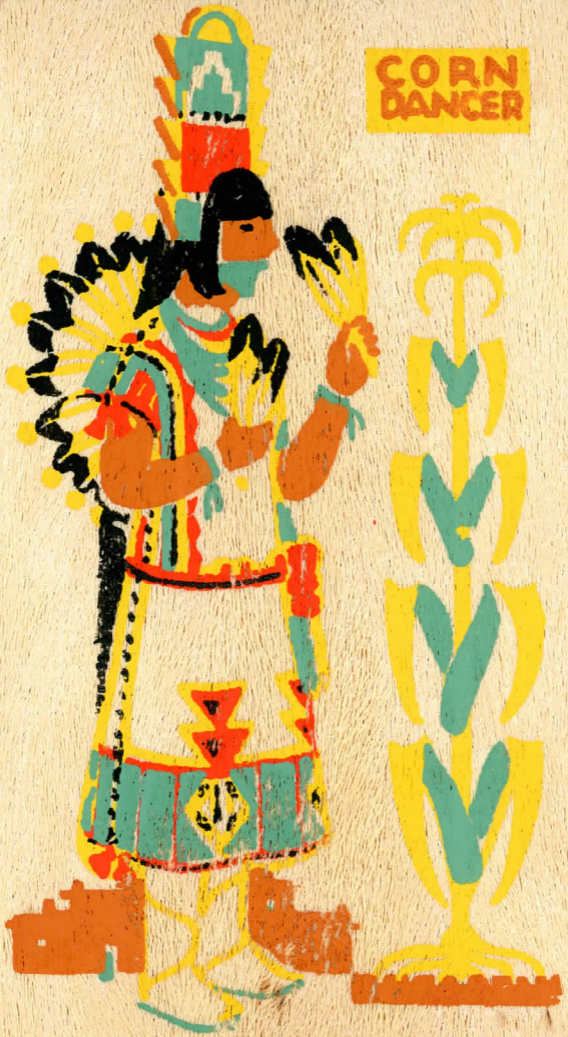


CORN
DANCER



CORN DANCER

of the Rio Grande Pueblo Indians

Corn, the staff of life of the Pueblo Indians (see Basket Dancer of this series) originated in Central America. Spreading northward, it established two types of culture. In the Southeast, East and Midwest, Indians pounded it in mortars, making coarse meal. Southwest Indians ground it into fine flour on flat slab metates. Mixed with water and smeared on hot rock plates it becomes piki, the ancient paper-thin bread. Since the Spaniards, these Indians also bake rounded loaves in adobe beehive ovens. These Indians have depended on corn for so many centuries that it is customary to store a two years' supply against a possible year of famine. It is only natural that a plant so closely associated with life itself should take on a sacred, mystic value. Each phase of germination, growth and harvest is attended with ceremony. This picture shows a Corn Dancer in one of the colorful ceremonies, her headdress symbolic of cloud forms which bring the vital rain. Corn is honored as a gift from the gods, a personality.

Not being shown at the M.M.C. within the next few months since our strongest protagonist: J. J. Sweeney, has now become director of the Museum. My Polish friend Alexander Janta, who was theatrical manager for Ram Zopul, & whom we believe killed in France in 1940 has now come to life again with a book 'I Lied to Live' (Roy, publishers) & another to follow. It is good writing & I think it would interest you. How goes it all on Lindsey Rd?

There is a very good agreement with your book of

8477 Val Verde Drive
 Inoqa Park, Cal.

June 10, 45

PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE

Dear Nannie. Here I am still at Topside. Some work has just come up which will keep me here until June 22nd at least. Because of this retarding of

Post Card

the date I at all probably not stop off in San Francisco at all. This I shall inquire about a possible cubby hole for possessions there, so far without success. I've just done an end paper panoramic map of a city in China for "Lao Tai Tai" by Ida Pruitt, a book rich in documentary material, just gone to press & soon to be released by Yale Press. — all goes well & quietly in these parts. We've just had a visit again from Arthur Lovelers architect enroute from Guatemala to Seattle, and occasional other weak end visitors. I believe I told you that I've been asked to do a book on India for a juvenile One Word Series (40000 words & illustrations). To do this I would have to have material at 60¢ available. So what? And there is greater promise than ever of our Seaman