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PREFACE

In this seventh issue of its Papers, the Kroeber Anthropological Society publishes two descriptive articles which it feels its readers will find of considerable interest. The first of these, by Kenneth S. Lane, presents an ethnographic description of early Montagnais culture as reconstructed from contemporary sources. The papers constitutes an important contribution to Northeastern ethnography, containing as it does a relatively complete picture of Montagnais life during a period of time when the Montagnais had not yet been driven to the wall by the crushing embrace of the Whites. Two aspects are of great interest; the description of the native material culture, and the extent to which European articles had already been accepted; and the great similarity of the religious picture to that described in more recent times by Frank G. Speck's Naskapi, the Savage Hunters of the Labrador Peninsula (1935).

Mr. Greengo's article deals with the ecology of shellfish in California with reference to the native populations. After summarizing the geographical distributions and environmental relationships, the author proceeds to survey the variant aspects of the aboriginal exploitation of this important resource. The papers concludes with a discussion of shellfish poisoning, and its effects upon ancient utilization of the infected species.

Bernard G. Hoffman,

Editor.

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