

terpret and record such a change, ^{series of photographs} this volume is chiefly a visual expression of a wonderful people in their effort to take their place as an integral part of modern America. ~~This book makes~~ no pretense of having an ethnological approach:- it is rather the presentation of the Navaho as human beings, what they look like, how they live, the things they do. Some pictures were made as long ago as 1932, most of them during the past five years. It would take several volumes to give the complete picture, and it is certain that permission to record some ceremonies could not be obtained. Indeed, I feel fortunate indeed to have secured permission to make the sand painting and Yeibichai pictures, for these were made during real ceremonials and nothing has been "staged". It is hoped that in this final selection of material, you will find a comprehensive statement,- a visual statement of a people who have great pride, great ability, and who deserve deep respect.

Laura Gilpin
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

There is no pretense here of a scientific or ethnological approach:- it is rather the presentation of the Navaho as human beings, what they look like, how they live, the things they do. Some pictures were made as long ago as 1932, most of them during the past six years. To give the complete picture would take a lifetime, and it is certain that permission to record certain ceremonies could never be obtained. Indeed, I feel fortunate indeed to have secured permission to make the sand painting and Yeibichai pictures, for these were made during real ceremonials and nothing has been "staged". It is hoped that in this final selection of material, you will find a comprehensive statement,- a visual statement of a people who have great pride, great ability, and who deserve deep respect.

Laura Gilpin,
Santa Fe, New Mexico

white population, and the avaricious who seek the recently discovered mineral resources on their reservation. Navaho Land is no longer the far-away country of the Southwest. This encroaching pressure is sharply felt and the Navaho are rising to meet it. Twenty-five years ago they were reluctant to go to the reservation schools, shy, and diffident about learning the ways of modern civilization. To-day they are clamoring for education, and there are four times as many children wanting to go to school as there are schools or teachers to fulfill this demand. It is hard for us to realize that here within the boundaries of our southwestern states, is a people whose whole concept of life and method of existence is so utterly foreign to our own. To-day we are witnessing the effort of this human group to adapt itself to the economic concept of our vastly larger group with which it must mingle for self-preservation. To watch a people making such a change, to see their effort, their remarkable ability in adaptation, their acute realism, their economic struggle, while clinging to their own sacred traditions,- to watch all this within the span of a quarter century, is indeed a moving experience. Since World War Two this change has been greatly accelerated, and the passing of another generation most of the old Navaho life will be gone.

For this past quarter century it has been my privilege to watch some of this transition. It has been intensely interesting, often heartbreaking, sometimes amusing, and in general it has filled me with profound admiration. Photography is essentially the medium by which to interpret and record such a change and this series of photographs is a visual expression of a wonderful people who are taking their place as an integral part of modern America.

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people and bad, dependable and undependable, strong and weak. They can be shrewd, they can be inscrutable. And through all runs a vein of kindness, of inherent good manners, and some special quality for which I cannot find the right word. Above everything they are adaptable. All this is what they have been and many are to-day. But as they acquire more and more of our way of life, as they assimilate our education- and many are doing so at a remarkable speed- will they retain the fine qualities of their inheritance? They are taking from our civilization what they wish of it and making it their own. Many are finding themselves against a wall of psychological frustration and have not yet found the way around it. Barred at first by language, many have now acquired a remarkable degree of education and are intelligent capable people judged by any standards. The hope of their future lies in their ^{unique} adaptability and their quickness ^{to observe} to learn. It is my belief that the Navaho people as a whole will find their sure place in our American Democracy and that some will fill it with distinction.