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HE SAGUARO NATIONAL
MONUMENT, Ariz o n a,
was established March
1st, 1933; by an Executive
Order from the President of
the United States. Its entrance into the U. S. National Park Service was a singular recognition of its splendid giant cactus — Carnegiea
gigantea, the botanical name

and Saguaro, the Spanish name, for this monarch of the southwest. This cactus forest is located in the sheltered rincon area of the age old Tanque Verde section of Arizona;



Plower of the Hedge Hog Cactus.

about ten miles east of the "Old Pueblo"— Tucson. This unusual forest "primeval" contains thousands of the finest silent but stately monarchs and sentinels of the southwestern cacti lands.

The area of 99 sections (63,360 acres) is now under the control of the U. S. National Park Service; only awaiting publicity to entice the traveler into its native lands for a full enjoyment of another of nature's interesting wonders. A part of the forest is being held by the University of Arizona; its botanical area of 10 selected sections in the forest has been left for corollated cactistudy with the Desert Laboratory, Carnegie Institute of Washington, which is located in the mountains adjoining the west city limits. The University's beautiful campus is a show spot in the "Old Pueblo"—Tucson.

Many varieties of the 1232 specie of the cactus family abound in the park, including the finest growth of the giant cactus to be found in the world, fragrant scented catclaw, mesquite and palo verde. A few short weeks in the early summer season all of the cacti and the other vegetation in the park spring into a riotous bloom of beautiful soft colors rivaling any botanical garden and furnishing a sight worth miles of travel.

The habitat of the saguaro is peculiar to a limited area of Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico; growing only, their long life of over two hundred years, in the "Sunshine Belt" of the Southwest; between latitudes 32 degrees and 33 degrees north and longitudes 111 degrees and 113 degrees west. This semi-arid, sub-tropical zone has slight rainfall with 80% maximum sunshine and very rare killing frosts. Ages ago the giant cactus adapted itself to this climate. Recently man has begun to find this "Sunshine Belt" worthy of enjoyment for health, body recuperation and pleasing for his winter home-where life is easier out of the more rigorous climes.

This monarch grows best during drought

seasons—after a rainfall sucking out the soil moisture and storing the water in its cells for future needs. This habit man might copy as a valuable lesson in thrift for future depression shocks. Its fruit is more abundant prior to a grain crop famine, which tell-tale the Papago Indian tribes, who roam the saguaro gardens, know and harvest its fruit for drying, thus providing a food for his family against his dry-farming crop failure which his friend, the sentinel of the desert has whispered to him—the fruit gathering being an occasion for a Papago fiesta.

Its growth during the first ten years is almost imperceptible and continuously slow during the next one hundred or two hundred years. In height, the "old boys" reach fifty or sixty feet; in weight, one with a few arms and of the average height, will "top the scales" at around four or five tons. (Yes, TONS. "Vas you there Charlie?") They do not shed their needles (these can be used on the old Victrola); always evergreen and very susceptible to frost.

This home of the giant cactus, the baby in the National Park Service family, is not far off the "Broadway of America"-U. S. 80. This sunshine route is the main way to conveniently reach more of Uncle Sam's National Parks and Monuments than any other of the transcontinental highways. This way too leads the traveler through the historic, romantic, and scenic, section of the Southwest; from Texas to California. On this paved "Broadway of America"-not long ago one of the trails of the pioneer's covered wagon train from East to West, the traveler reaches one of the ancient historic, interesting and unusual cities of the Old West. That city today is the new and old Tucson. This "Old Pueblo" is the hub from which the traveler may take in more of the National Parks and Monuments within the borders of one State than any other of the States. That is why Arizona is known as the "Wonderland" State.

We invite the readers of our introductory pamphlet, on Saguaro National Monument, to write us for additional information concerning Arizona, Tucson, the Cacti, our Climate, our guest-ranches and tourist hotels, our University, our public and out door private schools, etc. Address your inquiry to P. O. Box 991TV, Tucson, Arizona.



This is the Tucson Chamber of Commerce signing off—operating under a frequency of 300 days of golden sunshine by authority of our Lord.



Spectacular Bloom of the Bisnaga Cactus (Barrel cactus).