

death of his father a few years ago, it was disclosed by the family lawyer, who forwarded the papers to the Smithsonian Institution, that the father of William Jones had kept the existence of these papers a secret, as he had felt that much of the information divulged to his son had been due to his own friendship with the Foxes and, therefore, had been unwilling that it should be published during his lifetime.

A sealed packet said to have contained an account of "ancient mysteries" never previously revealed to a white man, to which reference is made in "William Jones" by Henry Rideout, has not yet been identified with certainty, although its existence has been confirmed by inquiry. Certain passages in the present account are indicated tentatively as possibly embodying this material.

The Fox Indians are of particular interest as culturally intermediate between the tribes of the eastern woodlands and those of the Great Plains. Their language is the most archaic of the Algonquian tongues; and with the Mexican Kickapoo, their kindred, they rank among the most conservative of all Indians. Hence until a few years ago, they were regarded as representing in their culture an archaic Fox pattern, and considered types of the "Central Algonquian". Examination of their history has weakened this view and indicates that there is no means of knowing how far it represents the truth. Acculturation has been carried to such lengths that it would be remarkable if many specifically Fox traits remained.

Knowledge of Fox history begins in 1640, when the Huron map was drawn up for the Jesuits. They had then been driven westward by hostile tribes, with whom they continued in conflict until the arrival of French traders in 1665. From that time onward, the French waged a war of extermination against the Foxes, whose country on the Fox-

Wisconsin waterway was a preferred route to the Mississippi and a strategic point for trade. Failure to secure their adhesion to a French scheme of pacification of Indian tribes with Detroit as the concentration point embittered a struggle which culminated in the virtual extinction of the Foxes in 1728, when they were intercepted while trying to escape into Iroquois country. After a conflict lasting twenty-three days, only some fifty or sixty got away alive, or as it was expressed afterwards by a member of the tribe, in speaking of the wars with the French, "once there were only 3 lodges of the Fox Indians left".

However, in the winter following the massacre, the membership of the Fox tribe had risen again to 250. This and previous regenerations of the tribe had been effected in two ways. Prisoners were captured in war for the purpose of adoption into the tribe—the Pawnees, in particular, had been the victims of such attacks; and through the good offices of western allied tribes, Foxes who were held prisoners by hostile tribes were released and allowed to return to augment the tribe. These two elements, though politically all members of the Fox tribe, culturally had wide and various roots.

In the numerous vicissitudes and migrations of the tribe, in which they suffered severely from cholera and smallpox, settlements were formed in Kansas, Iowa and Oklahoma. The records show a close and prolonged association with the Sauk, and the incorporation of elements from Potawatomi and Winnebago. A tribe thus many times depleted and restocked, although strongly resistant to white culture, is scarcely likely to have escaped the cultural influence of the many and intimate relations with other tribes. Hence at the time information was collected by William Jones, any assumption of the archaic and original pattern of Fox culture had become hazardous.

GRASSLAND AND FORAGE CROPS IN THE UNITED STATES

INFORMATION with regard to forage crops, range management and the botanical aspects of soil conservation in the United States is either not available in published form or is scattered among a large number of reports. The Imperial Bureau of Pastures and Forage Crops at Aberystwyth has accordingly prepared a bulletin, compiled by R. O. Whyte, entitled "Research on Grassland, Forage Crops and the Conservation of Vegetation in the United States of America" (Herbage Publication Series, Bulletin 26. 5s.).

The bulletin deals first with the work of the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases, each of the five crop groups being studied from the point of view of culture and production, breeding and improvement, and diseases. An important recent development has been the organization of the U.S. Regional Research Laboratory, State College, Pennsylvania, which should become one of the leading world centres for the study of problems connected with humid temperate pastures. The range investigations of the Forest Service are then described. These are intended

to supply basic information for the intelligent utilization of the land, the field work being organized into six regional forests and range experiment stations, covering the western United States. The research of the Soil Conservation Service deals with many aspects other than the use of grassland and forage crops as a protective cover for soil, and some account is given of the terms of reference of the eight branches of the Division of Research in the S.C.S., information not already published in Bulletin 25 being included.

Brief reference is made to the studies in progress under the auspices of the U.S. Golf Association, and details given of the ecological research at the Carnegie Institution of Washington regarding factor and function in adaptation, climax, succession and conservation.

The remainder of the bulletin contains relevant extracts from the most recent annual reports from practically all the agricultural experiment stations in the United States.