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BASQUES PROMISING AS U. S. CITIZENS

OLD PYRENEES NATIVES

Many Settled in Rocky Mountain States Because of A Love of Rugged Land; Characteristics

Ask the Americanization teachers of the far west which are the most promising and interesting of the foreign groups which come under their observation. Among the very first they will name the Basques—or as they call themselves in their native tongue the Euskaldunak.

The reason as their intelligence, charm and character.

Racially clannish and centralized in the more isolated agricultural sections of the Rocky Mountain area, Idaho, Nevada and California know something of the Basques. But the United States at large hears very little of these remarkable migrants from the land of the Pyrenees who in their well-ordered American communities are lending their substantial qualities of industry, thrift, and uprightliness to the building of the West.

Owes Them Much

The new world owes much to the Basque race. Although comparatively newcomers to the United States, Basques names from the Argentine to Canada are identified with the pioneer exploits of republics and dependencies. The caravel Santa Maria, which brought Columbus to America, was owned and manned by Basques, its captain being the famed Juan de la Cosa who drew the first map of America and discovered Brazil, Venezuela, and the Guianas, Francisco Garay, likewise a Basque, was the first to navigate the Mississippi river and the coast of Florida. Newfoundland was discovered by Basques who there established the first whale and cod fisheries. Basques have been scattered from Quebec to Mexico. The soldiery and crusading qualities of the race have been further exemplified in such men as Simon Bolivar, the liberator, and Ferdinand Foch, Generalissimo of the Allied armies.

A race therefore that can write into its records such names and such achievements is one to be welcomed to America, says the Christian Science Monitor, in an interesting article on these people. In the western communities which he favors the Basque's intelligence and self-respect which include a scrupulous rectitude in all business dealings—the honor of a Basque is unimpeachable—his industry and idealism, and his devotion to family and church life, have already won for him a position of esteem and confidence. Here he is chiefly engaged in agriculture to which he is peculiarly adapted by inherited temperament and training. Stock-raising, in which he has been very successful also, is nevertheless a purely American venture. The wealthiest sheep owner in America today is a Basque.

The race is indigenous to the soil and in its slow migrations has drifted instinctively away from the congested districts to open country. The Basque is happiest within sight of rugged peaks and sweeping valleys that are perhaps reminiscent of his beloved Pyrenees. The Rocky Mountain country has therefore for him its attraction. Yet in each of the largest cities on either coast, San Francisco and New York city, there are large colonies of Basques who are following commercial occupations.

Northwestern university fraternities are taking a leading part in a movement to discard or amend the practice of pledging high school lads to Greek letter organizations before they have been graduated. At Northwestern seven leading fraternities already have pledged themselves to refrain from placing a pledge button upon any high school lad until he not only has been graduated but also until one week before he registers at the university. For several months, it is stated by leading fraternity men, the movement to select seemingly acceptable high school boys for university fraternities, sometimes one or two years before they have received their high school diplomas, has been under way.

FRATERNITIES MOVE IN PLEDGING PLAN

Decide to Discard or Amend the Practice of Enrolling in High School

One evil that has crept in, according to Northwestern university men, is that some fraternities merely choose the best athletes in the various high schools, pursue them and entertain them to persuade them to enter their university. The obvious injustice of the practice has been called to the attention of the fraternities on many occasions. Not only are more deserving high school boys overlooked but often the so-called "pledge" flunks before his high school days are finished, or at last moment gives way to the blandishments of another fraternity working a similar plan for a rival university.

All these evils Northwestern university fraternity leaders are trying to overcome in the present movement.

ILLINOIS LAUNCHES NEW ROAD PROGRAM

WITH \$100,000,000 BONDS

Sale of Block of Four Millions Of Highway Securities Made To Finance Pavement Operations

Illinois last week launched the \$100,000,000 state bond issue road program when the first official action was taken by the sale of a block of \$4,000,000 of the new state highway bonds. Col. C. R. Miller, director of the department of public works and buildings, presided at the sale. The various state officers were either present or represented at the sale.

The bonds were 4 per cent serial bonds, the only difference between these bonds and those of the \$60,000,000 bond issue being that semi-annual interest payments are provided. Six groups representing 59 of the leading financial institutions of the country were represented at the bidding and public auction bids were taken. The bonds were sold to the group headed by Geo. B. Gibbons and Co., Inc., of New York city which offered the highest price on the 48th auction bid. The bonds brought the price of \$3,902,900 or a rate of 97.5575. The interest yield on the bonds will be approximately 4.28 per cent.

Successful Sale

The present sale was necessitated by the fact that large sums are due highway contractors on work which has just recently been completed on the state bond road system, and the revenues from motor license fees have not as yet been collected in any quantity. The successful sale of these bonds clears away the last obstacle to the continuation of the vigorous prosecution of Illinois' road work which has characterized the last four years.

For three successive years, Illinois has broken the world's record for the amount of pavement built by any state in any year, reaching a climax by completing 1205 miles during the year just closed.

The department of public works and buildings will now be able to award the contracts for some 600 miles of road on which bids have been pending, and also to close the contract for approximately 4,500,000 barrels of cement on which bids were recently received.

Governor's Comment

Governor Small at the close of the sale, in commenting on the results, said:

"Today's proceedings mark the climax to the long struggle which has been made to insure the future of Illinois' highway program. The people's ratification of the \$100,000,000 bond issue act by a favorable vote of three to one, and today's endorsement of the proposition by the leading financial institutions of this country as evidenced by the successful sale of these bonds is most gratifying and may be construed as an expression of confidence in the road building policies which have been in force in Illinois during the past four years.

"The job of completing Illinois' wonderful highway system is now up to this administration, and I will see to it that this important work is pushed as rapidly as possible, and at the same time I will continue the policy of demanding a dollar's worth of value for every dollar expended."

KINDERGARTEN COURSES

Five-year kindergartens training courses are given in two institutions—Wellesley college and the University of Cincinnati. The course at Wellesley is upon a strictly graduate basis. That in Cincinnati is a three-year professional course based upon

a two-year liberal-arts course as a prerequisite.

Not merely does opportunity knock at every man's door, but in some cases the old girl also has to go upstairs and pull the folks out of bed.

The psychologists tell us to keep smiling. The girls with handsome teeth will say so.

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of the
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Suds finds laundry work just play
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SUDS thoroughly enjoys his chosen vocation of washing clothes. He's clean minded through and through and it pains him terribly to see clothes become soiled and all muddled up. He likes to put them in shape again—and he likes to take orders over the telephone.

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During the remodeling we will operate a restaurant in the basement of the same building, with entrances on First street where we will be glad to take care of our patrons.

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