

## ANTHROPOLOGY

Chairman: WILLIAM R. ADAMS, Bloomington, Indiana  
EMILY BLASINGHAM, Indiana University, was elected chairman for 1958

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### ABSTRACTS

**Wife Stealing in Central Mexico.** HAROLD E. DRIVER, Indiana University.—Census data on the Chichimeca-Jonaz Indians reveals that over half the wives in the past three quarters of a century have been “stolen” by their husbands before either the civil or church wedding ceremony had been performed. Although there are a few cases where the bride was actually kidnapped against her will and perhaps even raped before she had become receptive to her abductor, we believe that most such cases are better classified as elopement. Although this custom may be an old Indian practice, it has been increasing in frequency in the 20th century both among the Chichimeca-Jonaz of the state of Guanajuato and their Tarascan neighbors about 100 miles south in the state of Michoacan. The causes of this increase are not entirely clear, but it may be related to the diminishing authority of the Catholic Church during this period.

**Southern Affinities of the Ellerbusch Site, Warrick County, Indiana.** FRANCES PATTON MARTIN, Newburgh.—Complicated stamped pottery with Georgia Swift Creek curvilinear and concentric circle designs was found on the Ellerbusch Site, W<sup>56</sup>, during an archaeological excavation started in May 1957. Associated with the 41 sherds of this clay tempered sandy paste ware were 61 cord marked and 18 plain sherds with varying amounts of sand and clay tempering, six rim sherds with impressed lips and three with plain lips, a hammer stone, a bi-pitted rectanguloid stone, 3 partial projectile points, two plano-convex flint cores, 16 prismatic flake knives and fragments of mica and cannel coal. All evidence available indicates that this deposit accumulated during the Middle Woodland occupation of the site which also has Middle Mississippi and Archaic remains. Pottery diagnostic of Marksville-Hopewell has not been found there so far although it is plentiful on the three other Indiana sites where Swift Creek type pottery is abundant. Two of these sites, Po<sup>2</sup> and Po<sup>14</sup>, are in Posey County and the other, Vg 44, is in Vanderburgh County. One sherd with a Swift Creek concentric circle design has been found in Spencer County on Sp 38, making a total of five known sites in Indiana with Swift Creek affinities.

**The Ottawa in the Early Historic Period.** EMILY J. BLASINGHAM, Indiana University.—An investigation of factors contributing to a change in Ottawa economy from mere subsistence agriculture to raising surpluses of food for trade purposes. The Ottawa during the period

under consideration in this paper lived at the extreme northern limits of maize cultivation; however they became extensive agriculturists and the surplus of food (especially maize) which they grew in large measure enabled the French to exploit the western Great Lakes region. It is the purpose of this paper to point out and describe the various factors which assisted the Ottawa in this economic change.