

SECTION H—ANTHROPOLOGY.

SECTION H of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held its regular sessions at the fifty-third meeting, which was in progress in St. Louis, Mo., during convocation week. The American Anthropological Association affiliated with Section H. Owing to a meeting of the anthropologists in New York City during the latter part of October, few of the working members were present.

The organization of Section H took place on Monday morning, December 28, immediately after the adjournment of the general session. This session, as well as all the subsequent ones, was held in room 218 of the Central High School. Owing to the absence of the vice-president, Marshall H. Saville, the council granted permission to appoint a vice-president *pro tempore*. Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee was elected to this office. The officers for the meeting were as follows:

Vice-President—Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee (in the absence of M. H. Saville).

Secretary—George H. Pepper.

Member of Council—W J McGee.

Sectional Committee—George A. Dorsey, vice-president Section H, 1903; Roland B. Dixon, secretary Section H, 1903; M. H. Saville, vice-president Section H, 1904; George H. Pepper, secretary Section H, 1904-08; William H. Holmes, F. W. Hodge, W J McGee, Miss Alice C. Fletcher and George Grant MacCurdy.

Member of General Committee—Amos W. Butler.

Officers of the American Anthropological Association:

President—W J McGee.

Secretary—George A. Dorsey.

During the meeting the following members of Section H were elected fellows: Frederick W. Hodge and David I. Bushnell, Jr.

Frank Russell, Ph.D., instructor in anthropology in the Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass., died in November, 1903, at the age of thirty-five. He became a member

of Section H of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1896, was made a fellow at the forty-sixth meeting and was elected secretary of Section H for the forty-ninth meeting, which was held in 1900.

Report of the committee on the death of Dr. Frank Russell:

WHEREAS, The death of Dr. Frank Russell has removed from our ranks one whose career, though brief, was full of achievement and promise; in order to express our appreciation of what he was and what he accomplished, as well as our personal sense of loss through the untimely termination of his labors, we recommend the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. Russell the association has lost one of its most efficient and faithful workers in the field of anthropology, and one whose industry and patience, through years of physical suffering, will remain a noble example to his co-workers and all who knew him.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to his widow and family, and that a copy be placed among the records of the section.

GEORGE A. DORSEY,

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY,

GEORGE H. PEPPER.

The address of the retiring vice-president, Dr. George A. Dorsey, 'The Future of the Indian,' was delivered Wednesday morning in Room 218 of the Central High School.

Owing to the small attendance and in view of the fact that all the members of the American Anthropological Association present were members of Section H, there was no formal meeting of the affiliating association, the vice-president of Section H occupying the chair throughout the meeting.

The following is a list of papers presented, with discussions, and abstracts:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29.

Presentation of Eoliths from England and Belgium: GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY.

Paleoliths from the Quaternary deposits of Europe had a long hard struggle for

recognition, which was freely granted only after Sir Joseph Prestwich's visit to Abbeville in 1859. The eoliths are passing through a similar struggle with increasingly brighter prospects of success. It was also Prestwich who came to their rescue at a critical time. Rutot, of Brussels, is their most powerful living exponent. Mr. MacCurdy made important collections last summer both in Belgium and in southern England. The eoliths found in Belgium came from a series of the oldest Quaternary deposits. The specimens found in patches of old southern drift which cap the highest levels of the Kentish Chalk Plateau are still older. If the chipping on them is artificial, it was done by Tertiary man.

This paper was discussed by W J McGee, who said that much of the material from the region under consideration was of such a character that in many cases it was hard to determine whether the chipping was really the work of man or, of natural agencies.

Danish Museum of Archeology: GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY.

The present system of museums of northern archeology has been in force since 1880. The center of the system is the unrivaled collection of Danish antiquities in the National Museum at Copenhagen, that alone has enough material from which to write a fairly complete account of northern archeology. Its branches are the ten provincial museums. Seven of these are in Jutland—the largest being at Aarhus—and one each in Fünen, Laaland and Bornholm. Each provincial museum receives annually 1,000 kroner (\$280) from the state. In return for this subsidy the museums may be called upon at any time to relinquish important specimens that are wanted for the national collection at Copenhagen, and the director of the national collection is *ex officio* advisory director of all the pro-

vincial museums. The latter are not allowed to excavate without a permit from the National Museum authorities, and are, of course, reimbursed for such specimens as are given over to the Copenhagen Museum. At the time of Mr. MacCurdy's visit to Denmark, Dr. Sophus Müller, the director of the National Museum, was making his annual tour of the provincial museums.

While the system is, on the whole, satisfactory, it is defective in so far as it tends to discourage competition. There is no incentive to local pride, hence the provincial treasuries are seldom augmented by gifts from private citizens.

The Cahokia and Surrounding Mound Groups: DAVID I. BUSHNELL, JR.

Below the mouth of the Missouri, for a distance of some sixty or seventy miles, the Mississippi is bordered on the east by the rich alluvial plain to which the name American bottom is generally applied. Near the center of this area is the largest earthwork in the United States, the Cahokia Mound, which has four terraces and rises to a height of 100 feet above the original surface. Its greatest dimension is from north to south, 1,080 feet; its width from east to west is 710 feet; area at base about fourteen acres. Cahokia is surrounded by a group of more than seventy lesser mounds. The mounds of this group are of two classes, conical and truncated rectangular pyramidal. One and six tenths miles west of Cahokia is a group of five mounds. Extending in a southwesterly direction is a chain of mounds terminating in a group. Twenty-six mounds formerly existed at a place on the bluff opposite these mounds. They were destroyed some years ago and are now covered by houses which form a part of St. Louis. The slope of the bluff eastward from the Cahokia group appears to have been one extensive burial ground.

The name Cahokia applied to the mound group perpetuates the name of an Illinois tribe. There were formerly two groups of small mounds near the center of the western half of Forest Park in St. Louis, the area now known as the world's fair site. These were explored. The average dimensions of the mounds of the smaller group were, diameter 48 feet, elevation 3 feet. Chert, potsherds and charcoal were found on the original surface. They may have been the remains of earth-covered lodges.

George A. Dorsey, in discussing this paper, said that the abandoned villages of the Mandans, Pawnees and other plains tribes had been noted by him, and that the ruins of the fallen earth lodges did not leave a mound, but rather a depression with an enclosing rim.

The Mounds of the American Bottom of Illinois: Report on a Group Heretofore not mentioned and a New Light thrown upon Their Former Use: DR. H. KINNER.

The great group of mounds of the American bottom were described, and their position shown by means of maps. Special attention was given to the Fish Lake group.

The speaker endeavored to show that the earthworks were not of a ceremonial nature, but were built for and used as places of refuge during the time of floods.

Paper discussed by H. M. Whelpley.

The African Pygmies: S. P. VERNER.

At the request of Mr. Verner, W J McGee presented this paper. He stated that Mr. Verner had spent considerable time among the pygmy tribes of Africa and, at the present time, was on his way to that country to obtain a group of these interesting people for the anthropological exhibit of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. These savages have rarely been taken from their native wilds and the ones to be brought to America will be the first that have ever visited this country.

Instead of having the regular afternoon session in the room of the Central High School, the section voted to accept an invitation of Professor W J McGee to visit the fair grounds and there listen to his paper on 'The Department of Anthropology at the World's Fair.'

Professor McGee's paper was presented in his office in the Washington University building, and was illustrated with maps and later by means of an inspection of the grounds and buildings that are to be devoted to anthropology.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30.

The Future of the Indian: GEORGE A. DORSEY.

This interesting address was discussed by W J McGee, H. M. Whelpley, H. Kinner, A. B. Reagan, Dr. Anita McGee, R. H. Harper and C. E. Slocum.

The Knife in Human Development: W J MCGEE.

The history of the knife was carried back to the time when a water-worn boulder was used instead of a stone with cutting edge. This primitive custom may still be seen among the Seri Indians of Tiburon Island in the Gulf of California and of the mainland. The speaker cited an instance in which a Seri woman was pounding the flesh from the leg of a horse. The implement with which she worked was a rounded stone. In pounding with this hammer it was broken in two, thereby presenting cutting edges that might have been used to advantage. Instead of utilizing this superior form of tool she threw the pieces away and sought another stone with a rounded surface. When the edged tool was first used the natural fractures were no doubt utilized for a long period. Then came artificial chipping with a slow development toward the higher types of cutting implements.

The Torture Incident of the Cheyenne Sun-Dance of 1903: GEORGE A. DORSEY.

This paper was in the form of a concise account of the dance, the torture which caused the trouble and the charges made by the agents.

John H. Seager and Mr. White sent individual reports to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Washington. They charged that Dorsey and Mooney had paid fifteen dollars to an Indian to undergo torture. Seager had previously charged his superior officer with having revived the sun-dance and that it cost six beeves to renew it. This charge was made before the Mohonk conference. It was never investigated. Dorsey demanded that the Indian Department investigate the charges on both sides. He stated that no money was paid for the dance that he saw, and that practically no torture was undergone.

No session was held in the afternoon. The section was invited by the local committee to visit the Cahokia Mound and the surrounding mound groups, and a number of the members took advantage of the opportunity to visit this wonderful earth-work.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31.

The History of an Arickaree War Shield: GEORGE A. DORSEY.

The history of this particular shield was traced from the time that the owner died. The shield was stolen by a member of the tribe. It had been willed to the favorite son of the deceased. The son went to his father's grave and saw a vision. In it a bear appeared, and there were various other phenomena such as the presence of lightning. He found the man who had stolen the shield and regained the inner part of the frame. The cover had been thrown away. He painted the shield, using as decorations the symbols seen while

watching his father's grave. Thus he obtained good medicine.

Presentation of Ceremonial Flint, and Facts Relative to its Discovery: H. M. WHELPLEY.

Discussion by George Grant MacCurdy and R. H. Harper.

Archeology of the Afton Sulphur Springs, Indian Territory: R. H. HARPER.

In this contribution the preliminary work in the Sulphur Springs was described, leading up to the final cleaning out of this interesting ceremonial spring which contained the deposit of stone implements. He mentioned the fact that the oldest Indians of the region were interviewed and all seemed to agree that it was a place of sacrifice. The absence of arrow points within a radius of several miles would tend to show that hunting was not allowed near the spring. Outside of this area a great many stone implements are found.

The Efficiency of Bone and Antler Arrow Points as shown by Fractured Human Bones from Staten Island, New York: GEORGE H. PEPPER.

The Indians of Staten Island were of Algonkin stock and members of the Mohegan tribe. Their village sites and implements have always been in evidence, but no burial places of importance were noted until 1858.

The first exploration work was carried on by Mr. Pepper in 1894, followed by explorations for the American Museum of Natural History of New York City the following year, the latter work being under the direction of Professor Marshall H. Saville. The scene of these operations was a sandy bluff overlooking Raritan Bay in the village of Tottenville.

Many human skeletons were found, the most interesting being three adults, among

the bones of which were twenty-five arrow points. Twelve of these were made of deer antler and four of bone. Many of the bones of the skeletons were shattered and pierced; one rib in particular presents a cleanly cut hole which was made by a long tapering antler point.

At the time of this discovery only one antler arrow point had been recorded from this portion of New York state.

Certain Rare West Coast Baskets: H. NEWELL WARDLE.

This paper was read by title.

Stone Graves and Cremation Cists in the Vicinity of St. Louis: H. KINNER.

A résumé of explorations in the mounds and bottom lands in the vicinity of St. Louis with an endeavor to determine periods by the manner of inhumation.

Some Drawings from the Estufa of Jemez, New Mexico: A. B. REAGAN.

The drawings shown were made by the speaker during a two years' stay with this Pueblo tribe. The paintings from which the drawings were made were cosmic signs which may be noted in many of the estufas in the southwestern pueblos. The element of white contact was shown in the faces depicting the sun and moon.

This paper was discussed by George A. Dorsey, who dwelt upon the fact that it was no easy matter to persuade the conservative Indians of the Rio Grande region to divulge the meaning of their sacred symbols.

A Glossary of the Mohegan-Pequot Language: J. D. PRINCE and FRANK G. SPECK.

Read by title. Will be published in the *American Anthropologist*.

The newly elected officers for the Washington meeting are:

Vice-President—Walter Hough, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Secretary—George H. Pepper, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

GEORGE H. PEPPER,
Secretary.

CHARLES EMERSON BEECHER.

DR. CHARLES EMERSON BEECHER, professor of paleontology and curator of the geological collections in the Peabody Museum of Yale University, died very suddenly at his home in New Haven on the fourteenth of February, of an affection of the heart. Up to within an hour of his demise he had appeared in his usual health.

Dr. Beecher was the son of Moses and Emily (Emerson) Beecher, born at Dunkirk, New York, October 9, 1856. He was prepared for college at the high school of Warren, Pa., took the scientific course at the University of Michigan and was graduated as B.S. in 1878. His tastes had led him to a study of the native invertebrates, living and fossil, and after graduation he became an assistant to Professor James Hall, State Geologist of New York, and incidentally an expert collector and skilled preparator of fossils, in which the State Museum is so rich. Here he remained ten years, during which he perfected himself in the science of invertebrate paleontology, and then through the influence of Professor Marsh was placed in charge of the collection of invertebrate paleontology at Yale. Here he pursued his studies for the doctorate of philosophy, which he received from the university in 1889, his thesis being a memoir on a group of Silurian sponges. At the instance of Professor Marsh he spent the summer of that year collecting fossils in Wyoming. Subsequently he accompanied Dr. G. Baur on a visit to various European museums. He had had the advantage of a course in geology under Dana, and in 1891-2, during the illness of that veteran teacher, he conducted