

Nootka use of η , a sound quite foreign to normal Nootka speech, in certain classes of songs; the latter explanation is more plausible in the case of the regular Nootka change of n to l in many songs. This n - l interchange, again, is significant in so far as Kwakiutl, doubtless agreeing in this respect with primitive Wakashan, has both n and l , while Nootka, when cognate words are compared, is seen to have only n to correspond to both. Of particular interest in this connexion is the fact that such special song-sounds (Paiute l ; Nootka l and η) are, at least so it would seem, pronounced with difficulty by Indians under ordinary circumstances, as in the handling of English words that contain them. The obvious inference is that one may react quite differently to the same speech-sound entering into dissimilar associations. This fact, has, of course, a much wider psychological significance.¹ Conventional consonant changes in songs are no more restricted to America than, as we have seen, are parallel changes in mythology. An example that happens to have come to the writer's attention lately is the change of voiceless stops to corresponding nasals plus voiced stops in the songs of the Karesau-Papua of German New Guinea. Thus, the normal *apil* becomes *ambil* in songs.²

In seeking some comparatively simple basic phenomenon, from which, as a starting point, the various types of consonant play we have illustrated from Nootka could have originated, one easily thinks of the vocalic changes or consonant substitutions that take place in the speech of those who have some specific speech defect. The most familiar case of this sort in English is lisping, which simply means that the ordinary alveolar sibilants (sometimes also stops) are changed to the corresponding dental sibilants or even interdental fricatives (and sometimes correspondingly for stops). Information was obtained of five types of speech defects found among the Nootka. The first of these is called *ninik!in*³ (*nini*- reduplicated stem; *-k!in*⁴ "to make a sound of") and consists of the involuntary

¹ Sounds falling outside the regular phonetic system of the language may be spontaneously developed also by the operation of other systems of consonantal (or vocalic) play than are found in song diction. Thus, in Wishram (Upper Chinookan), the analogy of certain consonant changes of augmentative value (as of p to b , t to d , k to g) brought about the creation of dj , a sound otherwise unknown in Chinookan, as the augmentative correlate of tc or ts sounds. See *Handbook of American Indian Languages*, pp. 638, 639, 640.

² See Father W. Schmidt, abstract of *Über Musik und Gesänge der Karesau-Papuas, Deutsch Neu-Guinea*, Bericht über den III. Kongress der Internationalen Musikgesellschaft, 1909, p. 297.