

tire clan would be on hand. They arrived in large numbers just before and during World War I. In the intervening years numerous American ranchers sold their holdings to the Basques, the latter always interested in extending their holdings. Some Basques are very wealthy in property and finance.

Typical is a Basque near Westfall in Malheur county where he owns one of the finest ranches in the area with numerous bands of sheep. He and his family speak excellent English, with the parents fluent in Spanish and "Bosco," the colloquial name for the Basque language and for themselves. Usually Basques are regarded as extremely loyal to each other but here and there a Basque ranch operator employs only American herders, ranch hands and camp tenders.

Pioneers among the Basques kept closely to sheep herding and but few became naturalized American citizens. They expected to return to Spain after they had made their fortune in the United States. Succeeding generations have not all stayed close to sheep activities and have taken up a variety of occupations such as mechanics, merchants, hotel operators, engineers and such. More friends and relatives arrived from Spain to carry on the ancestral occupation.

Basques are recognized as a thrifty, energetic and peaceable people, all of them highly regarded. They take leading parts in community enterprises and the children creditably represent their elders in school, athletic, county fair and other events.

Brilliant colors are often used on their clothes and especially in connection with exotic costumes used at ceremonies and celebrations. Bright kerchiefs and sashes are popular with the younger men, offering colorful impressions for the visitors among them.

The typical Basque has a clear, olive complexion, dark eyes, usually perfect teeth and very red lips. Basque people are socially inclined and are fond of gathering in the plaza or around the stores. Here some will play the accordian or guitar while



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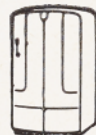
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