

he had adzed his canoe was to paint the face of a man on each side to frighten away the dead canoe-builders who would certainly cause it to split if they were not prevented. This is a far cry from the friendly and helpful relations that the priests of Zuñi count upon with those who have previously exercised their profession. On the Northwest Coast these were exactly the group whose hands were lifted against their living colleagues. As we have seen, a recognized way of obtaining blessings from the gods was to kill them. Then one triumphed and was rewarded by supernatural power.

The segment of human behaviour which the Northwest Coast has marked out to institutionalize in its culture is one which is recognized as abnormal in our civilization, and yet it is sufficiently close to the attitudes of our own culture to be intelligible to us and we have a definite vocabulary with which we may discuss it. The megalomaniac paranoid trend is a definite danger in our society. It faces us with a choice of possible attitudes. One is to brand it as abnormal and reprehensible, and it is the attitude we have chosen in our civilization. The other extreme is to make it the essential attribute of ideal man, and this is the solution in the culture of the Northwest Coast.