

Meetings

American Association of Physical Anthropologists

The 34th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, held on the campus of Pennsylvania State University, 27-29 May 1965, was one of the largest and most successful in the association's history.

Highlights of the program included a supper conference, sponsored by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, and the annual dinner. At the supper conference, a symposium on the International Biological Program was held with Paul Baker as chairman. Speakers included Paul Baker, Douglas Lee, William Laughlin and three invited foreign participants—Geoffrey Harrison (Great Britain), Shiro Kondo (Japan), and Francisco Salzano (Brazil). At the annual dinner, Clarence S. Carpenter presented the first Morris Steggerda lecture on "Naturalistic behavior of non-human primates."

Forty-eight papers were grouped into six sessions. The first session, "Variability in modern man," included papers by Eugene Giles and Albert Damon. Giles presented evidence of what seems to be one of the few demonstrated instances of genetic drift in human populations, particularly the founder principle. This drift has occurred in the highland area of northeastern New Guinea. Damon discussed the secular increase in stature which he found in Italian-Americans. The increase, 2.1 inches, is the largest yet reported for an equal period of time, and was felt to be primarily the result of environment. The possibility of heterosis was also suggested.

The session on "Variability in ancient man" included discussions of skeletal remains from southern Asia, Polynesia, and North Africa, and theoretical papers on human evolution.

During a session on "Evolution of

the face and its components," conflicting views on the significance of dental reduction in evolution were presented by Bailit and Friedlaender, on the one hand, and Brace on the other. The relationship of facial morphology to selective pressures, particularly climatological, was discussed by M. H. Wolpoff and A. T. Steegman.

Growth, body composition, and skeletal development were the main topics of one session. Methods of assessing skeletal maturation were examined by Roy Acheson and E. I. Fry and S. N. Nygren. Acheson found that within-observer variance was less when the Tanner-Whitehouse system was used, but the older "skeletal age" method yielded less between-observer variance. The former may be a better method for serial following and the latter for cross-sectional surveys. Fry and Nygren found that the two methods were not interchangeable since there was disagreement between them; however, it was premature to say that one was "right" and one "wrong."

The session "Perspectives from primatology" included papers on primate dentition, anatomy, biochemistry, and behavior. The final session, "Methodology," included various papers on techniques. G. W. Walker and R. Burnett displayed a mathematical model for analyzing skulls; C. M. Otten discussed the preservation and detection of salivary isoagglutinins; and J. E. Anderson investigated the newer ways of studying skeletal populations by using nonmetric morphological traits.

The variety of papers emphasized the orientation of physical anthropology around the subject "human biology." Proceedings and abstracts will be published in the September issue of the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*.

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Forthcoming Events

October

1-3. French-Language Assoc. of **Scientific Psychology**, 10th study sessions, Marseilles, France. (P. Fraisse, The Association, Inst. de Psychologie, 28, rue Serpente, Paris 6°)

1-11. International **Scientific Film Assoc.**, 19th annual congr., Bucharest, Rumania. (ISFA, 38, avenue des Termes, Paris 17°, France)

2. Association of **Clinical Biochemists**, annual, London, England. (D. W. Moss, Postgraduate Medical School, Ducane Rd., London, W.12)

3-5. **Refractory Metals**, 4th symp., French Lick, Ind. (J. Maltz, Materials Research Div., NASA, 600 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20546)

3-7. American **Phytopathological Soc.**, Miami Beach, Fla. (J. R. Shay, Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue Univ., Lafayette, Ind.)

3-8. **Clinical Pathology**, 6th intern. congr., Rome, Italy. (B. L. Della Vida, Via de'Penitenzieri 13, Rome)

3-9. **Water Desalination**, 1st intern. symp., Washington, D.C. (Atomic Industrial Forum, 850 Third Ave., New York 10022)

4-5. **Enzyme Regulation**, 4th intern. symp., Indiana Univ., Indianapolis. (G. Weber, Indiana Univ. School of Medicine, Indianapolis 46207)

4-5. **Physical Metallurgy of Refractory Metals**, conf., American Inst. of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers, French Lick, Ind. (AIME, 345 E. 47 St., New York 10017)

4-6. **Electronics**, Canadian conf., Toronto, Ont. (W. M. Lower, 1819 Yonge St., Toronto)

4-6. **Industrial Organic Analysis**, Analytical Chemistry Div., Chemical Inst. of Canada, Sarnia, Ont. (R. M. Small, Research Dept., Polymer Corp, Sarnia)

4-6. International **Scientific Radio Union/Inst. of Electrical and Electronics Engineers**, fall meeting, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. (IEEE, Box A, Lenox Hill Station, New York, N.Y.)

4-7. **Instrument-Automation Conf.**, Los Angeles, Calif. (E. M. Grabbe, Instrument Soc. of America, 530 William Penn Pl., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219)

4-7. **Otorhinolaryngology**, 62nd French congr., Paris, France. (H. Guillon, 6, avenue Mac-Mahon, Paris 16°)

4-7. **Research Equipment**, exhibit and instrument symp., 15th annual, Bethesda, Md. (J. B. Davis, Natl. Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. 20014)

4-7. International Committee for **Social Sciences Documentation**, annual plenary assembly, Budapest, Hungary. (J. Meyriat, 27, rue St. Guillaume, Paris 7)

4-8. **Aeronautic and Space Engineering**, Soc. of Automotive Engineers, Los Angeles, Calif. (C. C. King, SAE Western Branch, 999 North Sepulveda Blvd., El Segundo, Calif. 90245)

4-8. Ciba Foundation **Clinical Research** Guest Conf., London, England. (Ciba, 41 Portland Pl., London W.1)

4-10. **Physicists**, conf., Frankfurt am Main, Germany. (G. Schubert, Inst. für