

the wren, was singing away on the top of a box elder tree. Sh nzeecha, the yellow-hammer was sounding the tree to find out if it is fit for abode of birds. Zintkato, the blue bird sat on the top of a dead tree. Pishko, the night-hawk, sat on the ground, unnoticed, evidently sleeping after a very hard night work -- prowling round. Hupa-wanblee, the snow bird sat restlessly on the ground. Techaneecha, the curlew, flew up from the ground into the air and sang Oheeyu! Oheeyu! Minneshbu! Minneshbu! meaning "Leaky! Leaky! Water Drops! Water Drops! Kangi, the crow sat in a dignified manner, flapping its wings and greeting the audience by saying "How! How!" Skeebee-bee, the Chickadee, sat on a low bough and said, "Skeebeebee! Gliho! meaning "Have they (birds) returned?" Wabloska, the boboline, flew up from the weeds and while flying upward in the air sang: "Ska! Ska! Ska! To! To! To! Zee! Zee! Zee! Shaw! Shaw! Shaw! in a descending scale.

Now, Hinhan, recalled the council and as soon as they were seated in their respective places, he began to make the following address: "Brothers and sisters of the Bird Tribes, we are here to determine what birds are to remain in the North, especially, here in this beautiful Black Hills country during the cold season. I know every bird here today and others wish to remain but owing to the fact that the Black Hills country being subjected to severe winter sometimes it is not considered safe for all of us. Some of us birds know what is best for us and perfectible to take care of ourselves. But there are some of us that need to be advised or reminded and it is for these that we wish to council. It is a hard problem to solve but we shall do the best we can. I want all of you to use your thinking power in this matter. The blue Jay came forward and said: "All birds that feed only on berries, seeds and insects should migrate to the South in cold seasons for they cannot endure the cold weather." The snow bird came forward in a modest way and said: "I feed on berries, seeds and insects but I can withstand the coldest day in winter better than some bigger birds that feed on flesh."