

Colorful Garb Marks Florida Indians

Seminoles Misrepresented By Sensational Writers

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, 1616 Eye Street, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

(This is the second of two articles
based on visits to the Seminole Indian
reservation at Brighton, Fla.)

SOMEWHERE NORTH OF THE
EVERGLADES. — Whenever one
tries, as I did, to study the human
side of the Seminoles—that nation
which has left so
little written re-
cord of its short
but historic life-
span—one is deluged
with information
and mis-
information. Mis-
information of the type
on which the Sunday
supplement writer
feeds.

For example,
examine the con-
tradictory data
on the Seminoles
and snake killing:
When I called
on Agent Bohmer, his wife re-
counted how a greatly-excited In-
dian had appeared one day on their
doorstep to announce his pressing
desire that Bohmer come to the
Seminole camp—a 100 rods or so
distant—to kill a rattler.

Bohmer obliged. He carefully
avoided carrying the corpse through
the camp (a Seminole taboo), and
he noted the usual fire lighted at
the point where the victim fell. As
usual, the Indian children had co-
operated with him, without actively
participating in the execution.

There are two explanations as to
why the Seminoles would not them-
selves kill the snake. One is that
once in the past the Seminoles were
ordered by the White Man to leave
Florida for points west. They pre-
pared to remain even though it
meant retreating deep into the Ever-
glades. However they decided it
would be a good idea for both
parties if they made a treaty with
the snakes. They did so on a "live
and let live" basis. That is one ex-
planation.

Or it may have been one of those
common sense arrangements em-
bellished with the authority of mys-
ticism. There are few snakes which,
if left alone, won't reciprocate.

Another interpretation may be
that when a white man attacks the
rattler, the chances are that if any-
one is bitten, it would not be an
Indian. I understand Seminoles do
kill snakes when it seems neces-
sary.

Bohmer, whose opinion I learned
to value as I pursued this subject,
thinks the rattlesnake situation is
interesting, but I couldn't get him
to say it meant the Seminole was
superstitious.

Gaudy Costumes Intrigue Observer

Like every observer, I was im-
pressed by the Seminole attire. Not
by the men's—they wear con-
ventional garments lightened by a
handkerchief about the neck when
they pursue their daily tasks, hunt
on the reservation or loaf in camp.
They have shortened the long skirt-
like garment (comparable to the
woman's cape) to sport-shirt length,
even in ceremonial dress.

I found only Sam Huff, reputed
to be a medicine man as well as
the handy man at the school, wear-
ing the long skirt-like garment, plus
the blouse. Some say Sam clings to
this outfit merely because of his
love for the past; others say it may
have something to do with his spe-
cial function as a medicine man;
there is a whisper that it is a badge
of repentance or punishment for
some past sin. Sam is a grand-
father today. He still lives in the
nearby camp with the rest of his
three generations.

The younger men save their gay
shirts for dress up occasions (the
annual green corn dance and the
hunting dance), but they have
adopted modern trousers. Their
shirts are covered with complicated
geometric tracery; their scarves
are bound by a metal or wooden
clasp; they wear beads or other
brightly-decorated fobs.

The most striking piece of Sem-
inole clothing is the woman's bil-
lowing skirt; next come the beads
which cover her neck from shoulder
blade to ear tips; then her hair-
dress.

Unlike the men, the Seminole
women (except those who have been
completely converted to modern
ways) wear their special garb and
wear it all the time. Consequently,
they always look "dressed up."

The hairdress, an innovation and
a highly practical one, dates back
only some six or seven years. The
woman's smooth black hair is
brought forward over a semi-circu-
lar cardboard form like the wide
peak of a cap. This gives her the
appearance of peering at you from
underneath a wide, circular hat
brim, and is achieved easily with-
out the aid of the beauty shop and
virtually without mirrors. Further-
more, the coiffure is one develop-
ment that has no connection with
the White Man's culture.

Women's Skirts Are Real Art

Unlike the hairdo, the Seminole
skirt and cape haven't changed ex-
cept to grow more artistic and more
intricate with the advent of colored
textiles. They likewise have become
less difficult to create, thanks to
the hand-driven sewing machine.
This gadget long since has been as
common in tepee, Hogan or even
Igloo as an ice-pick in a modern
flat.

The skirts are made of parallel
bands of a brightly colored patch-
work design which experts claim
are real art. They are fashioned of
hundreds of separate pieces of col-
orful cloth, blended or contrasted
to make a barbarically splendid
whole. The skirts bell out, widen-
ing in circumference as they ap-
proach the hem which, according
to regulations, must trail at least
three inches or thereabouts on the
ground.

How can this be a practical every-
day dress in a country of swamps
and morasses, of barbed and cut-
ting underbrush? That is the first
question I (and every ignorant ob-
server) asks. But they are practical,
say the experts who have seen
them in operation. Through wet go-
ing and wading, they are "histed"
(there are no undergarments to com-
plicate matters). Traveling over
the dry and dusty fields, rife with
snakes and other annoying rep-
tiles, they protect the bare feet and
shins. As Miss or Mrs. Seminole
moves forward, toeing in slightly,
according to good Indian custom,
she gently kicks the dragging rim
forward without baring the bare
feet to inquisitive eyes or any flora
or fauna that might obtrude.

The only other cloth garment is
the cape. This is usually a single
solid and bright color matching the
skirt.

The Seminole beads remain a
mystery. So far, I have been able
to learn little concerning the origin,
purpose or excuse for them beyond
the explanation offered by Agent
Bohmer and supported by his wife:
"They wear them because they
think they're pretty." And what bet-
ter reason in any woman's lexicon?

It does seem strange, though, to
see a comely Indian matron, her
skirt tucked high before a roaring
fire on a hot Florida day, or work-
ing vigorously in a tomato patch,
or even strolling through a shop
among sweltering whites in low cut
dresses or open sport shirts, with
perhaps 25 pounds (they have been
weighed) of beads in a solid collar
rising as high as the whalebone-
enforced "chokers" American girls
wore in the first decades of the
1900s.



NEW GERMAN FLAG... Unfurled
for the first time (officially) is the
new German flag, shown being
hoisted on the Tagblatt tower in
Stuttgart, Germany. New state col-
ors are black, red and gold.

TEMPORARY TREND

Marriages and Births Hit Peak

WASHINGTON. — Return of war
veterans was largely responsible for
boosting marriages and births to
record highs in 1946. Viewing the
trend, population experts are trying
to figure out how long the United
States can support large population
increases, but Guy Irving Burch,
director of the population reference
bureau, believes the rise is only
temporary.

Births in 1946 were one per cent
greater than in 1943, previous rec-
ord year, according to the office of
vital statistics.

Births headed toward a peak 11
months after a record high in the
number of American marriages. The
trend still is upward.

Family Size Drops.
Before the 1946 rise in the birth
rate the average size of the "com-
pleted" American family was about
2.5 children. It is estimated that

POLIO POSTER BABY... Once a victim of the dread polio disease,
Nancy Drury, 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Drury of
Louisville, Ky., was chosen to symbolize the fight against infantile
paralysis in the 1947 March of Dimes. Nancy, shown relaxing in a
warm bath at her home, made a splendid recovery after being strick-
en with polio in July, 1944.

NEWS REVIEW

Marshall Gets Key Post; Labor Reforms Studied

STATE DEPARTMENT:
Happy Day

"There are two happy days a man
has in public life," former Sec-
retary Byrnes told British Amba-
sador Kerr. "There is the day a
man is elected to office. Then there
is the day he quits."

January 7, 1947, therefore was a
happy day for the dapper little South
Carolinian when he stepped down from
his high post in the Truman adminis-
tration. It was a happy day, too —
under the Byrnes' standard—for Gen-
eral of the Army Marshall who was
named to succeed him.

But as Byrnes implied, Mar-
shall's cheer was destined to be
short-lived as he took over direc-
tion of the nation's international af-
fairs. Byrnes had a tough time tuss-
ling with the Russians over com-
pletion of peace treaties for the
axis satellites and Marshall faced
the even tougher job of framing
pacts for Germany and Austria.

Although friendly with Russian
leaders, Marshall is no admirer
of Communism or Communist tactics.
Just before being named to office, he
blasted Chinese Reds for risking the
welfare of their country to obtain
power and resorting to untruths
to tar the U. S.

Some observers also read in Mar-
shall's appointment an effort by President Truman
to build the general up as his suc-
cessor in 1948. Should Marshall make
a name for himself in the state de-
partment, his work there plus his
prestige as the No. 1 military chief
in World War II would give the Dem-
ocrats a strong candidate to offset
dissatisfaction with the Truman re-
gime in the reconversion period.

CONGRESS:

Sharpen Payroll Axe

Economy-minded GOP house
members, axe in hand, were eying
the big federal payroll in their an-
nounced drive to scale U. S. ex-
penditures 12 billion dollars below
the 1946 budget of 41 billion dollars.

Declaring that there is hardly a
government department that does
not have twice as many employees
as needed, Representative Taber
(Rep., N. Y.), chairman of the
house appropriations committee, as-
serted that 1,000,000 workers could
be chopped off the payroll of 2,300,

000 without seriously impairing
services. Not more than 500,000 em-
ployees in all are needed, Taber
said.

Labor Reforms

Sen. Joe Ball (Rep., Minn.)
and Rep. George Case (Rep., S. D.)
pushed labor reform in early ses-
sions of the 80th congress, Ball
proposing sweeping measures for
corrective legislation.

First, Ball called for prohibition
of secondary boycotts and making
labor organizations liable for violat-
ing contracts.

Then, he introduced legislation to
ban all union and closed shop
agreements and maintenance of
membership contracts.

Finally, Ball proposed to decen-
tralize collective bargaining to pre-
vent the tieup of an entire industry
through general negotiations.
The new case bill introduced in
the house permits issuance of in-
junctions to prevent strikes impair-
ing the public welfare; forbids uni-
ons to coerce employees, seize prop-
erty in disputes, withdraw essential
maintenance workers, or order walk-
outs with majority approval of mem-
bers; and makes union liable for
damages resulting from breach of
contract. The bill also grants the
states authority to ban the closed
shop.

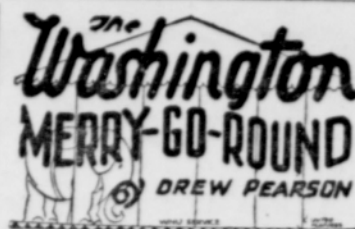
ECONOMICS:

President Reports

In the first annual economic re-
port issued by the President under
the employment act of 1946, Mr.
Truman set forth the principles for
a prosperous America. Drawn by a
three man council of economic
advisers, the report called for con-
tinuance of the traditional free en-
terprise system supplemented by
constructive government assistance
where necessary.

Long-range recommendations
include maximum use of labor
and productive facilities, pre-
vention of economic fluctuations,
cooperation in international
trade and finance, and promo-
tion of welfare, health and se-
curity.

Because of their immediate
bearing, the short-range rec-
ommendations were of greater
interest. The report asked for
the maintenance of present tax
rates to provide for substantial
retirement of the national debt;
lowering of prices wherever pos-
sible to increase consumption;
moderation of labor demands
to head off additional price
rises; increase in the minimum
wage above 40 cents an hour,
and extension of the fair labor
standards act to workers now
excluded.



SHIFT OF COMMANDERS

WASHINGTON. — Inside fact
about the shift of U. S. commanders
in Germany is that the stage was
set for the change shortly after Lt.
Gen. Lucius D. Clay visited the Na-
tional Association of Manufacturers
in New York.

Shortly before that, the senate war
investigating committee's chief
counsel, George Meader, had come
back from Germany with a prelimi-
nary report highly critical of what
went on in the U. S. occupation zone.

General Clay, then in the United
States, was upset by this report and
talked to Secretary of State Byrnes
about resigning. He felt that Gen.
Joseph McNarney, top commander
of U. S. troops in Germany, was the
man really responsible, although he,
Clay, as head of the military govern-
ment for Germany, got the blame.

On top of the unfavorable Meader
report, General Clay addressed a
meeting of the National Association
of Manufacturers and afterwards
sat down at an off-the-record meet-
ing of NAM leaders including some
of the top moguls of American in-
dustry. Their solution for the future
of Germany was simple. They told
Clay that they should be permitted
to get in touch with their opposite
numbers in German industry — the
big industrialists who helped build
up Hitler's war machine.

If allowed to do business with the
German cartels, the U. S. indus-
trialists told Clay, they would have
Germany back on its feet in no
time.

This shocked General Clay. He
said he would retire from the army
immediately if any such deal was
carried out. He warned that the Ger-
man people did not believe in or
understand free enterprise and that
Germany could only continue under
strong government controls.

CAPITAL CHAFF

The RFC apparently thinks
that the Germans are a better
risk than veterans' housing. It
will advance about 3 billion dol-
lars to rebuild Germany during
the next three years, but was
afraid of losing money on Wil-
son Wyatt's prefabricated hous-
ing for veterans. . . . Wyatt,
ex-mayor of Louisville, passed out
golden keys to the city of Louis-
ville to guests he invited to a fa-
rewell party. . . . No wonder
John L. Lewis is hard luck for
labor. He's the "13th" vice
president of the A. F. of L.

AIRLINE DYNAMITE

The dynamite now exploding in-
side Trans World Airlines between
Jack Frye, its president, and How-
ard Hughes, its chief stockholder,
has caused members of the civil
aeronautics board to begin some
careful probing of the aviation in-
dustry. Their probe indicates that
things aren't going anywhere nearly
as well as the airline ballyhoo in-
dicates.

Among other things, six companies
operated in the red during the first
nine months of 1946—TWA, Colonial,
Chicago and Southern, Northeast-
ern, Pennsylvania-Central and West-
ern.

Furthermore, the airlines have
over-ordered new planes to such an
extent that they will never be able
to use more than a fraction of the
planes supposed to be delivered.

For instance, the present fleet of
civil planes has a capacity of 15
billion seat miles annually. How-
ever, when the planes now on order
are delivered, capacity will be 41
billion passenger seat miles.

This is in contrast to the fact that
the planes now on hand are 100 per
cent in excess of the passengers now
carried. Result is many unpubli-
cized cancellations. One of the most
disquieting situations is the fact that
TWA has placed large orders with
Lockheed, and heavy cancellations
would deal Lockheed a tough blow.

PACIFIC MERRY-GO-ROUND

Best way to gain popularity in
the Far East today is to take
along a supply of Roosevelt
dimes. Congressional travelers
returned from China and the Pa-
cific islands report that these
were the most welcome gifts they
could make to native digni-
taries. . . . First general election
in history of the Truk island
group in the Pacific was held in
January. Island chieftains and
officials for the entire group
were chosen. Heretofore these
offices have been hereditary. . . .
Among the voters were many
who have lived under Spanish,
German and Japanese control.
This was their first election.

SCHOOLS NEED TYPEWRITERS

Schools and colleges may come
ahead of veterans in getting surplus
war property for educational uses,
according to a plan now under con-
sideration at the White House. At
present veterans get first crack at
typewriters, adding machines and
all other types of equipment—and
when the vets are through there
isn't much left for the states, schools
and colleges. This problem recently
was placed before the President by
ex-Sen. Joseph Rosier of West Vir-
ginia.

END CONSTIPATION THIS NATURAL WAY!

Millions Now Take Healthful
Fresh Fruit Drink Instead
of Harsh Laxatives!

It's lemon and water. Yes—just the
juice of 1 Sunkist Lemon in a glass of
water—first thing on arising.

Taken first thing in the morning,
this wholesome drink stimulates bowel
action in a natural way—assures most
people of prompt, normal elimination.

Why not change to this healthful
habit? Lemon and water is good for
you. Lemons are among the richest
sources of vitamin C, which combats
fatigue, helps you resist colds and
infections. They also supply B₁ and P.
They alkalize, aid appetite and
digestion. Lemon and water has a
fresh tang, too—clears the mouth,
wakes you up!

Try this grand wake-up drink 10
mornings. See if it doesn't help you!
Use California Sunkist Lemons.

Gas on Stomach

Relieved in 5 minutes or double your money back
When excess stomach acid causes painful, suffocating
gas, sour stomach and heartburn, doctors usually
prescribe the fastest-acting medicine known for
symptomatic relief—medicines like those in Bell-u-
na Tablets. No laxative. Bell-u-una brings comfort in a
jiffy or double your money back on return of bottle
to us. See at all druggists.



For Your Future Buy U. S. Savings Bonds

ENJOY HAPPY LIFE & ENERGY

take HIGH ENERGY TONIC

Scott's Emulsion helps tone up the
system, build stamina, energy and
resistance when you feel "dragged
out" and rundown—and your diet
lacks the natural A&D Vitamins
and the energy-building natural
oils you need. Remember—many
doctors recommend good-tasting
Scott's. Buy today—all druggists.

SCOTT'S EMULSION YEAR-ROUND TONIC



COLD SUFFERERS!

666 STARTS RELIEF IN
JUST 6 SECONDS

Get famous, prescription-type
666, for super-rapid relief
from cold misery. Try 666
Cold Tablets, or
666 Liquid Cold
Preparation today.
Caution: Use only
as directed.

WNU-13 04-4

a CAREER in AVIATION

An investment in education offers
security for the years ahead. Aero
Tech will train you for a suc-
cessful career in Aviation, Aero-
nautical Engineering — Aircraft
and Engine Mechanics courses.
Thorough, practical training by
outstanding faculty. Modern
Equipment. Aero Tech has trained
over 6,000 students since 1937.

ENROLL NOW for new classes
starting in Jan. and Feb. No wait-
ing or delay if you act now. Send
coupon today for free booklet or
phone or visit school. Visitors wel-
come. Member Nat. Council Tech.
Schools. Approved for Veterans.
AERO INDUSTRIES TECHNICAL INSTITUTE



SEND FOR FREE BOOKLET TODAY!

Please send new catalog and information
without obligation. Dept. E.
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Age _____
If veteran, please check ☐