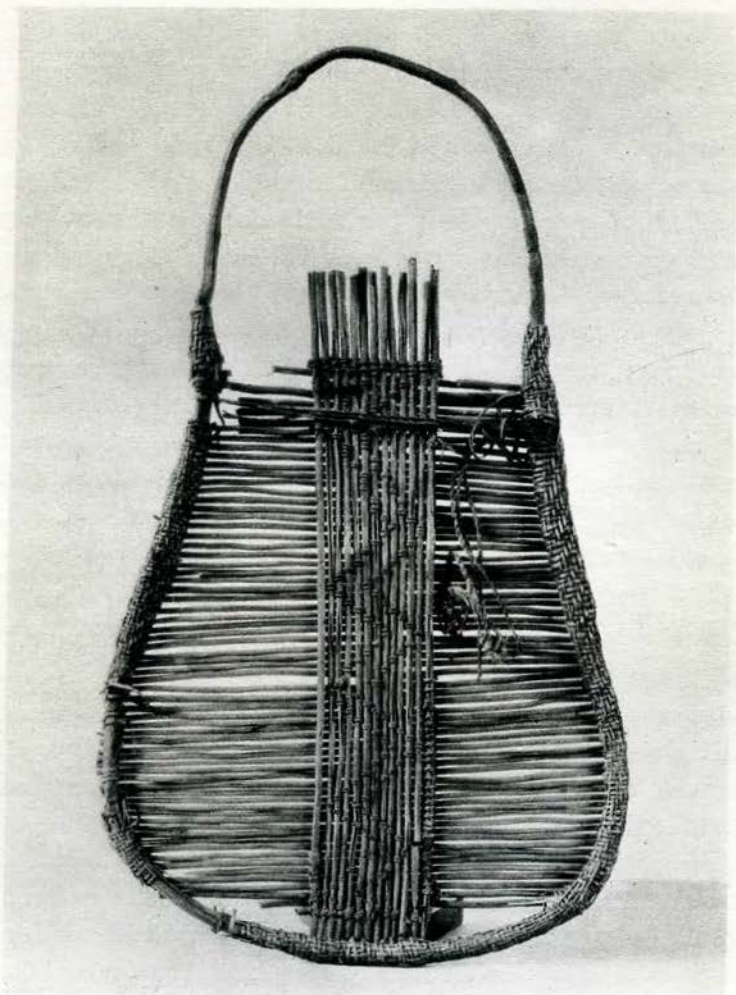


scenes from the life of the master of the house. The region is characterized by a belief in tutelary animal spirits which in some cases rank as totems. The crocodile, the tortoise, and various kinds of birds and animals figure among these friends and relations of men. Representations, more or less realistic, of all these appear on the door, as well as a curious object in the upper left hand corner, which may represent a beetle. The animal which is held between the jaws of the crocodile in the bottom panel is probably a goat. Goats in this part of Africa are often sacrificial victims and the crocodile, in the capacity of a deity or near-deity, is sometimes the recipient of sacrifices. A pair of typical Ivory Coast masks are shown, flanking the tortoise, a symbol of the "feminine principle," in the top panel of the door.

8. *A Basket Maker Collection in the Museum* **M**UCH of the knowledge of the archæology of southwestern United States has been acquired as the result of the keen observation of ranchmen and cowboys who roamed up and down the isolated canyons after their cattle, and whose reports of caves and ruins have often led to important finds.

A case in point is that of Richard Wetherill who, with his brother John, in the early nineties discovered in Grand Gulch, Utah, the remains of a people different from the Cliff Dwellers, and belonging stratigraphically to an earlier period.

Wetherill called these people Basket Makers. He observed that they differed from the Cliff Dwellers in many



PREHISTORIC INDIAN CRADLE
BASKET MAKERS OF SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES

ways. For one thing they had long heads which were not deformed by flattening at the back as were the heads of Cliff Dwellers. They do not seem to have built houses or used the bow and arrow, having had only short spears which they used with spear-throwers. They grew a primitive variety of maize, but no cotton; they had no true pottery, but they were master craftsmen when it came to basketry. Their baskets, sandals, woven bags, and cradles [Plate IX] were excellently made.

The Museum is fortunate in possessing a representative collection of Basket Maker and Cliff Dweller material, some of which originally constituted part of the Wetherill collection. It includes baskets made of yucca, grass, and coiled willow, decorated and plain, bone tools used in weaving baskets and mats, gouges for scraping hides, awls of deer and turkey bone, bodkins, whistles and ornaments. There are also implements of wood, spear and arrow points of stone, knives and awls with wooden handles, woven bags, and fur cloth.

Mr. Howard, Associate in the American Section, is now classifying the collection for study upon the several points such as origin, distribution, and relationships, upon which archæologists are yet undecided regarding these remote ancestors of present Indian tribes.

9. *A Hittite Tufa
Eagle*

INCLUDED in an extensive collection of classical and Babylonian antiquities lent to the Museum through the courtesy of Miss Elise B. Robinson is the interesting example of