



Ester Gayo, a graduate student in Folklore from the Philippines, working in the Indiana University Folklore Archives.

#### THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTER IN ANTHROPOLOGY, FOLKLORE AND LINGUISTICS

John W. Ashton

The Research Center for Anthropology, Folklore and Linguistics at Indiana University was established in order to bring into close and coordinated working relationship the various archives in these fields which had from time to time been established at the University and to promote the development of research projects which would make use of the resources of these archives.

The most extensive of these was, and still is, the Archives of Folk and Primitive Music, which includes collections from many areas of the world. The establishment of the Research Center provided a stimulus for the fuller development of the Folklore Archives and for the setting up of the Archives of the Languages of the World with the help of a grant from The Ford Foundation. As a research resource in these and other fields the University became a member of the Human Relations Area Files, whose records constitute an important part of the Research Center.

From the beginning we have felt that a necessary adjunct of such a center is a means of disseminating both the materials in the various collections and also discussions and analyses of these materials and of other similar collections. We have, therefore, developed the Publications of the Research Center, designed to publish significant documents in the various fields represented in the Center. Since editions are small, most of this publication has been by offset. This offset publication program has also enabled the Center to give assistance in the publication of certain other journals such as Ethnohistory and The Slavic and East European Journal, which are published by their respective societies.

#### NEW HOLDINGS AT THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY FOLKLORE ARCHIVES

Richard M. Dorson

Like other folklore archives in the United States, the new Indiana University holdings grew out of student collections in a folklore course. During the years I taught "American Folklore" at Michigan State University, from 1947 to 1956, every student enrolled in the course handed in for his term report a collection he or she made directly from informants. Even allowing for two years when I was on leave, the number of students and collections during that period reached well over a thousand, since the course was offered twice a year, and enrollment ran from fifty to one hundred and ninety in the spring term of 1956. Two summer courses I taught at the University of Minnesota and at Harvard brought in further collections. The major work of classifying and assorting the collections was done by Aili Kolehmainen Johnson, formerly of Flint, Michigan and now of Piedmont, California. At present Mrs. Johnson is arranging thousands of superstitions in the Archives according to the Thompson Motif-Index. A description of the history and contents of this archive, in which most countries of the world are represented, can be found in my article, "The Michigan State University Folklore Archives," in Midwest Folklore, V (Spring, 1955), 51-59. This archive has now been transferred to Indiana University, in consequence of my appointment there in the fall of 1957 as Professor of History and Folklore. In time it will be integrated with other holdings already at Bloomington, holdings which also include material collected by students in Folklore classes at Indiana University. These student collections and other holdings in the Archives will be described in a later bulletin.

During the current academic year several graduate students in folklore have been working on these newly acquired materials. Ester Gayo, whose picture is seen above, an exchange student from the Philippines with experience there in fieldwork, has classified most of the 190 collections from 1956. A graduate from Oberlin who majored in physics, and also is a folksinger, Joseph Hickerson, is arranging the cabinet of college folksongs according to major song types. Although his present appointment as a teaching associate in English at Indiana University prevents his working in the Archives this year, Jan Brunvand spent considerable time classifying these collections while a student of mine at Michigan State University, and has just published an account of this work in "Norwegian-American Folklore in the Indiana University Archives," in Midwest Folklore, VII (Winter, 1957), 221-228. He points out that this Archive, while based on collections from undergraduate novices in folklore, can still be profitably used by experienced collectors who will find in its files a wealth of leads to first-rate informants in many traditions.