

and proceeded up the Delaware Valley to the Water Gap, thence to Stroudsburg, crossed to the Lehigh River, and thence traveled south to Bethlehem. The trip included visits to exposures of most of the formations from the Pre-Cambrian through the Upper Devonian beside Pleistocene deposits and various economic features such as cement, slate and metallic paint ore. The excursion was successively led by Professor Freeman Ward, of Lafayette, Dr. Bradford Willard, of the State Survey, Professor Frank Swartz, of Pennsylvania State College, and Dr. B. L. Miller, of Lehigh University. At Bethlehem dinner was served at the Hotel Bethlehem and was followed by a welcome from President C. R. Richards, of Lehigh, after which Professor H. Ries, of Cornell, spoke briefly.

On the thirtieth the conference ended in the members and guests selecting one of three trips. The first under Dr. B. L. Miller, of Lehigh, was largely devoted to metallic economic geology in that visits were made to abandoned iron pits and the old zinc mines of the Saucon Valley south of Bethlehem. The second trip, conducted by Professor Freeman Ward, of Lafayette, was devoted to a study of the glacial deposits, chiefly with a view of observing the differences between and the interrelations of the Illinoian and Wisconsin drifts. Those who selected the third trip were led by Dr. Lawrence Whitecomb, of Lehigh, to Spitzenberg, a conical hill near Lenhartsville, some thirty miles west of Bethlehem. The purpose of this visit was to inspect the peculiar limestone conglomerate which rests upon the Ordovician shale near the crest of the hill.

It is planned to hold the annual meeting of the conference for 1933 at Harrisburg as guests of the Pennsylvania Topographic and Geologic Survey. This is scheduled tentatively for the last week-end in May and will cover the Silurian-Devonian-Mississippian sections of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys, the Triassic and pre-Silurian Paleozoics between Harrisburg and York, including a visit to the Cornwall Iron Mines, and the river terraces, the peneplanes, and other physiographic features of the neighborhood.

BRADFORD WILLARD,
Secretary-Treasurer

THE NEANDERTAL RACE IN PALESTINE

THE discovery during the first two weeks in May of seven skeletons of the Neandertal race is destined to throw a flood of light on that particular species of fossil man. The specimens hitherto found in Europe have been so few and fragmentary that there was little evidence to suggest that the race or species might include a number of varieties. The first intimation of marked variation came with the discovery of the skull at Broken Hill, Rhodesia, some ten years ago. In 1925 Turville-Petre found a portion of the cranial cap of a Neandertal skull in the Cave of the Robbers near the Sea of Galilee. But the fragment being small (frontal and one cheek bone) gave no indication of variation from the European type.

The seven individuals just found in the Cave of the Kids near Haifa by Theodore D. McCown, field representative of the American School of Prehistoric Research and in charge of the joint excavations of the American and British Schools, will, on account of their relative completeness, throw new light not only on the species as a whole, but also point to a Palestinian variety of the Neandertal species. A tracing just received of one of the best preserved adult skulls shows that the latter agrees with the European type in the marks of a powerful musculature, massive brow ridges, taurodont dentition and prognathism. But the prognathism is confined largely to the upper jaw and the dentition. The chin can scarcely be called receding and the frontal and parietal portions of the skull are more highly developed than in the known European examples.

It is especially fortunate that these seven skeletons, as well as that of a Neandertal child found (also by McCown) in the same cave one year ago, were all *in situ* and associated with industrial remains of the Mousterian Epoch. McCown states that one of the adult skeletons was found clasping to his breast a huge jaw of the wild boar.

The skeletons were lying near the bedrock and in a stony matrix. McCown is bending every effort to remove them safely from the deposit and ship them to London in time for exhibition at the International Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences which meets from August 1 to 6.

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE preliminary program of the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to be held at Syracuse, New York, from June 20 to 25, was published in the issue of SCIENCE for May 27. Some seventeen associated scientific societies will meet with the association. The first general session, fol-

lowed by a reception, will be held on the evening of Monday, June 20, under the presidency of Dr. John J. Abel, professor of pharmacology, emeritus, at the Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Edward L. Thorndike, professor of educational psychology at Teachers College, Columbia University, will make the address.