



about the author

DR. RUTH FULTON BENEDICT, professor of anthropology at Columbia University, died on September 17, 1948 at the age of 61. Her works include apart from *Patterns of Culture: Scientific Papers*, *Tales of the Cochiti Indians* and *Zuni Mythology*. A pamphlet, *Races of Mankind*, which she wrote with Dr. Gene Weltfish, lecturer in anthropology at Columbia, published by the Public Affairs Committee in 1943, sold more than 250,000 copies, and its sale was increased when Representative Andrew J. May, then chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, banned its distribution in Army recreation centers and orientation courses, because the pamphlet stated that the Negro and white races were equal, if given equal economic and educational conditions.

Patterns of Culture has been the leading best-seller in the Mentor series for three years. It has been widely adapted by colleges and schools as required and supplementary reading. And its phenomenal newsstand sale led its original publishers, Houghton Mifflin, to take a front cover advertisement in *Publishers Weekly*.

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