

and a ceremonial supper. In their free time the majority of participants visited also some other anthropological working places in Budapest. It is a pity that a bad state of the finds of Rudabánya and Vérteszöllös did not permit the guests to see still the originals; thus there were only photographs standing at disposal in the former, and a cast in the latter case. All participants at the conference appreciated particularly the fact that they had here the possibility to meet within a close circle of the persons interested in a certain section of anthropology; thus the possibility was given actually to discuss the relevant questions both in an official discussion and in debates held during free time, a possibility which no great international congress can ever supply.

M. Stloukal

#### THE IX NATION-WIDE CONFERENCE OF CZECHOSLOVAK ANTHROPOLOGISTS

In the days of September 29th–30th 1967 a regular conference of Czechoslovak anthropologists was held in Luhačovice, Moravia, this time without the participation of investigators from abroad. The theme of the conference was "The Recent Research of Czechoslovak Anthropologists", which enabled to include reports from all branches of anthropology. The whole session was not divided into sections, the reports being only comprised into certain thematical units. The first part of the session was reserved to reports of palaeoanthropology, prehistoric anthropology, osteology, and primatology. The opening addresses were followed by the first report of E. Grepš (Nový Jičín), he reported new investigations carried out in the Šipka Cave near Štramberk where, in addition to other finds, a tooth was discovered which the reporter designated to be a human premolar. However, as soon as they had examined it, the majority of participants expressed their doubts of whether this were a human tooth at all. A. Pokorný (Třebíč) analysed some artificial creations of the Palaeolithic man (both drawings and plastiques) and compared them to the drawings created by men after taking some narcotics in the course of experiments. M. Blajerová (Praha) studied skeletons of children coming from the ancient and mediaeval burying places and compared the age of bones with that of teeth. M. Stloukal (Praha) studied most recently the results of an analysis of cremation graves coming from the Lusatian and Platěnice burying places at Moravičany, and during the conference reported mainly of what information we can obtain from the analysis of cremation graves, and of what the reliability of such finds is like. J. Fleischmann together with R. Linc (Praha) studied skulls with preserved metopic suture, out of the many interesting conclusions they have drawn consequently, we allow at last, to mention the fact that metopism is conditioned genetically, and that in skulls possessing an opened frontal suture even the obliteration of other cranial sutures is delayed as a rule. M. Černý (Olomouc) reported the results of the study of a big series of thigh bones from several Institutes of Anatomy, where he preferentially traced the possibilities of a distinguishment of male and female femurs. L. Vyhnanek and Z. Malý (Praha) had the possibility of studying a great number of X-ray photographs of upper extremities and the cervical vertebrae in young men, and so also the possibility of following the occurrence of variations and anomalies of the skeleton. M. Dokládál (Brno) talked of his own experience with the use of features of facies symphyseos ossis pubis for the determination of age (using J. Nemeskéri's scheme), and then in a report shared with V. Novotný (Brno) they both talked of the morphology of the symphyseal interface in Macacs. Subsequently V. Novotný and L. Páček (Brno) dealt with the study of sacrum in immature Macacs. Into this thematic field fell also the reports of E. Strouhal (Praha) about the problem of negroid features in the population of ancient Egypt, and particularly the report of A. Lorenová (Brno) about the research of old Slavonic skeletons coming from the cemetery of Znojmo (Moravia).

Two further reports were comprised under the entry of anatomic anthropology and that of the soft parts. The first by I. Dylevský (Praha) was devoted to the development

of some known varieties of the muscles flexor digitorum profundus and superficialis, while the other report by V. Baľcar, V. Papež and V. Fabiánová (Praha) was devoted to the roentgenological observation of the evolution and involution of mammary gland.

Dermatoglyphics was represented only with two reports read at the conference. In the first M. Karasová, M. Hanelová, and V. Vršanský (Bratislava) spoke about the occurrence of dermatoglyphic minutes in a normal population and it twins and about the significance of their utilization in judging upon the paternity; in the other statement, L. Črhák (Olomouc) dealt with the problems of the weight of the respective dermatoglyphic signs in diagnostic activities. The entry of cultural anthropology included first of all an extended report by A. Macek (Mikulov) concerned with anthropological publications in the libraries of Moravian castles and then the report by R. Raczynský (Praha) about the meaning of certain anthropological aspects in foreign policy. The other day of the session saw the greatest number of reports included under the entry of physiologic, ethnic, and recent populations anthropology. In their introducing report, V. Hladká and J. Fišerová (Praha) spoke of a longitudinal observation of the growth of chest and the development of the vital capacity of lungs. Fawzia Helmy Hussien (Bratislava) observed the period of menarche in Nubian women, M. Horáčeková (Praha) paid her attention to the particularities in the course of puberty in persons suffering from certain endocrine and metabolic defects. J. Pařízková (Praha) reported the results of her studies of the relationship between the total movement activity of boys from 11 to 15 years old and their structure and composition of the body. J. A. Valšík (Bratislava) referred to anthropological meaning and peculiarities of the intraoral pigmentation. V. Fetter (Praha) spoke about anthropological studies of the mature population of Czechoslovakia and stressed especially the importance of perimetric measures; they can be determined easily and without any special instrumental outfitting, and they also provide us with valuable information. He equally mentioned the increase of the average weight in men especially as compared to measurements taken in preceding years, and said also that this fact should be respected even in practice, e.g. when determining the capacity of lifts and vehicles. J. Suchý (Praha) reported about the studies of youth of gypsy origin, and subsequently, his statement was completed by J. Beneš (Brno) who reported the results of a study of gypsy men among soldiers. A common report of V. Ferák, Z. Linhartová and V. Bojnová (Bratislava) was concerned with the influence of endogamy of parents upon the body height of children, while another common report by J. Fišerová, M. Hajnišová, Z. Kubíčková, M. Dvořáková and J. Boháčová (Praha) dealt with somatometric examination in the establishment of the zygosity of twins. In her other independent report, M. Hajnišová (Praha) subsequently spoke of the growth of facial parts in youth between 6 and 18 years of age, as well as of the significance of such studies for the needs of plastic surgeons. Aly Elnofely (Bratislava) reported about the studies of weight and height in school-age children of Nubia. V. V. Novotný (Praha) gave some interesting cases of relation between the growth and functional maturity of adolescent youth. J. Machová (Praha) gave two reports; in the first she spoke of an anthropological study of children in specific conditions of an isolate in the valley of the upper Bečva, the other contained the results of a study of head dimensions and pigmentation in the Norwegian youth of school-age. E. Fabryová (Bratislava) reported the acceleration of eruption of teeth in girls of the district Horehronie, and M. Nováková (Praha) informed the participants about the verification of the correctness of kyrtometric method in the respiration laboratory in Belgium. Among the participants in the conference at Luhačovice there were also two foreign anthropologists present that had just dwelled in Czechoslovakia; both of them gave their reports: L. Schott (Berlin) was concerned with the problem of what is to be considered as the optimum weight in man while N. Wolanski (Warsaw) spoke about the effects of inbreeding and heterosis in man.

The Olomouc branch committee of Czechoslovak Anthropological Society which organized the conference, put into the programme besides the previous still a few social meeting,

an excursion into an ethnographically typical region in the White Carpathians, as well as a meeting of the General Assembly of the Society. Among other facts, here was also declared that the next conference should be held in the autumn of 1969 under the auspices of the Prague Branch Committee. On the one hand, it will be the tenth jubilee conference, on the other hand it will take place in the year when we are commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Aleš Hrdlička. The conference will take place in Humpolec, Hrdlička's native town, and the committee reckons with an ample participation of guests from abroad.

M. Stloukal

## THE SECOND PART OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK-ARABIAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL EXPEDITION TO NEW NUBIA, IN 1967

The first part of the United Czechoslovak-Arabian Anthropological Expedition to New Nubia, which took place in the autumn of 1965, was followed by the second and conclusive part in February and March 1967. The leader of the anthropological research team was Prof. J. A. Valšík, D.M., D.N. Sc.D., Director of the Department of Anthropology and Genetics at the Comenius University in Bratislava. For the Czechoslovak part, Dr. M. Drobná, Sc.C. and Dr. V. Ferák, Sc.C., as Assistants in the Department of Anthropology, and Dr. V. Ferák as well as the expert of the Czechoslovak Egyptological Institute at Charles University, Prague, Dr. E. Strouhal. The Arabian part was represented by Dr. Fawzia Helmi Hussein and Dr. Fawzi Gaballa from the National Research Centre of the U.A.R. as well as by Dr. Redda Khorsed from the Institute of Anatomy, Medical Faculty of the Ain Shams University, Cairo. Dr. Fuad Badr was the administrative leader of the expedition, and, at the same time, the leader of hematological research

carried on in cooperation with H. Smith, M.D., Springfield College, U.S.A.

The second part of research activities was given over to the study of the Nubian Arabs and the inhabitants of the southern part of the country who are called Fedichia or, also, the Nubians of the Central Nubian Dialect. Once more adult men and women were examined, together with children, aged between 6–12 years. Altogether 1368 individuals were examined thus making the total number of Nubians examined to rise nearly to 2900 persons, i.e. 5.8% of the total Nubian population of Egypt. Material was collected which will provide the answer to a number of questions connected with the present physical state and geographic differentiation of the Nubians, as well as with the history of their race. For the first time in history, the examination of children will supply us with firm norms of growth and development of the Nubian children. In addition to this, it was possible to provide some information on the Ababds, who are the original inhabitants of the Eastern Desert, so different in culture and nature from the actual Nubians.

Presently merely an examination of the Sudanese part of the country is missing, to complete the anthropological structure of Nubia. Therefore the Czechoslovak members of the expedition having finished their research work visited Khartoum, a place where discussions were started with the responsible institutions, to enable the studies of the Sudan Nubians, partly in their original regions of settlement, partly in the new region near Chasm el Ghirb, in the East Sudan, where a part of their inhabitants were moved in connection with raising the water level of the new Assuan Dam.

Successful Czechoslovak-Arab cooperation has been ensured by bilateral treaty even for future times. The plan suggests, e.g., the study of puberty in the Nubians, anthropological examination of the inhabitants of the Nil valley, of Upper Egypt as well as an investigation of the nomadic tribes of the Eastern Desert.

Eugen Strouhal