planning," says Mr. Parker, "are my secrets of accomplishment. Nothing ever came easy for me. My obstacles have been heavy and high. I had to overcome them or perish. I chose to overcome them."

Asked about his education he replied, "I had to earn my way wherever I went. I was too far ahead for a government school and too poor to go to college. I worked my way through the rudiments of an education and when I was through school I realized that my education had just begun. I studied faithfully ever since, laying out a course of study for myself every year."

How well this plan worked may be known when it is revealed that Rochester University some years ago granted him the degree of Master of Science. But his friendship with college professors and presidents, educators and scientists in this country and abroad is better testimony that this Indian has taken hold of vital things.

Mr. Parker is well known throughout the country as a leading exponent of "justice and education for the red man" and he has succeeded in having many of his plans carried out by legislative and congressional action. He was for several years Executive Secretary of the Society of American Indians, later becoming President. As Secretary he originated American Indian Day, now celebrated throughout the country. He has presided at numerous Indian conferences and in December, 1923, was chairman of the Federal Committee of 100 on Indian Affairs.

During the summer of 1928 Mr. Parker was the guest of scientific societies in Great Britain and on the continent, where he was a lecturer on archeology

and museum methods. Thus did a native red man carry the torch of enlightenment into the very citadel of those who have assumed the van. And yet, as Dr. Severance says in the introduction to Parker's "Last Grand Sachem," "—perhaps he alone, of all living scholars and loyal Americans, can say with pride and truth: 'I am a Seneca Indian, who's ancestors from the beginning have been connected with our history—and all of whom have left an indelible impress upon our State and Nation.'"

President's Thanksgiving Proclamation

THE season again approaches when it has been the custom for generations to set apart a day of thanksgiving for the blessings which the giver of all good and perfect gifts has bestowed upon us during the year. It is most becoming that we should do this, for the goodness and mercy of God which have followed us through the year deserve our grateful recognition and acknowledgement.

Through His divine favor peace and tranquility have reigned throughout the land; He has protected our country as a whole against pestilence and disaster, and has directed us to the ways of national prosperity. Our fields have been abundantly productive; our industries have flourished; our commerce has increased; wages have been lucrative, and comfort and contentment have followed the undisturbed pursuit of honest toil. As we have prospered in material things, so have we also grown and expanded in things spiritual. Through divine inspiration we have enlarged our charities and our missions; we have been imbued with high ideals which operated for the benefits of the world and promotion of the brotherhood of man to peace and good will.

Wherefore, I, Calvin Coolidge, president of the United States, do hereby set apart Thursday, the 29th day of November next, as a day of general thanksgiving and prayer, and I recommend that on that day the people shall cease from their daily work and in their homes, and in their accustomed places of worship, devoutly give thanks to the Almighty for the many and great blessings they have received, and seek his guidance that they may deserve a continuance of his favor.

In witness thereof, I have here unto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the United States.

Done in the city of Washington, this 23d day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and twenty eight, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred and fifty third.