In Serenje Hills the delegates were given an opportunity to study the cave paintings at Kisese Giraffe Shelter, Kisese Main Shelter, and the Cheke Rock Shelter. These paintings, preserved by penetration of the color through the rock, were superimposed, each period being revealed by its own distinctive style. According to the Abbé Breuil, the splendid line drawings of rhinoceroses giraffes, ostriches, and elephants were apparently related to paintings in European caves of an earlier period. Human figures with large, round heads and with bodies and limbs elongated out of all proportion, although not as artistic, demonstrated excellent movement in hunting scenes. The Abbé Breuil believes that the Tanganyika art is earlier than a large part of the Rhodesian and Southwest and Southeast African paintings and perhaps provides a key to the origin of art in other parts of the continent.

The collaboration of anatomists, paleontologists, and geologists with the prehistorians and the development of harmony and understanding between men in various scientific fields and of different nationalities seemed to be the most important single achievement of the Congress. The majority of delegates were sympathetic toward Darwin's view that Africa was the probable cradle of man. Whether or not this view is correct, within Africa there are still great possibilities for far-reaching contributions to the study of man's beginnings.

Obituary

Wilhelm Caspari
1872–1944

Wilhelm Caspari, for many years head of the Cancer Department of the Institute for Experimental Therapy Frankfurt am Main, Germany, died in 1944 in a ghetto concentration camp at Lodz, Poland. While there, he was conducted to give medical aid daily under guard to a German Army Hospital for infectious diseases and returned nightly to the ghetto. He died shortly before the liberation of Lodz by the Russians. His wife, exiled with him, was taken from the camp in 1942 and since then has not been heard of, in spite of extended searches made by the Joint Refugee Committee. A tragic feature was that Prof. Caspari's oldest son, who had been in this country since 1938, had obtained, in 1941, an American visa and funds for his parents. The visa arrived at the American Consulate in Frankfurt only two days after the Nazi deportation to Poland.

Prof. Caspari was born February 4, 1872, in Berlin, where his family had been established for generations. He studied chemistry and medicine at the Universities of Freiburg and Berlin and obtained his Doctor's degree at Leipzig in 1895. He joined the Department of Physiology, then under the direction of Nathan Zuntz, at the Royal Agricultural College, Berlin, where he remained until 1914. He served as a surgeon at the Western Front and, after the war, was engaged in rehabilitation of the wounded and invalids. In 1920 he succeeded L. Apolant at Frankfurt, remaining there in charge of the Department of Cancer until his dismissal in 1936 by the Nazi administration under the Nuremberg decrees.

As one of the pioneers of vitamin research, Caspari was early engaged in the metabolism of nutrition. He took part in Zuntz's expedition to Monte Rose for the purpose of investigating the influence of mountain climate on metabolism and participated in the classic, scientific reports of this undertaking. Later he became interested in the action of radiation on cell metabolism and growth—in particular, on cancer. With Emil Aschkinass he investigated the effects of X-rays on bacteria and was the first to apply radioactive material to the treatment of cancer. At Frankfurt, he worked on immunity, on resistance against cancer, on the effects of catabolic products of the necrotic part of tumors and of other dead or injured cell material, and on the influence of outside agents such as irradiation. His approach to the cancer problem was that of the physiologist, e.g. his studies on the influence of hormones and of nutrition on tumor growth. His experiments on the action of tumoraffine heavy metal salts on tumors, undertaken with Neuberg and Loehe, were interrupted by World War II.

In addition to the multitude of his published reports on experiments carried out by himself and his many fellow workers, he contributed to handbooks of physiology, cancer research and radiation. For many years he served on the council of the German Cancer Committee. He was an honorary Ph.D. of the University of Frankfurt, a corresponding member of the National Academy of Medicine of Spain, of the British Empire Cancer Campaign, and of the Physico-Medical Academy, Florence, Italy.

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