

of the handle, other times small friezes or borders of horses in profile are found along either side of the handle. Among the most interesting in the collection are two knives with the handles ending in heads of some mythical animal, a dragon or snake perhaps, in which the flat tongue is suspended at the back of open jaws so that it rattles to and fro when shaken.

It is not possible here to describe this collection at length and it must suffice to direct attention to it and indicate that a study of the individual pieces will be productive of information and artistic satisfaction.

*A Naskapi
Indian Robe*

AMONG the most interesting objects in a collection recently acquired from the Naskapi Indians of northern Labrador are the robes, which are made of tanned caribou hide painted with designs, in red, blue and yellow, in which curvilinear elements, especially the double curve, play a large part. One of these robes is shown in Plate XIII.

The Naskapi tribe is of great ethnological importance, since it is the last remnant of the great Algonkian linguistic stock which includes the Delaware, the Mohegan and other tribes who occupied the Atlantic seaboard in the days of the first European settlements, and who have either disappeared or have become entirely civilized. It is, therefore, from a study of the Naskapi that most light can be thrown on the former culture of these historically important tribes.

The Museum's collection was secured from the Barren Ground band of the Naskapi who occupy the northern extremities of the Labrador Peninsula and are consequently the group which remains the most primitive and least affected by white influence. Their sole contact with civilization is at the small, scattered trading posts on the coast, where they appear once or twice a year to barter the furs that they have gathered in the interior. During the rest of the year, they lead a simple, rigorous existence, hunting and fishing in the desolate woods on the edge of the barren grounds. The establishment of a trading post in their territory some fifteen years ago, has resulted in their adoption of many of the elements of modern life, and the inevitable introduction of the diseases of civilization has reduced their number to hardly more than fifty at the present time. It is probable that the extinction of their primitive culture, if not their entire group, is a question of only a few years; a collection illustrative of this culture is, therefore, of great value. *J.A.M.*

*School
Museums*

WITH the approval and cooperation of state educational authorities and the support of the Carnegie Corporation, the Museum and the Commercial Museum have undertaken a new service to the schools of Pennsylvania outside the city limits of Philadelphia.

The plan is to establish, in certain schools in various districts, School Museums, containing yearly increasing



A NASKAPI INDIAN ROBE