



STATUE OF MASSASOIT AT PLYMOUTH, MASS.
Photo by Underwood & Underwood

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON.

THIS year's celebration of American Indian day, which is observed on the fourth Friday in September, finds plans under way for honoring a great Indian, famous for his war against the whites, but a man of outstanding abilities and one who, judged by any just standard, was a patriot and a hero. Metacomb, his father, Massasoit, sachem of the Wampanoags, called him, but the whites who felt the force of his wrath knew him as King Philip or Philip of Pokanoket. They all but exterminated his people, they hunted him to earth and killed him and they subjected his body to indignities as barbarous as any inflicted by their savage enemies. And now, nearly three hundred years later, his memory is to be perpetuated in a shrine to be erected by descendants of some of the men who fought his tribesmen.

A Massachusetts archeologist and historian, R. F. Haffenreffer, Jr., of Fall River, has purchased the historic ridge in Rhode Island known as Mt. Hope, the home of King Philip, and there will be built a fireproof memorial for housing Indian relics, a veritable shrine of New England Indian history. The Mt. Hope reservation is a tract of more than 500 acres and contains many points of historic interest. Among them are the spring where King Philip drank, the rocky throne on a hillside where the Wampanoag leader held his councils with his braves, and the swamp where he was killed by the men led by Capt. Benjamin Church. In this reservation too is the ground where 30 bushels of corn were raised by the Indian women and given to the starving Pilgrims by Massasoit, who lies buried on a hilltop a few miles away.

The story of King Philip is the story of the leader of a lost cause, a champion of a weaker race whose attempt to stay the onrush of the conquering whites was foredoomed to failure. He was the first great Indian chief to attempt a confederacy of the tribes to resist the whites and he came nearer succeeding in his plan than did Pontiac, Tecumseh or any other red leaders who followed in his footsteps. "History has made him 'King Philip' to commemorate the heroism of his life and death," says one historian. "He almost made himself a king by his marvelous energy and statecraft put forth among the New England tribes. Had the opposing power been a little weaker, he might have founded a temporary kingdom on the ashes of the colonies."

Notwithstanding "repeated usurpations upon his lands and liberties," Massasoit continued in his role of "Friend of the White Man" to the day of his death in 1662. Near the close of his life, he had taken his two sons, Wamsutta and Metacomb, to Plymouth and requested the governor, in token of friendship, to give them English names. To Wamsutta was given the name of Alexander and to Metacomb, the name of Philip, and Massasoit charged both of them to continue his

policy of friendliness to the English. But Alexander, who succeeded Massasoit as sachem, found that difficult for, as the number of white settlers increased, their desire for more land increased and the Wampanoags saw their territory passing rapidly into the hands of the whites. More than that, the kindly feelings that had prevailed between the two races began to give way to suspicion and hatred on both sides and to harsh treatment of the red men at the hands of the white.

Alexander's friendship became noticeably less and he was summoned to Plymouth to answer to charges of plotting against the English. Alexander refused to come and he was brought by force. This indignity threw him into a rage and he became seriously ill, dying upon his return trip to the Wampanoag lands in Rhode Island. His wife, Wetamee, and his brother, Philip, both believed that he had been poisoned by the English and resolved to avenge his death. But Philip, who succeeded him as sachem, clearly understood the power of the English and did not intend to make the mistake of acting too hastily. For nine years after his elevation to sachem, he devoted his energies to observation and preparation for the impending struggle.

Philip made every effort to accumulate guns and ammunition for his warriors and even tried to obtain the formula for making gunpowder. He succeeded in getting a large number of firearms and many of his men became expert marksmen. All of these preparations had not gone unnoticed by the colonists who were uneasily aware that a dark cloud of disaster was hovering over them. Finally in 1671, Philip was summoned to a council at Taunten to explain the suspicious acts of his tribesmen. He asserted that he was preparing for defense against the Narragansetts, denied any hostile intent toward the English, signed a new treaty and agreed to surrender all his guns. He did give up some 70 of the weapons owned by his tribe but immediately after his return to Mt. Hope continued to go forward with his preparations for war.

For the next three years peace prevailed but still the uneasy feeling that they were on the verge of war troubled the colonists. By this time Philip's plans had matured and he had determined upon opening hostilities in the spring of 1676. He became more independent and bold in his attitude and when the governor of Massachusetts summoned him to another council to make a new treaty, Philip sent back this haughty reply: "Your governor is but a subject of King Charles of England. I shall not treat with a subject. I shall only treat with the king, my brother. When he comes I am ready."

At about this time, too, a Rhode Island settler who was a good friend of the Indian leader tried to dissuade him from war. Philip's reply is historic. He said: "The English who came first to this country were but a handful of people, forlorn, poor and distressed. My father did all in his power to serve them. Others came,

Their numbers increased. My father's counselors were alarmed. They urged him to destroy the English before they became strong enough to give law to the Indians and take away their country. My father was also father to the English. He remained their friend. Experience shows that his counselors were right. The English disarmed my people. They tried them by their own laws, and assessed damages my people could not pay. Sometimes the cattle of the English would come into the cornfields of my people for they did not make fences like the English. I must then be seized and confined till I sold another tract of my country for damages and costs. Thus tract after tract is gone. But a small part of the dominion of my ancestors remains. I am determined not to live till I have no country."

Despite Philip's plans to open the war in the spring of 1676, the conflict was precipitated in the summer of 1675 with the famous attack by the Indians on the town of Swansea. For the next fourteen months the war raged with great fury. Of 90 English towns in the war area, 52 were attacked and 12 were destroyed. For a time it looked as though Philip's dream of extinction of the hated white invaders of his country was to be realized. But as the colonists began to recover from the havoc which Philip had wrought in the early weeks of the war, the tide turned in their favor. Some of his allies were defeated, others deserted him and began to help the English. The appointment of Capt. Benjamin Church, a brave and skillful soldier, as commander of the colonists' forces, added to several acts of treachery by his own people, spelled doom for the Indian leader.

Philip became a fugitive, hunted from place to place like a wild animal. His wife and only son were captured and sold as slaves in the West Indies. "My heart breaks," said Philip when he heard of this. "Now I am ready to die." Finally his hiding place was betrayed to the English by the brother of an Indian whom Philip had slain for proposing to seek peace with the English. Finding his camp surrounded, the chief attempted to flee along a path guarded by a soldier and the Indian traitor. The soldier's gun missed fire, but that of the Indian, filled with two bullets and a double charge of powder, brought the chief down as he ran.

Philip's conqueror's proved that they were but little less savage than he had been. An Indian executioner was ordered to cut off his head and quarter his body. His head was sent to Plymouth and there exhibited on a gibbet for 20 years. "Such was the fate of Philip," wrote Edward Everett. "He had fought a relentless war, but he fought for his native land, for the mound that covered the bones of his parents; he fought for his squaw and papoose; no—I will not defraud them of the sacred names which our hearts understand—he fought for his wife and child." Today a monument stands at Plymouth, erected there during the Pilgrim tercentenary celebration in 1920, which perpetuates the fame of Massasoit as the friend of the white man. Soon another memorial is to rise to his son, King Philip, whose fame also deserves to be perpetuated even though he was the enemy of the white man. For King Philip was a fighting man and a patriot and the kinder judgment of a later day will no longer deny him the honor due him.

Real Burning Bush

One of the most remarkable of plants is flowering now in the rock garden at Kew—the "gas plant" or "burning bush" called dictamnus.

When a lighted match is applied to a shoot of it there comes a brilliant scarlet flame. Like a flash of lightning it travels up the length of the flowering shoot, without injuring it.

The best time to make the experiment is when the flowers are fading.

The inflammability of the plant is due to this: that on its stalks are minute reddish-brown glands, and these secrete an etheric oil. The glands develop fully soon after the blossom begins to fade, but they shrivel up when the fruit begins to form.—London Answers.

Forty Miles of Water Tunnels

There are sugar plantations on Kauai, Oahu and Maui, in the Pacific, with 40 miles of tunnels and ditches to carry life-giving water, and a famous aqueduct on Oahu taps four valleys and traverses a tunnel 14,443 feet long. One plantation uses more water than the city of San Francisco, says Nature Magazine. Thousands of artesian wells dot the countryside. In 1926, about 776,000 tons of sugar worth \$65,000,000 were raised on the 6,449 square miles that comprise this damb of water-surrounded land. The pineapple crop brings a revenue of nearly \$34,000,000 annually.

California has a lion farm.

Community Building

Few "Small Towns" Not Thoroughly Up to Date

The average small town now offers about everything the city has except the "rush hour" and a few other inconveniences. Convincing proof of the changes taking place in the life of the small centers is found on almost every hand. Particularly is this true in many of the older centers, which a few years back were inclined to be satisfied with conditions as they were.

There is now a new life and renewed interest. In times gone by many towns were prone to slumber on after the arrival and departure of its few daily trains. Now most centers of any consequence either are on or near one of the arteries of the state's road system. This has resulted in an almost constant traffic, such as the operation of bus lines on regular schedules and parades of motor cars, in addition to rail service.

It is a rather slow locality of any size that does not have its chamber of commerce working for the town's welfare and advancement. Country clubs, golf courses and swimming pools are becoming common. Likewise the "talkies" are about as prevalent in the smaller communities as in the cities. And the radio is tuned in on the same offerings furnished elsewhere. The women are playing as much bridge as their sisters in the more populous centers. The girls are just as modern and the boys just as shikish and up-to-date as those in the city.—Exchange.

Money Wisely Expended on Paint and Varnish

Cleaning up the individual premises of a home owner or occupant is the first essential element in improving the appearance and health conditions of the property. After this is done painting and varnishing may follow. A small amount of money invested each year in paint and varnish keeps the property in good condition with no periods of deterioration or expensive repairs. A good surface of paint on the woodwork, both interior and exterior seals up the pores in the wood, keeping out germs, insects and decay.

The home owner may establish a system of painting his home, so that parts of it may be painted one year, other parts the next, and still more parts the third year. In this manner no heavy expenditure faces the home owner every three years or so. And at the same time, the home always appears to be in first-class condition.

Painting also serves as a health measure. Any surface that is painted regularly cannot harbor germs that menace the health of the family.

Problems of Nature Lovers

In Nature Magazine Charles Sumner Bird, Jr., chairman of the Massachusetts committee on Needs and Uses of Open Spaces, had a most interesting article, in the course of which he says:

"It is recognized today that beauty is not a luxury, but an absolute necessity to the complete life of every normal human being. The man who does not crave the beauties of nature has a twisted soul and should be an object of pity; and, if he should be the slave of a blind commercialism which impels him to destroy for others the beauties of nature, he is a bad citizen. Every problem of importance today is common to all countries; and England, the cradle of the industrial age, faces difficulties corresponding to those which nature lovers in America are mobilizing to solve. It may be said here that the sooner this mobilization on as large a scale as possible is consummated the sooner will the ravages on the face of nature be stayed."

Protecting the Tree

Strong wire cable scientifically installed in the tops of trees will strengthen the forks and hold the branches safe from storms that would otherwise be fatally destructive. To be effective the job must be done correctly and carefully. The weight of the limbs, the strain of the wind, the strength of the wood and the manner of branching must all be considered if proper results are to be secured. It is work for trained men.

Even so, it is comparatively inexpensive work and certainly is more than justified as a means of insuring trees against the ravages of the wind storms of summer and the sleet storms of winter.

Driveways Worth While

An attractive concrete driveway adds much to the appearance of the grounds, because it enhances beauty and makes for neatness. Its utility lies in its providing safe passage to the street or highway the year round. Automatically a good driveway increases the value of property. It matters not how modest the home or limited the space in lawn, the driveway is an important and necessary adjunct to house and garden.

Give Thought to Tree

Trees that are properly cared for will live almost indefinitely. A tree that is neglected can no more be expected to thrive than can the man or the woman who needs medical attention but neglects to get it. Disaster follows.

News Gathering Both Simple and Effective

Life in the highly sophisticated South Sea Isles is by no means as newsless as one might hazard by measuring the number of miles separating them from Fleet street (writes a globe-trotting correspondent). The Papete planters have bestowed the pleasing name of coconut wireless on the means by which their wives and daughters keep up with all the news that really matters. Every sun-up the native maids meet at the market-place and pool the previous day's domestic log while they do the forthcoming day's shopping. These reporters bring back their gleanings to the housewife news editors, who publish to their yawning spouses, over the breakfast coffee, "All the News That's Fit to Print" (and a great deal that isn't). In consequence, what every family does not know about every other family can positively be sprawled across the head of a pin.

Human Mineral

A large deposit of vermiculite, a recently discovered mineral, has been found near Libby, Mont., by a prospector. This substance, flaky and mica-like in appearance, is unique in that it exhibits human characteristics when brought into contact with heat. Upon introduction to a flame the mineral commences to twist and writhe as if making an agonized attempt to escape the burn, meanwhile giving off drops of water apparently perspiration caused by its violent effort and the heat.



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