

parially ground rice is then taken outside where it is winnowed by exposing the compound to the air or by fanning away the hushes with a vigorous sweep of a large flat basket used for that purpose. The man power used in the operation of this percussion grinder is generally supplied by one of the older children and involves the placing of his weight on the end of the lever and then when in an elevated position remove or release at which time the plunger at the end of the beam forcefully drives itself into the circular hole harboring the crude rice. Frequently the operator will have a long curved stick which he probes the pit to keep the rice circulating. The rice pit is a receptacle carved in a hared piece of wood which has been imbedded in the eathern floor. Accompanying this operation is a particular quality of sound and rythum that is characteristic of these primitive villages at this time of year. The stone grinder stands near by but is not used in grinding rice. The fireplace is available for use but is probably not used wxcept during special occais-ions or if the room requires heating. This room appears to have been intend-ed as a place to work the rice when the weather outside will not allow for the operation. The center room is for cooking and also acts as a living room. It is characterized by the mor domestic kitchen equipment as copper pots, saucers and eathen jugs and jars all of which are clear and polished. The center of attraction is the fire pit. It is a small horesehore like rim of clay about 4 inches high with one side open and leading into the slightly excavated fire pit and so constructed as to received the larger copper pots and water jars. A black greasy tar like surfacing completely covers the ceil-ing in long pendulous strings indicating its frequent use. Suspended directly above this fire is a bamboo rack or baking plateform. I couldn't help feel that it would make a most excellent smoking rack for venison but I question whether itis ever used for that purpose as Hindus will rarely touch meat except an occaisional piece of goat meat and then only by those less orthodox individ-uals. The smoke escapes from the room via the tow end openings of the roof.