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American Association of Physical Anthropologists

New Affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

THIS young society was founded in April, 1930, by a committee of seven (Cole, Danforth, Dorsey, Gregory, Hooton, Hrdlička, and Terry) appointed at the Christmas, 1928, meeting of Section H of the AAAS. This committee established the aims of the Association: to further world-wide cooperation with all branches of anthropology and with the biological and medical sciences, and to further research, teaching, standardization of techniques and instruments, museum exhibits, and popular knowledge of physical anthropology. We had a hybrid origin, with sciences ranging from psychology and social anthropology to anatomy and medicine represented among our founders. This mixture influences the pattern for our meetings and generates continuing enthusiasm. Another stimulus has been the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, originally founded by Ales Hrdlička and since 1930 the organ of the Association. This is a Wistar Institute publication, and we have always benefited from the ready advice and support of the Institute, now headed by E. J. Farris. Since World War II, the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, guided by Paul Fejos, has greatly helped us further our aims by supporting meetings, awarding grants, aiding such publications as our *Studies* series, publishing the *Yearbook of Physical Anthropology*, and offering the Viking Fund Medal and Award in physical anthropology. The Association is cooperating both in the current expansion of the *American Anthropologist* and in the editorial shift of *Human Biology*, now edited by Gabriel Lasker. Although the Association is small, it has expanded, chiefly since the War, from 84 members to almost 350. Despite this relatively rapid growth, our character as a group has remained sufficiently intimate for completely free criticism and discussion.

Annual meetings are usually held in the spring, and often include a symposium of particular interest to

the local sponsors. The next (23rd) meeting will be held March 26-28, 1954, at the Fels Research Institute for the Study of Human Development, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Since the War, the Wenner-Gren Foundation has sponsored a Summer Seminar in Physical Anthropology, first organized through the leadership of a former president, S. L. Washburn. The 1953 Seminar, arranged by W. M. Krogman and held in Boston at the Forsyth Dental Infirmary, discussed the role of physical anthropology in medical and dental research. Six earlier Seminars (see *SCIENCE*, 115: 230-231, February, 1952), have stressed the ways in which such fields as genetics, primatology, fossil man, race, growth, constitution, ecology, social biology, and applied physical anthropology, plus the technical fields of measurement and statistics, all tie together in the study of the evolution of man.

Association officers for the year 1953 are: president, William L. Straus, Jr., Professor of Physical Anthropology at Johns Hopkins University and 1952 winner of the Viking Fund Medal and Award; vice-president, Mildred Trotter, Professor of Anatomy at Washington University, St. Louis; secretary-treasurer, J. Lawrence Angel, Associate Professor of Anatomy and Physical Anthropology at Jefferson Medical College. The Executive Committee comprises Charles E. Snow, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Kentucky; Charles W. Goff, orthopedic surgeon in Hartford, Conn.; and T. Dale Stewart, Curator of Physical Anthropology at the U. S. National Museum. Representatives to the Council of the AAAS are W. Montague Cobb, Professor of Anatomy at Howard University, and William W. Howells, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin and editor of our *Journal*.

J. LAWRENCE ANGEL

*Secretary-Treasurer, American Association of
Physical Anthropologists*

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