



G. H. Marshall

Prof. G. H. Marshall Tells of Life with The Indians

Mr. G. H. Marshall smiled as he said, "I got tired of the humdrum life at home, so I took the United States Civil Service examination, and received an appointment to an Indian school in Cataract Canyon, Arizona."

He resigned his position at Garnett, Kansas, and found himself located 3200 feet down in a "box canyon" with a tribe of Indians known as Havasupai ("Blue Water people.") The name derived from the fact that a clear, blue stream of water issued in thousands of streams from the floor of the canyon, producing one of the most scenic streams in the United States.

Mr. Marshall assumed duties here as a teacher. The Indians had not had schooling very long, and were absolutely primitive. They lived in teepees. The children came to the Agency, and

half attended school while the other half worked. These people were very superstitious and very opposed to change, but they were truthful and honest. Their language was a form of Apache, but they had been isolated from the main Apache tribe for some hundreds of years. These Indians possessed no kitchen utensils or furniture. They cooked on the most primitive fires and in the most simple way.

Their one industry was primitive farming, including the growing of peaches, which they dried and bartered in Arizona. These Indians were basket makers, and owned an immense number of ponies. They traded both ponies and baskets to the Navajos.

Several exciting incidents which developed while Mr. Marshall was in the Canyon, gave plenty of In-

dian flavor to his work. If a doctor was needed, it took four days to get him there. There were no telephones and no radios. Cloudbursts often sent walls of water down the Canyon and shortly after Mr Marshall left his work there, the dam at Williams, Arizona, broke and all that saved the people in the Canyon was their ability to climb high up among the rocks. The Agency force saved itself by climbing out of the second story into a giant cottonwood tree, where they had to remain until the flood subsided.

After leaving Cataract Canyon, Mr. Marshall went to teach the Navajos at Fort Lewis. From there, he went to the "civilized" tribes of Sacx and Foxes in Brown County, Kansas. Mr. Marshall said his work here was very interesting, but "civilized."