with broadly conceived problems of human development.

Here is a rich mass of detailed evidence regarding what seem to be "the most Dinaric people in the world" (p. 99)—the Gheg mountaineers. Nearly, 1,100 adult males were measured in 1929–30, representing anthropometric coverage of 10 tribes and about 1 per cent of the mature male population of Ghegnia.

This unusual "laboratory"—a rugged land about the size of Connecticut—includes several strikingly different geological regions within an ancient "refuge area" that was a kind of "genetic capsule" even so recently as this study's "ethnographic present." That was the period 1890–1910, when most of the anthropometric subjects of 1929–30 were being born or were maturing, when Albania was part of the Turkish Empire, and the Ghegs were "still living in the Hallstatt Iron Age." Heredity, as well as the natural and social environments, remained relatively unchanged, and subregional environmental differences significant for physical growth also persisted. Gheg culture in general was characterized by a bare-subsistence, family-centered economy, a marriage system maintaining close genetic lines despite exogamy, a centuries-old excess of emigration, an active tradition of blood feud, high death and birth rates, and a high sex ratio.

The author presents the physical anthropology of his Albanians in terms of problems involving age, function, environment, and heredity, projecting these against their broad cultural setting. Nearly half the work is concerned with the land and the people, technology and occupation, family system, "politics and feuding," ritual life, and history. In addition, the natural and social environments receive continued attention in discussing tribal variations, aging, bite (mechanics of dental occlusion and effects of eating and aging), the significance of mineral soil content as against religious dietary habits in connection with nutrition and growth, and the possible consequences of the Albanian cradling technique upon head deformation (occasional bathyocephaly, asymmetry, and the more common occipital and lambdoid flattening) in a population of "the same basic genetic stock, disseminated widely in the Iron Age, from which most northern and western European peoples came" (p. 100).

Supporting evidence on cradling and deformation comes from a small sample of Tosks in Greater Boston in 1946. This provides a suggestive contrast between the immigrants from Albania who were cradled in infancy and have pronounced head flattening, and the American-born, uncradled, and unflattened offspring. A special cradling technique may therefore have as much or more influence on cranial formation as genetic factors.

For Dr. Coon, "geography, technology, sociology, history, and physical anthropology all play their parts" in the resolution of the problem, "What is a Dinaric, and how does he come to be one?" In brief, his conclusions are: (1) The classic type of Dinaric is, as expected, well exemplified in the Mountain Gheg (although wide variations occur in characters most easily influenced by environment), but this type "has been shown to be partly the product of age and artifice" (middle age bringing "the gaunt face and hawk-like nose," cradling the planoccipital head, hard work and little food the lean body). (2) In a generation or so, any representative group of Mountain Ghegs would probably become indistinguishable from any urbanized northern or western European peoples, or ordinary Americans, provided they came down from their hills to share the same social environment. "Only an expert on race" would then notice their slightly more than average brachycephaly, but this too might "fade away."

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Scientific Book Register

Mexican Birds. First impressions based upon an ornithological expedition to Tamaulipas, Nuevo León, and Coahuila with an appendix briefly describing all Mexican birds. George Miksch Sutton. Norman: Univ. Oklahoma Press, 1951. 282 pp. and 16 plates. $10.00.

The Molds and Man: An Introduction to the Fungi. Clyde M. Christensen. Minneapolis: Univ. Minnesota Press, 1951. 244 pp. $4.00.

Semi-Conducting Materials. Proceedings of a conference held at the University of Reading under the auspices of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics in cooperation with the Royal Society, July, 1950. H. K. Henisch, Ed. New York: Academic Press; London: Butterworths Scientific Pub., 1951. 281 pp. $6.80.

American Social Insects: A Book About Bees, Ants, Wasps, and Termites. Charles D. Michener and Mary H. Michener. New York: Van Nostrand, 1951. 267 pp. $6.00.

Aspects of Form: A Symposium on Form in Nature and Art. Lancelot Law Whyte, Ed. New York: Pellegrini & Cudahy, 1951. 249 pp. $6.00.

Caravan: The Story of the Middle East. Carleton S. Coon. New York: Holt, 1951. 376 pp. $5.00.

Faune de France: Plécoptères, Vol. 55. Raymond Despax. Paris: Paul Lechevalier, 1951. 280 pp. 2,200 fr.

An Introduction to Thermodynamics, the Kinetic Theory of Gases, and Statistical Mechanics. Francis Weston Sears. Cambridge, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1950. 348 pp. $6.00.

Calculus and Analytic Geometry. George B. Thomas, Jr. Cambridge, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1951. 685 pp. $6.00.

Statistical Methodology Reviews 1941–1950. Oscar Krisen Buros, Ed. New York: Wiley; London: Chapman & Hall, 1951. 457 pp. $7.00.

Doubt and Certainty in Science: A Biologist's Reflections on the Brain. The B.B.C. Reith Lectures, 1950. J. Z. Young. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1951. 168 pp. $2.50.

Magnetic Materials. 2nd ed. F. Brailsford. New York: Wiley; London: Methuen, 1951. 156 pp. $1.50.

Lectures on Classical Differential Geometry. Dirk J. Struik. Cambridge, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1950. 221 pp. $6.00.

Treatise on Ores and Assaying (Lazarus Ercker's). Trans. from German ed. of 1580 by Anneliese Grünhaldt Sisco and Cyril Stanley Smith. Chicago: Univ. Chicago Press, 1951. 360 pp. $10.00.

Advances in Enzymology and Related Subjects of Biochemistry, Vol. XII. F. F. Nord, Ed. New York–London: Interscience, 1951. 570 pp. $9.75.

Sex and the Law. Morris Ploscowe. New York: Prentice-Hall, 1951. 310 pp. $3.95.

Space Medicine: The Human Factor in Flights Beyond the Earth. John P. Marbarger, Ed. Urbana: Univ. Illinois Press, 1951. 83 pp. $3.00; $2.00 paper.

The Policy Sciences: Recent Developments in Scope and Method. Prepared and published under the auspices of the Hoover Institute and Library on War, Revolution, and Peace. Daniel Lerner and Harold D. Lasswell, Eds. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Univ. Press, 1951. 344 pp. $7.50.

Association Affairs

Constitution for the Academy Conference

THERE are 38 academies of science affiliated with the AAAS. Most of them engage in statewide activities, but a few—like the Colorado-Wyoming Academy—cross state boundaries; and others—like the New Orleans Academy—limit their sphere of influence to specific metropolitan districts. Some are large—for example, in Illinois and Pennsylvania—others small, like the new but growing Oregon Academy. Some are pursuing energetic programs at high-school, college, and post-graduate levels, and in this class Virginia and Texas have outstanding organizations. Survival has proved difficult for such groups as the Missouri Academy, which has suffered from the competition of the St. Louis Academy in the eastern part of the state, as well as from the thriving Kansas Academy to the west.

As organizations established to advance science, the academies have, within their more restricted geographic confines, objectives akin to those of the AAAS; and for this reason the late Otis W. Caldwell, for many years General Secretary of the Association, created the Academy Conference as a forum for the discussion of the mutual problems. Composed of delegates from each of the affiliated academies, it has met annually with the AAAS, and it has functioned more or less informally with an elected president, who holds office for one year, and a secretary, who has usually been continued in office for several years.

At the 1950 meeting in Cleveland the President of the Conference, Boyd Harshbarger, appointed a committee to draft a Constitution, and at the same meeting a preliminary draft was approved in principle. The final draft, which is presented here, has been approved by the committee (C. L. Baker, Boyd Harshbarger, Morris Meister, Percival Robertson, and Leland H. Taylor, *chairman*) and will be submitted for action at the 1951 meeting in Philadelphia, December 29.

Article 1. PURPOSES. The purposes of the Academy Conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science are (1) to provide an organization for the promotion through mutual cooperation of the common aims and purposes of the several state and municipal academies and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and (2), specifically, to provide appropriate means for consultation on and investigation of the problems of academies with a view to aiding all in their common purposes and their accomplishments.

Article 2. MEETING. The meeting of the Academy Conference shall be held annually and shall be open to members as described herein and to interested guests.

Article 3. MEMBERSHIP. Membership shall be composed of two representatives from each affiliated academy. One of these shall be the officially designated delegate to the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; the other shall be an officer of the affiliated academy. In the event either or both of the above shall be unable to attend a meeting of the Academy Conference, the officers of the academy concerned may appoint duly accredited alternates.

Article 4. OFFICERS. The officers of the Academy Conference shall be (1) a president-elect, who shall serve for one year, following which he shall become president; (2) a president, who shall have served one year as president-elect, and whose term of office shall be one year; (3) a retiring president, whose term of office shall be one year following his retirement as president; and (4) a secretary, who may be continued in office by re-election not more than three years. The president-elect and the secretary shall be elected by vote of a majority at the annual meeting.

Article 5. COMMITTEES.

Section 1. Committee membership shall, as far as possible, be representative of the wide geographical distribution of the affiliated academies.

Section 2. There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the officers of the Academy Conference.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President at a reasonable time before the annual meeting.

Section 4. A Committee to sponsor the Junior Scientists Assembly shall be appointed by the President.

Section 5. Special Committees shall be appointed by the President as the occasion may demand.

Article 6. AMENDMENT.

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by majority vote of the Executive Committee or by majority vote of the members present at an annual meeting.

Section 2. The Constitution may be amended when the following requirements shall have been met: (1) the proposed amendment has been submitted to an annual meeting one year prior to the date on which action may be taken; and (2) the proposed amendment has been approved by a two-thirds vote of members voting at the time action is taken.