This Issue and Others

With this issue, the first change in our Editorial Board: S. L. Washburn has become editor of the American Journal of Physical Anthropology, and James N. Spuhler replaces him on the Anthropologist. Washburn has been a main spirit in our recent expansion; we are happy that since journals are editor local it is not unreasonable to expect that we are not losing an editor, but gaining a journal, especially since we have been so close to the A.J.P.A. under Howells. Meanwhile, Michigan connections are strengthened, with Spuhler and Aberle both on our Board; and Baerreis will still have editorial company in Madison, since Gabriel Lasker, who edits Human Biology, is visiting at Wisconsin this year. So is our family extended.

As we predicted, no sooner had we sent the June issue to press, with a pronouncement of a temporary moratorium on the subject of culture, than the mail brought us a contribution from the bulletin board in the Department at Northwestern University. The subject deserves this epitaph by a “Puzzled Ph.D. Candidate,” especially since it was clearly buried alive and will rise again for an accounting:

Wasn’t it a thought titanic
To think of culture as organic.
Growing, fading, dying, breathing
Striving, flexing even teething.

Satisfying needs and urgings
Immanent with innate surgings.

Each part connected to the rest
The metacarpels to the breast
So if an uncle starts to itch
His niece would feel her fingers twitch.
Unless perhaps she calls him mother
And leaves the itch to curse her brother.

Ah culture, solid, fleshy, meaty
As individual I sign a treaty.
“What value more than pedagogic
Rests in visions analogic”?
Can you as organ help me find
In you, what corresponds to mind?

Wouldn’t it be more symphonic
To think of culture as Platonic?
And contemplate with aids mnemonic
Culture, ah yes, Harmonic!

The cover design on our Southwest Issue has piqued the curiosity of some who could not satisfy it by going back to page 75 of Volume 2 of the Anthropologist. If your favorite library does not have a complete file of this journal, why not tell them that all back numbers are now available, at least in microfilm, by order to the new Executive Secretary in Beloit?

The present issue is rather “professional,” i.e., there is a lot “about” anthropology, including Eggan’s, Kroeber’s, and the first in our Museum

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