

title. Thus a man must marry his cousin. Polygamy is practised, a man marrying two sisters, but this can happen only if there are not enough men, or if a woman's husband dies, when her brother-in-law is obligated to take care of her, although she must wait a year before marrying again.

A man looks to his uncle for instruction: that is, the mother's brother, who is his future father-in-law; on marrying the daughter the son-in-law goes to live with the parents of his wife: that is, he hunts with the uncle who is also the father-in-law. A son-in-law is not permitted to talk to or even look at his mother-in-law, although they must take care of each other. If they are in camp together they sit facing away from each other, and if there is necessity to speak to each other they have to do so through a third person. The same applies to the daughter-in-law and the father-in-law.

There is a division of labor. Food is plentiful but it has to be hunted and gathered. Therefore, the women occupy themselves with the gathering of roots and fruit, the cooking, the weaving of basketry, the making of pottery, while the men engage in hunting, canoe making, hammock weaving, and so forth. Both sexes are busy all of the time. Food does not fall into their mouths and they work very hard.

The Yaruros have never been studied before. Linguistically they are not affiliated with any other group of Indians and as is seen from the above, they must take their place among the most primitive people of the world. Thus by an extraordinary religious experience of the shaman, permitting my living among them with safety and on intimate terms, it proved possible to bring back invaluable information on a most interesting people.

V. P.

*The Piedras  
Negras Expedition*

**T**HE Museum's Expedition to Piedras Negras, Guatemala, has commenced the fourth season at this Maya 'Old Empire' site. Mr. Linton Satterthwaite, Jr., the field director, is

planning to concentrate on an architectural study of several new pyramid mounds, and two of these have been investigated so far.

In addition to the work at Piedras Negras, the Expedition has received permission from the Mexican government to make a brief architectural study at Yaxchilan, another important site on the Usumacinta River, some miles south of Piedras Negras. This reconnaissance should be finished early in the Expedition's season.

*A Survey of  
Prehistoric Research*

**M**R. EDGAR B. HOWARD will continue this summer the search for prehistoric man in America in which he has been engaged during the past few years. The work this year will be sponsored jointly by the University Museum, the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Mr. Howard will start about June first on a survey tour of all the recent sites throughout this country at which any evidence suggesting the existence of prehistoric man has been found. He will then proceed to New Mexico and engage in field work in the vicinity of Carlsbad and Clovis.

*A Pottery Vessel  
from Mexico*

**T**HE most notable recent addition to the Mexican collections is a remarkable pottery vessel [Plate VI] lent to the Museum by Mr. Percy C. Madeira, Jr. It is an object of such unusual type and uncertain use that no short descriptive term seems to be applicable to it; 'basket' is the designation most frequently used, but the generalized term 'container' is about the most specific one that could properly be employed. It most resembles a carrier for individual communion glasses. Only three other examples of the type seem to be known.

It was found in a tomb at San Lorenzo Albarradas, District of Tlacolula, Oaxaca, Mexico, only a few miles from the famous ruins of Mitla, and also from those of Monte Alban where for several