

ANTHROPOLOGY

Chairman: JAMES H. KELLER, Indiana University
DOWNEY D. RAIROURN, Gary Extension of Indiana University, was
elected chairman for 1962

ABSTRACT

A Scale for the Assessment of the Somatotype. EUGENE J. SLABAUGH, Indiana University.—The present study constitutes a modification of William H. Sheldon's system of assessment of human constitutional variability. This system differs from previous schemes in that, instead of placing the individual into one of a series of established types, he is classified according to the varying development of three developmental *tendencies* or components on a scale from 1 to 7.

Anthropometric and anthroposcopic assessments are carried out on the subject directly and include subjects who object to being photographed. In order to facilitate a constitutional assessment, a series of eight charts have been set up to illustrate the gradations of the bodily areas between the extremes of two components, keeping the third component at a constant rating of 2. Four charts deal with the male and four with the female physique. The individual charts are set up in the following manner:

Endomorphy to ectomorphy with mesomorphy held constant;

Mesomorphy to endomorphy with ectomorphy held constant;

Mesomorphy to ectomorphy with endomorphy held constant.

The last chart presents common combinations in the middle ranges with none of the components being rated at less than a three or more than a four. The detailed presentation of constitutional differences in chart form should be of special value in constitutional studies on conservative subjects, women, older individuals, or extreme variants—groups in which the taking of somatotype photographs often presents difficulties. With the use of the graded charts, a rapid assessment can be made at the time routine measurements and observations are collected.