A LACROSSE GAME SHOWN IN AN EASY-TO-BUILD MODEL

THE WORLD MUSEUM DIORAMAS

By HOLLING CLANCY HOLLING

SCISSORS, PASTE AND WRAPPING PAPER ALL YOU NEED TO MAKE THIS CUTOUT

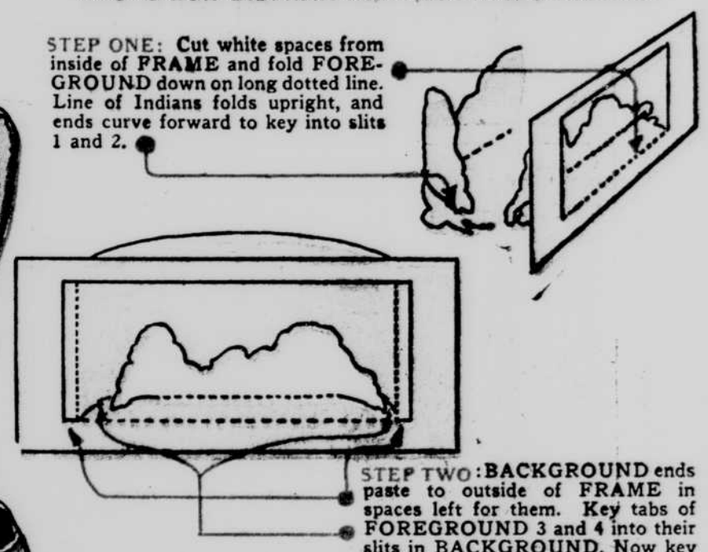
THIS IS HOW DIORAMA WILL LOOK WHEN FINISHED

If you think football a rough game—did you ever carry an egg on a spoon? Try a spoon with a three-foot handle—carry a ball with it for your life over sharp stones, through brambles, across fallen logs (barefooted, at that), surrounded by 999 fighting, screeching men each armed with two clubs—and you'll have a rough idea of old-time Indian lacrosse. Two teams played. The ball was caught, carried and thrown by stick only to score a point between goal posts, as in football. Length and condition of field, and number of points for game varied with the tribes. Here's a simple Diorama which, when put together, carries you right into the thick of a big ball game out on the prairies.

To make this easy model, use heavy wrapping paper to stiffen the cutout pieces. Cut all pieces from this page, but don't trim to outlines until later. Spread paste (with small cloth swab) evenly over the wrapping paper, and lay the cutout pieces on this. Place all pieces under weights, such as magazines, to dry flat. When dry, make all inside cuts and slits and crease all dotted lines for folding. Then trim to exact outlines and follow directions under STEP ONE, STEP TWO.

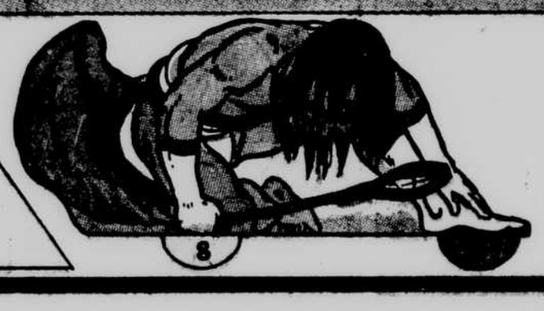
LACROSSE PLAYERS
fighting for ball

STEP ONE: Cut white spaces from inside of FRAME and fold FOREGROUND down on long dotted line. Line of Indians folds upright, and ends curve forward to key into slits 1 and 2.



STEP TWO: BACKGROUND ends paste to outside of FRAME in spaces left for them. Key tabs of FOREGROUND 3 and 4 into their slits in BACKGROUND. Now key lacrosse players into position, paste down all tabs behind and underneath.

SAVE THIS DIORAMA FOR YOUR WORLD MUSEUM SERIES



LACROSSE PLAYER

NEXT SUNDAY'S WORLD MUSEUM DIORAMA —THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

BACKGROUND

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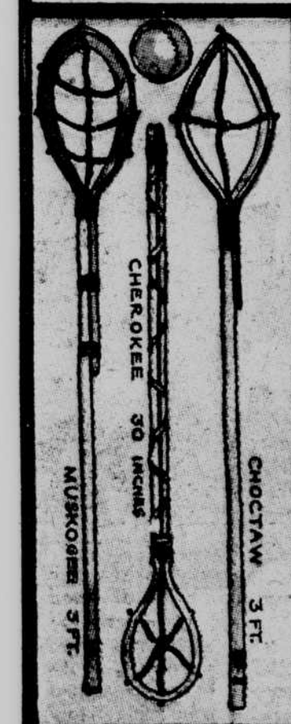
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

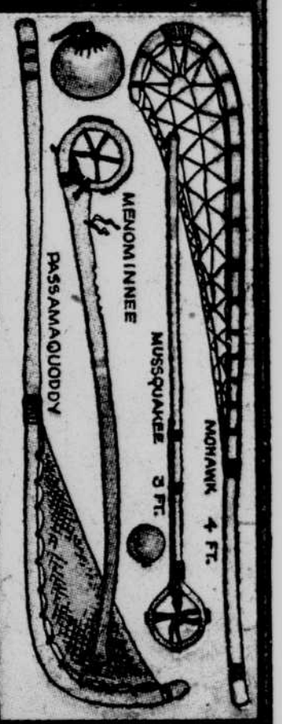
THE WORLD MUSEUM OF THE WASHINGTON STAR

DIVISION OF ETHNOLOGY



PASTE LEFT END OF BACKGROUND TO COVER THIS SPACE

PASTE RIGHT END OF BACKGROUND TO COVER THIS SPACE



Lacrosse, with few variations, was played by many tribes. In the South, rackets such as these were used in pairs. The ball was a buckskin bag stuffed with buffalo hair. Some tribes used a wooden ball, buckskin covered.

A GAME WITH GOAL-POSTS FAR APART

Indians still play their ancient game of lacrosse. Goals once varied from 150 yards to 3 miles apart but, regardless of obstacles, the ball was carried by stick only. Let's broadcast a game.

"The year is 1837, folks, in what will someday be Oklahoma. It's the big day, and both Choctaw Indian teams warmed up by war-dancing the night through. Now it's 9 a. m., the battle's on! And what a battle! 1,000 men—500 players to a side! Horse tails behind make the men look like birds running. Socko! The ball's been batted 100 yards—intercepted. Smacko! 300 men collide —200 pile up, all fighting—40 out cold, and the game just starting! Now the ball's lost—600 players hunting it in dust clouds, poking with sticks like animals dancing on all fours—but, ha! Meanwhile the ball's two blocks off, being shuttled like a hot potato . . . Listen to the high-pitched yelping—impact of heavy bodies—clash of sticks. Watch that man spooning the ball like a juggler—running, twisting, leaping—why, he's leaped over the heads of three running men and made a goal! Now one minute intermission, folks, then the thing goes on like this till sundown!"

Northern tribes used the single lacrosse sticks of various designs. The long Mohawk type is similar to the racket used by university teams today. Since 1859 lacrosse has been the national game of Canada, using teams of 12 players.

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