

connected with them. Frequently, also, the foreign provenience of a word is indicated by a combination of sounds each of which may be freely used in native words in all positions (e.g., *-ps-* or *-ps* in Greek and Latin words, such as *rhapsody*, *apse*, *Cyclops*, *lapse*; such English forms as *lips* and *sips* are hardly comparable, as they can be readily resolved into *p*-stem plus *s*-suffix).

A couple of examples from American Indian languages will indicate the usefulness of the phonetic criterion in the recognition of loan words. In Haida *m* is a comparatively rare sound at best; initially it does not seem to occur in undoubtedly native words at all. The word *mat* "mountain goat," evidently related to the Tsimshian *mati*, is, therefore, clearly a loan-word from the latter language, not the reverse; the fact that the mountain goat is not found on Queen Charlotte islands, the home of the Haida, naturally strengthens the argument, but is not really necessary to it. If the word for "mountain goat" is borrowed in Haida from Tsimshian, there is good reason to believe that the mountain-goat crest, one of the less prominent crests of the Haida, was borrowed by them from the Tsimshian also, an inference which is confirmed by other testimony. In chronologic terms this means that the mountain-goat crest is of later origin among the Haida than among the Tsimshian. A similar problem is presented by the Upper Chinook word for "buffalo," *i-duit* (also "bull"; *a-duit* "buffalo-cow, cow") with its rather anomalous *h*, a sound occurring only rarely in Chinookan. Some of the Upper Chinook were in the habit of accompanying their Shahaptian neighbours on the annual buffalo hunt on the western plains, but this habit must have been of very recent origin, so that a non-descriptive word for "buffalo" is almost certain, on purely cultural evidence, to be of foreign origin. Thus the anomalous phonetics of *i-duit* agrees well with the cultural evidence, though I have not been able to determine its prototype.¹

¹ Can it possibly be related to Cheyenne *hotw'a* "bull" (see American Anthropologist, N. S. vol. 8, 1906, p. 13)?