

located in Iowa, but originally dwelt along the west shore of Lake Michigan. That the Ojibwa, who occupy territory between the Cree and the Fox, should originally have lacked this character in their mythology is somewhat surprising, but is corroborated by the linguistic evidence, which indicates that the Fox language is more closely related to the Cree than is the geographically less remote Ojibwa. The English term was evidently derived from some Algonkian tribe, in all likelihood an Algonquin or Sauleaux band, among whom the identification of the culture-hero with the Canada jay was current.

The meaning of the term Wisagatchak seems to be doubtful. In his "Dictionnaire de la Langue des Cris," † Father A. Lacombe does not attempt to give any etymology for Wisakketjâk, but merely defines the term as 'legendary man of the various tribes of the North, to whom they attribute supernatural power with a great number of tricks, turns,

and follies. He is regarded as the principal genius and as the founder of these peoples." What has happened, then, in brief, is that an Indian term of obscure meaning, employed to refer to an important mythological being, was, in a limited area, identified with the Canada jay and that this term was then borrowed by the whites as the common name of the jay and finally refashioned into a make-believe English word.

Curiously analogous is the history of the French word *renard* "fox". This word is not of native Romance stock but is merely a French application of the favorite mediæval trickster Reynard, identified in folk-lore with the fox. The term itself is of Germanic origin and appears in many different forms. Among them are the modern German name Reinhart, and the Dutch and Flemish Reinecke or Reinke.

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#### BOOK NOTICES.

LESSONS ON WEEDS. Manitoba Farmers' Library, Extension Bulletin No. 30. Thirty "Extension Bulletins" have already been issued by the Manitoba Department of Agriculture under the general title of 'The Manitoba Farmers' Library' which is devoted to the extension of information on agricultural and sanitary matters and is distributed free among the people of Manitoba. These bulletins cover a wide field and several of them are of special interest and value to field-naturalists, notably No. 23, "Our Friends the Birds," No. 25, "Gophers and Squirrels in Manitoba," and No. 30, the most recently published, "Lessons on Weeds," a pamphlet of 50 pages and many illustrations. All three of the bulletins mentioned above were prepared for use in the schools of Manitoba but are distributed free to farmers as well. Some fifty species of weeds are described and figured, the descriptions including in most instances notes on the mode of reproduction and very full instructions on the best methods of eradication. Seven poisonous plants are described, including the poison ivy, and it is worthy to note that the only method of eradication mentioned is to "put on gloves and pull up the long woody perennial roots which creep for yards underneath the leaves." Perhaps the sentences of most value in No. 30 are these:

"Weeds waste water."

"A big weed takes a barrel of water out of the soil."

One has only to realize this and note the rank growth of weeds which so frequently overrun gardens to understand why in dry seasons so many amateurs are disappointed in their garden crops. A crop of weeds means a barrel of water per square yard, or 8½ inches of rainfall. Other provinces might well follow the example of Manitoba in the publication of such bulletins as "Lessons on Weeds" for use in the public schools.

THE HAWKS OF THE CANADIAN PRAIRIE PROVINCES IN THEIR RELATION TO AGRICULTURE. By P. A. Taverner. Museum Bulletin No. 28. Dept. of Mines, Canada, August, 1918. The work before us is one that has long been needed and comes at a time when its authority may prove an important factor in the preservation from extinction of some of our most useful birds. To the reviewer, who has spent much time and labor in an endeavor to show the absurdity of the indiscriminate slaughter of our prairie hawks, this publication is extremely welcome.

As Mr. Taverner points out, we have few really injurious hawks inhabiting the Prairie Provinces and of these but one, the Goshawk, is of sufficient size, or occurs in sufficient numbers, to be of marked importance in reducing our game supply. This hawk breeds but rarely in the southern portions of Western Canada, but when the food supply is scarce in the north invades our territory in considerable numbers during autumn and winter time.

†Montreal, 1874.