

island of Banks islands) use for their songs the dialect of Saddle island. Also in the clownish episodes of rituals, which are so characteristic of America, the impersonation and imitation of the speech peculiarities of foreigners are often resorted to and never fail to arouse a hearty laugh. In all these cases, it is rather important to observe, real accuracy of imitation is not generally attained or even aimed at, so that the foreign style often tends to reduce itself to a number of conventional vocalic and consonantal displacements. In dealing above with the change of anterior palatal *k*- sounds to *ts*- sounds in the language of the Kwakiutl Mink, I pointed out that a similar change was involved in the passage of original Wakashan anterior palatal *k*- sounds to Nootka *tc*- sounds. It is just possible that the Mink *ts*- sounds are in such cases due to an imitation of the speech of the northern Nootka tribes. The difficulty with this interpretation is that Nootka and Kwakiutl are altogether too divergent to afford more than a quite inconsiderable number of illustrative cases of the *k*- *tc* change, and of these but few would strike the naïve mind. It seems more plausible, on the whole, to assume that both the Mink and Nootka consonant changes rest on a common Kwakiutl-Nootka tendency, perhaps a tendency on the part of children to pronounce anterior palatals as sibilants. Data on the speech peculiarities of Kwakiutl children would be valuable here.

The Nootka Indians of one tribe frequently imitate the real or supposed speech peculiarities of those belonging to other Nootka tribes, the stress being primarily laid not so much on peculiarities of vocabulary and grammatical form as on general traits of intonation or sound articulation (cf. our New England "nasal twang" and Southern "drawl"). For the purposes of this paper the Nootka now spoken by the *Ts'icā'ath*^a and *Hōpāt'as'ath*^a of Barkley sound and the head of Alberni canal may be taken as the normal form of Nootka speech; this is, of course, purely arbitrary, but so would any other point of departure be. It is instructive to note that one or two of these tribal speech peculiarities coincide with individual speech defects.

According to the *Ts'icā'ath*^a Indians, the *Houtcūq'lis'ath*^a tribe of Uchucklesit harbour, a western inlet of Alberni canal, speak or spoke (for there are few of them left now) in a rumbling fashion