

ANTHROPOLOGY

Chairman: JOHN JONES, Indiana University
GEORGE K. NEUMANN, Indiana University, was elected chairman for 1956

ABSTRACTS

Kalispel Law. J. A. JONES, Indiana University.—The lower Kalispel are a group of American Indians now located on a reservation in north-eastern Washington. Originally, they were a canoe people, dependent on fish, water birds, marsh plants, and deer for subsistence. During this time, they were organized into small, loosely-structured, patrilineal bands. They led a relatively secure existence. They had a fairly stable food supply, and they had no important enemies. The whole area was characterized by peaceful relations between neighboring groups.

After the introduction of the horse, the Kalispel ventured east of the mountains onto the great plains to hunt buffalo in competition with the Blackfoot. Here the situation was much different from the old, secure way of life back home. While on the plains, the Kalispel were always in danger from Blackfoot raids. Even the food supply was less reliable since an uncooperative hunter could stampede a buffalo herd so that they ran miles away from where the group was gathered to hunt.

In response to these new conditions, the Kalispel developed a new system of controlling individual behavior. Children were taught to feel responsible for one another by the simple device of whipping all of them when one was naughty. Adult offenders against the group well-being were likewise called to account publicly by being whipped under the chief's orders. The position of chief grew in authority as a result of the importance of the new controls.

Whipping occurs among the western Plateau people only as a ceremonial practice. Its secularization among the eastern Plateau people, like the Kalispel, reflects the changes which may occur when new cultural activities bring new problems in social control.

Traditional Evidences of Aboriginal Occupancy in Michigan. THOMAS J. MAXWELL, JR., Indiana University—Both traditional and historical data locate the Ottawa Indians on Manitoulin Island in Ontario prior to 1648. Before this, Ottawa tradition indicates, they lived farther to the east at Lake Nipissing and on the Ottawa River.

Vague references are made for an eastern origin for the Chippewa but actual locations given place them around the Upper Peninsula. The Potawatomi are said to have reached the upper end of Lake Huron in company with the Chippewa and Ottawa and then to have continued west to the region around Green Bay, possibly in company with the Sauk. The Sauk are supposed, in the traditional literature, to have dwelt near Saginaw Bay, in eastern Michigan in the seventeenth century. One tradition says they came there with the Fox from some place south of Detroit.

The Assegun lived on the Upper Peninsula before the arrival of the Ottawa. The islands were inhabited by the Mackinac Indians, and, on the Lower Peninsula, dwelt the Mushcodesh. The Mackinac Indians became extinct and the others were driven south of Grand River by the Ottawa and Chippewa. After this episode, the Ottawa and Chippewa settled in western Michigan.

Range of Skeletal Maturation in Puerto Rican Children. JOAN FINKLE DE PENA, Indiana University.—One of the most reliable techniques of ascertaining body growth and development is the assessment of skeletal maturation through X-rays of specific body areas. Of the several potential body areas so treated, the wrist has received the most attention, for it is in this bony area that changes occur in an orderly sequence and cover the entire period from birth to early adulthood.

Such an assessment of skeletal maturation of some 2,000 Puerto Rican children is in progress at Indiana University. Although this work is still incomplete, specific trends of growth can be discerned.

- 1) In comparison with U. S. standards, Puerto Rican children show delayed appearance and maturation of the bony wrist elements. This delay encompasses a chronological range of from 2 to 5 years in variation from U. S. material.
- 2) Delay is most apparent in the appearance and development of the distal ulnar epiphysis.
- 3) There is also a noticeable delay, though not so great as that of the ulnar region, in the development of the greater and lesser multangulans.
- 4) These delays in bony development seem to be more positively correlated with data on nutritional levels than with height or weight or age data.
- 5) Skeletal maturation of Puerto Rican children tends to more approximate the norm standards of U. S. children by 12-14 years in females and 15 years in males.
- 6) The trend towards delayed maturation seems to occur more frequently at the time of appearance of various ossification centers than at the time of epiphyseal union.
- 7) The distal ulnar epiphyseal area rates special consideration because of the unusual delay in both the appearance and development of the center, and because of the rather high frequency of dual ossification centers of the epiphysis.