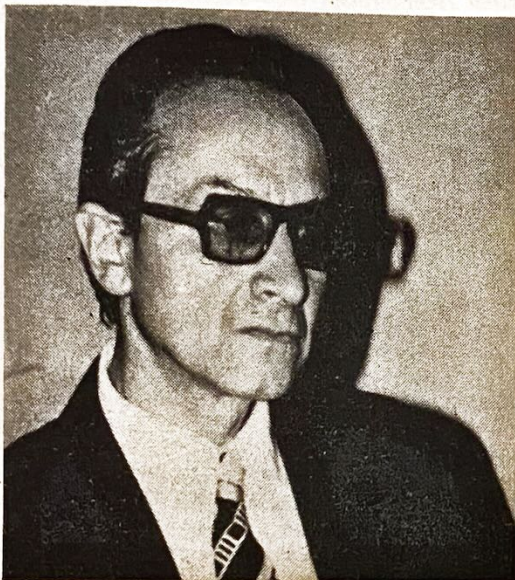




*THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE 60th BIRTHDAY OF
Prof. RNDr. VLADIMIR NOVOTNY, CSc.*

The Anthropological Branch Committee of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences chaired by Professor MUDr. at RNDr. Ferdinand Škaloud held a meeting at the Department of Natural Sciences of the Charles University in Prague in late May 1981. The agenda of the meeting consisted of a single point: marking the 60th anniversary of the birthday of Prof. RNDr. Vladimír Novotný, CSc., in a circle of anthropologists and close friends by reading a number of selected papers and of a subsequent discussion.



Prof. RNDr. Vladimír Novotný was born on June 2, 1921 in the village of Netřebice near Český Krumlov. His parents moved to Prague soon after his birth. During World War II he completed his secondary school studies and he finished a post-graduate course at the Prague Commercial College. After the liberation of Czechoslovakia he studied anthropology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Charles University in Prague; he graduated in 1950 as the last student of late Professor MUDr. Jiří Malý.

The interest of Dr. Novotný concentrated on the problems of functional anthropology. His dissertation "Fatigue in Biotypology, Namely in Sports Biotypology" deals with the relations of the reaction of some of the physiological indices on physical load with regards to the somatotype of man. Since 1950 he worked as assistant lecturer with Professor Vladislav Krůta at the Medical Faculty of the Charles University in Prague. Later he worked with Professor Jiří Král. In the year 1960 he became doctoral candidate of the biological sciences, after presenting his thesis on "Somatometric Examination of Top Sportsmen With Special Regards to the Ventilation of the lungs".

In 1964 he presented a habilitation thesis on "A Look at the Body Development and Efficiency of the Contemporary Non-sporting and Sporting University Students". In 1970 he was appointed to head the Department of Sports Medicine of the Faculty of General Medicine in Prague and

since 1974 he works as Deputy Head of the same department.

Prof. Novotný is the author of a number of textbooks, films on sports medicine and teaching aids. He introduced into sports medicine examination through the method of chronologically specified expiration. He made also some original discoveries regarding maximum heart frequency after huge sporting loads.

His work in the field of the somatometry of sportsmen has resulted in a number of new aspects in connection with the output and body structure of the sportsmen. His studies dealing with university students revealed the marked difference between sporting and non-sporting young people. For a period of five years Prof. Novotný took active part in an international biological research programme. Later he concentrated on questions concerning body composition and body development in elderly people. Prof. Novotný has been very active also in the field of clinical anthropology.

At present he studies changes connected with the development of biological age due to extreme physical load of young sportsmen.

The scientific publications of Prof. Novotný amount to 200. Gradually he was editor of the proceedings of four international congresses and he acted as chairman and organizer of several international conferences.

Prof. Novotný is also member of a number of Czechoslovak and foreign scientific societies. Most of his time is dedicated to work for the Czechoslovak Anthropological Society of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences of which he is acting Scientific Secretary. He is also member of the Presidium of the Health Council of the Czech Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Society of Physical Education. He is bearer of the Medal of Aleš Hrdlička, of the Plaquette of J. E. Purkyně, awarded for his pedagogical and scientific activities by the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. He has received a number of other medals and awards, e.g. "For Merits in Building the Socialist Physical Culture" and "The Decoration for Work to the Benefit of the Czechoslovak Physical Education". He has been awarded also the Keys of Honour of Humpolec, the home town of A. Hrdlička.

His colleagues and friends wish him further scientific success, good health and satisfaction in his work and also in his private life.

M. Prokopec

*ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH REALIZED
BY THE CZECHOSLOVAK EXPEDITION
TO EGYPT IN 1981*

During the 13th expedition of the Czechoslovak Egyptological Institute of the Charles University in Prague, unearthing further objects in the so-called "southern field" in Abusir near Cairo I processed the anthropological materials collected from the same site during the 1976, 1978 and 1980/1981 digging seasons.

They include in the first place the human skeletal remains for which these burial objects were built in the period of the Fifth Dynasty. They have been preserved only in the mastaba (tomb) of Princess Chekeretnebti, the daughter of the last but one king of the 5th Dynasty Djekaré Isési (about the year 2450 B. C.). Beside the proprietor of the mastaba, a 30-35 years old woman of extremely gracile stature, a tomb attached to the mastaba served as

the burial place for Tisethor a 16 years old girl. Her skeletal remains had been smashed and scattered in the tomb and it was necessary to reconstruct them. Our study was focused on comparing the skeletal remains of the two individuals, namely their metric, descriptive and epigenetic characters, and the blood group to which they belong will be added later. The purpose of the study is to prove or to dismiss possible relationship between these two historical personalities.

Around the mastaba of Princess Chekeretnebt and around the adjoining mastabas, namely in the overlying strata containing material from the destroyed endowment temple of Queen Chentkawes, a large number of secondary burials from the post-Fifth Dynasty period have been unearthed. The deads were buried in most cases in simple anthropomorphic wooden coffins, their heads oriented mostly to the west and containing only amulets and modest personal belongings, especially ornaments. They were not mummified, some of them were wrapped in bandages and have been preserved in skeletized state. They belonged without any doubt to the popular layers from the nearby farming village. Most of these burials have been dated according to the coffins to the Late Period (26th — 30th Dynasties) and to the begining of the Greek Rule. They contain the remains of 64 individuals, namely of 30 adult males, 22 females and 12 children. Further 6 individuals (3 males and 3 females) come from burials dated to the end of the New Empire (12th and early 11th century B. C.) and 2 individuals (both males) were buried in the Roman Period (30 B. C.—395 A. D.). Besides recording the usual anthropometric, descriptive and epigenetic characteristics special attention was paid to the detection of pathological changes. Among a series of diagnoses we found further cases of osteolythic foci inside the cranial vault. They lack uniform ethiology; in one case, however it is undoubtedly the result of malignant tumours, either of carcinomatous metastase, or of myeloma multiplex.

Eugen Strouhal

DAS XI. INTERNATIONALE SYMPOSIUM UBER DAS SPÄTNEOLITHIKUM UND DIE BRONZEZEIT IN XANTHI

Die Linie von internationalen, der Neolithikum- und Bronzezeitproblematik gewidmeten Symposien ist in der Tschechoslowakei vor 11 Jahren eingeleitet worden. Insgesamt handelte es sich eher um Kammerbegegnungen eng spezialisierter Fachleute, auf denen sich schon mehrere Länder Mittel- und Südeuropas abgelöst haben. Auf den 5. bis 9. Oktober ist diese Sitzung nach Xanthi, einer

kleinen Stadt in Nordostgriechenland einberufen worden. Der Symposiumsorganisator N. I. Xirotiris ist Anthropologe und hat deshalb eine Erweiterung des ursprünglich engen Kreises der Eingeladenen um weitere Fachleute aus den Reihen von Archäologen und anderen Disziplinen, verständlicherweise auch Anthropologen durchgesetzt. Die Teilnehmerzahl ist so auf 64 angewachsen und die ganze Sitzung hat einen anderen Charakter angenommen, den Charakter einer wissenschaftlichen Konferenz größeren Ausmaßes.

Auf dem Symposium wurden mehr als 50 Beiträge überwiegend archäologischer Einstellung vorgetragen, von den übrigen sind wenigstens folgende zu erwähnen:

J. Nandris, Highland ethnoarcheology and social identity in prehistoric South-East Europe,

M. Stloukal, Begräbnisstätte der Nitra-Gruppe in Holešov,

L. Szathmary, Bronze Age Population in the Carpathian Basin,

C. Becker, Die Tierknochenfunde aus Kastanas — erste Ergebnisse einer archäozoologischen Auswertung,

H. Kroll, Probleme bronzzeitlichen Ackerbaus, dargestellt anhand pflanzlicher Funde aus Kastanas, Makedonien,

A. Marcsik, Porotic hyperostosis from the late Neolithic and Bronze Age in Hungary.

G. Farkas, N. Xirotiris, Vergleichend-statistische Untersuchungen zur Anthropologie Ungarn-Griechenlands in Neolithikum und Bronzezeit.

Trotz einer großen Zahl von vorgetragenen Berichten und trotz der großen Ausmaße des Verhandlungssaales hat diese wissenschaftliche Begegnung etwas von den ursprünglichen Tischgesprächen bewahrt: die relative Länge der einzelnen Beiträge, das Diskussionsreichtum und die intime Atmosphäre, welche sich u. a. auch in der überraschenden Präsenzdisziplin manifestierte. Es wurde tagtäglich von 9 Uhr mit einer kleinen Mittagspause bis 19—20 Uhr abends bei kompletter Präsenz aller Teilnehmer getagt, obzwar sich direkt vor den Sitzungssaalfenstern ein im herbstlichen Schönwetter zum Erfrischen lockendes Schwimmbassin befand. Zum Symposiumabschluss wurde eine Exkursion veranstaltet, bei der wir vor allem das archäologische Areal in Filippi samt Ortsmuseum, dann das archäologische Untersuchungsgebiet in Dikili Tash und das archäologische Museum in Kavalla besuchten. Anfangs wurde schon N. Xirotiris erwähnt, auf dessen Schultern die gesamte Organisationslast dieses Symposiums ruhte; es muß noch ergänzt werden, daß finanziel die Sitzung vom anthropologischen Museum in Xanthi und der Demokritos-Stiftung gewährleistet worden ist. Unterstützung hat die Konferenz auch vom Ortspräfekten erhalten, welcher für die Teilnehmer einen wirklich Glänzenden Empfang gab.

Milan Stloukal