

Indian Lodge Tales

By
Ford C. Frick

THE LEGEND OF CAMERON'S CONE

LIKE those of us of little faith who followed through the years, the Chosen Race was brave when smiled the Manitou, and laughed and played with happy hearts. But when he hid his face among the mists, and sent no word unto his people, they waxed afraid nor dared to chase the deer nor plant the maize until the clouds were parted and his face smiled forth again. For they were small of faith and knew not how to do their work unless they could see before them on the Peak the face of Manitou.

So they sent an embassy unto him to pray that ever they might have his face in view, unhid by mists or clouds—by day resplendent in the golden light of the sun, and by night bathed in the radiance of the silver moon.

Four ancient chieftains, bold of heart and purified by fasts and holy rites, they chose to take the message up the mount that rose to heaven's gate. But Manitou was wroth when he beheld this ancient four who dared to tread upon the image of his face. And anger seized him when he saw how small the faith they held in his good works; and in his heart a mighty anger rose, and clouds turned black, and storms came down the Peak, and in his anger he seized upon the thunderbolts and hurled them toward the earth.

In deepest darkness all the land was wrapped save where the flames ran down the mountainside. Terrible winds were loosed to do their harm, and scourged the trembling plains with blinding dusts. The rain fell through the darkness and a grievous hail fell on man and beast. And with gigantic sounds the hills were rent in twain, while the Chosen People hid themselves in the valleys and the canyons to escape the rage of Manitou.

For four days the mount was hid from human eyes. At last the storm was spent. The Manitou seized and bound the winds, and all the thunderbolts were laid away, the sun came out once more and through the clouds the distant summit of the sacred mountain was bathed in light and sun shine once again. But those who looked were stricken dumb with fear. The summit of the mighty peak was gone!

The Manitou, so the fathers say, hid in his wrath snatched up the mighty peak, and breaking off its summit cast it down the slope upon the heads of the ancient chieftains there, burying them in rock and earth where they stood, half way 'twixt summit and the plains below. And as it fell it formed another mountain not nearly so high as the sacred mount, but black with fire and rain. Twisted and torn it lay there where it fell, hurled from the hand of Manitou himself as punishment to those of little faith who sought to climb from earth to heaven that they might make their wishes known to him who was their father.

As for the peak which once had led to heaven—no longer tall and stately did it show, but torn and twisted, blackened by fire, its rugged sides impossible to climb. No longer could the Chosen People look up and see the face of Manitou, but only a mountain, vast in its greatness, stretching its head to heaven, but falling short of that great goal. And since that time the Manitou, still in the heavens, sees no more of earthly things. No longer can his people, in their faith, climb the peak to talk with him, but each must wait his turn to pass beyond the plains into the happy hunting ground above.

The peak is there, pointing the way to heaven, but shutting off all hope of climbing to the hunting ground above.

France and Belgium Firm.
Paris.—The French and Belgian governments decided at the conference of their ministers here to reimburse themselves for the Ruhr occupation expenses out of merchandise and money seized from the Germans. The two allies again emphasized their determination to evacuate the Ruhr only as Germany pays.

Allies Shy at Meeting U. S. Bill.
Paris.—Wide divergence of views between the delegates of the United States and the allies on the question reimbursing the United States for the cost of its occupation of the Rhineland developed just as it was hoped to terminate the negotiations.

First Petition For Ford Filed.
Omaha, Neb.—Petitions requesting that the name of Henry Ford, automobile manufacturer, be placed on the primary ballot of the progressive party in Nebraska in 1924 for president were filed with the secretary of state.

California Passes Two-Cent Gas Tax.
Sacramento, Cal.—The Breed bill fixing a 2 cent tax on gasoline was passed by the senate without a dissenting vote.

Farm Labor Flocking to Fields.
Kansas City, Kan.—The trek of labor to the wheat fields of the southwest is on, well in advance of the harvest season, despite high wages being offered in industrial centers, according to George E. Tucker of the United States farm labor bureau here.

Wheat Growers Will Not Disband.
Spokane, Wash.—An overwhelming vote against disincorporation was cast here by members of the Washington Wheat Growers' association. There was a special election held and out of a total membership of 2932, 575 active members voted to disincorporate and 1223 against.

1,500,000 Pigs Killed in Middle West.
Sioux City, Ia.—One and a half million young pigs were lost by farmers of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Minnesota, as a result of the cold weather and blizzard which prevailed throughout the month of March, according to figures compiled.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office at The Dalles, Ore., March 15, 1923.

Notice is hereby given that Claude White, of Boardman, Ore., who, on Aug. 1, 1917, made Homestead Entry No. 019112, for E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, being Unit "C", Umatilla Project, Section 24, Township 4 North, Range 24 East, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before C. G. Blyden, United States Commissioner, at Boardman, Ore., on each day of April, 1923.

Claimant names as witnesses: Homer J. Cason, Eugene Cundiff, B. H. Boardman, Chas. Nizer, all of Boardman, Ore.
J. M. DONNELLY,
Register

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VS

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