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Cook: *The Conflict Between the California Indian and White Civilization*

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Kroeber's total of 133,000. This is a matter of importance—Kroeber's reputation and influence are such that his figures are apt to be taken uncritically as hard fact. The West Coast of the United States is one of the world's areas which is basic to theorizing about the nature of hunters-gatherers, paleolithic man if you will. Thus the population size and densities here are of fundamental importance. I have not seen in print that Kroeber ever gave approval to Cook's upward revisions but neither have there been denunciations. I think Kroeber would have been reluctant to accept them for reasons he gave in his *Cultural and Natural Areas*. "Only, if we accept 260,000, one quarter of all United States Indians were in California; and this seems unlikely enough. Shall we, then, assume that Mooney and practically all American anthropologists compute far too low?" One can understand Kroeber's reluctance. Nevertheless it seems to me that Cook will simply have to be accepted unless his sources are refuted in detail. I don't think that will happen soon.



***The Conflict between the California Indian and White Civilization.*** Sherburne F. Cook. Berkeley: University of California Press. 543 pp. \$24.75 (cloth). \$6.95 (paper).

*Reviewed by* A.B. ELSASSER  
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The timely publication of the late S.F. Cook's bibliography in a recent number of the *Journal of California Anthropology* should give a clear notion of his extraordinary qualifications for tackling the subject indicated by the

title of this book. Reprinted here are six essays, all long out-of-print or only reprinted in part after first publication between 1940 and 1943 in *Ibero-Americana* at Berkeley.

By about 1935, Cook was already an established physiologist, known to be interested also in historical documents concerning western American Indians. In looking back, one might suspect that a person with his background would have been almost necessary for the formidable work ahead, which was to reconsider and stabilize the picture of human demography in native California immediately before and after 1770. Certainly Cook was more than up to the task.

The six essays, titled *The Indian Versus the Spanish Mission*, *The Physical and Demographic Reaction of the Non-Mission Indians in Colonial and Provincial California*, *The American Invasion*, *Trends in Marriage and Divorce since 1850*, *Population Trends among the California Mission Indians*, and *The Mechanism and Extent of Dietary Adaptation among Certain Groups of California and Nevada Indians*, are all concerned primarily with demography—but the data Cook presents are by no means all statistical. It is difficult to conceive any method of approach to demographic problems that has not been taken up in one or the other of these essays. Dietary, disease, labor, sex, delinquency, crime and punishment, peonage and slavery, the Spanish or Anglo-American military presence, marriage and divorce, the problem of taste (i.e., the palatability of food)—all are considered as factors affecting Indian culture and demography from about 1770 to 1940. These data are brought together in such a way that the reader may feel that Cook has surely left no stone unturned in order to support his various theses. But he nevertheless did not stand still: where in 1943 he could agree with Kroeber's approximate figure of 133,000 for the aboriginal population of California before 1770, further work by him, summarized in a book on

California Indian population, published in 1976 and reviewed in this issue, has more than doubled this figure.

Despite subsequent elaboration on certain of the ideas set forth in the original six essays, taken together they will almost certainly remain as one of the towering landmarks in studies pertaining to California Indians in the Historic Period.



***Review of Non-Distinctive Arguments in Uto-Aztec.*** Ronald Langacker. Berkeley: University of California Publications in Linguistics, Vol. 82. 1976. xiii + 241 pp. \$7.50.

*Reviewed by* WICK R. MILLER  
University of Utah

This is an important contribution to both linguistic theory and Uto-Aztec linguistics.

Langacker is concerned with the historical development of four kinds of sentences: passives, impersonals, reflexives (including reciprocals), and unspecified arguments. These sentence types are semantically related, and in many languages, including most of the Uto-Aztec languages, they are also syntactically related. Using the theoretical framework of generative semantics, along with insight, imagination, and lots of data, he offers suggestions for their source and historical development. One can always quibble with some of the details, but I find myself in agreement with his basic arguments and proposals.

Langacker combed the literature, both published and unpublished, for this study. Twenty Uto-Aztec languages are treated. This was a herculean task, particularly when

one considers the varied nature and quality of the source material. After having pulled all this material together, Langacker is in an excellent position to do historical grammar in a number of areas, and he promises us that this work is just the first in a series. If the following contributions are of this high quality, Uto-Aztec studies will indeed be in a fortunate and enviable position.

An extremely valuable byproduct of this study is an extensive bibliography. If any published items of linguistic importance are missing, I have not found them. Additionally, many unpublished items and published works that are of secondary linguistic importance are listed. The bibliography is not limited to items cited in this monograph, nor to the twenty languages used in this study. The bibliography is especially useful because it is arranged by language and language branch. It will be valued by all of us who work in the Uto-Aztec field.



***Ishi in Two Worlds: A Biography of the Last Wild Indian in North America.*** Theodora Kroeber. Deluxe, Illustrated Edition. Berkeley: University of California Press. 259 pp. \$14.95 (cloth).

*Reviewed by* A.B. ELSASSER  
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Attempts to account for the popularity of books or exhibits about Ishi may lead anyone into the region of deep psychological speculation. Surely there is something extraordinarily compelling about Theodora Kroeber's elegant prose concerning this apparently simple-living