

In the following days the interest of the participants concentrated on the main topic of the meeting — *on anthropology and the socio-professional environment*. Most papers were concerned with checking the influence of social environment defined in various ways (e.g. according to the income, education, type of employment, number of brothers and sisters, order of birth within the family, etc.) on various somatic biometrical characters, on somatic functions and efficiency, on the psychics (IQ) or how the tested people were doing at school. The research was realized in various sample groups in a number of west European, African and Mexican towns and villages. In a number of somatic characters there were well perceptible differences according to the socio-professional adherence, on the other hand in contemporary European children these differences appear to be less significant or negligible. Functional differences following from the different way of life, however, continue in the group of European children too. African children from Kinshasa (Zaire), attending an expensive public school show the same growth as the European children of the same school, while Kinshasa children living in poor conditions show retardation in development, however, they have healthier teeth than the children in the above-mentioned two groups. As to somatic efficiency there were small differences among the above groups. When higher output was related to the volume or weight of the body, these differences disappeared altogether. Strikingly new were the ideas of the paper documenting the influence of socio-professional factors on the rate of old-age involution.

The paper on the contemporary rate of secularization trend in the children in Bruxelles (1960–1980) was only loosely connected with the main topic. These children show an average increase of body height by 1 cm per 10 years a continuous trend towards debrachycephalization. One of the participants of the meeting spoke about a very interesting way of checking the accuracy of indirect methods of determining the body compositions through a direct anatomic process. This method enabled also to compare the weight of separated skin, fat tissue, mass of muscles and bones and to compare them with similar data obtained in the last century.

The first adjacent topic of the meeting — *the palaeontology and fossil hominids* was weakly represented. The skull of a 5–6 years old Engis 2 child was analysed within the categories of primitive, Neanderthaloid and juvenile characters. Methodically rather interesting was the confrontation of the morphological sex characters with the sex determination according to the mineral content of the same bone, as well as the discriminative analysis of sex according to the depth of linea innominata and according to the length of ischium. From the phylogenetic viewpoint the proportions of the frontal, parietal and occipital arches of the total cranial medio-sagittal arch were studied.

Adjacent topic No. 2 — *the biology of the contemporary human populations* — obtained much more attention. In Spain changes of the head and face index, skin pigmentation, width of fingers and the width of the area between them and changes in the vital capacity of both children and adolescents were followed. Much attention was paid in Spain also to the study of the heredity of the so-called dominating eye. Belgian researchers studied the impact of obesity on somatic efficiency. Members of the team of Hungarian representatives to the Rome Olympic Games in 1960 were subjected to thorough study, including the study of constitution of all types of sportsmen, their ontogenetic development and the age when certain capabilities in certain sporting disciplines become apparent. European materials from the last and present centuries are very suitable for the proof of the diachronic development of body height, eye pigmentation, and even the frequency of ABO groups. On the other hand in Zapotec Indians from the Oaxaca Valley in southern Mexico in the recent 80 years no changes in body height or in menarché have been observed. There were also other papers concerned with extra-European populations, e.g. a paper on the morphological and haematological characters of school-children from Upper Volta. Other papers dealt with children on the very fringe of development standards in the Labo. Kasai population in Zaire and with the find of new Gm haplotypes in Saharan Tuaregs.

The meeting was used also for the constituent session of the newly elected *Council of the European Anthropological Association*.

Eugene Strouhal

THIRD INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON HUMAN BIOLOGY IN BOZSOK, HUNGARY 1981

The Third International Symposium on Human Biology: *Variation in Human Growth and Physique* took place in Bozsok between May 25–30, 1981. Thirty participants from 13 countries met in this remote resort place, well hidden in a densely forested country near the border between Hungary and Austria. The host and chief organiser of the symposium was Professor Otto Eiben, Head of the Department of Anthropology at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest. The Bozsok meeting was a pre-conference to the International Centennial Anthropological Congress organised by the Budapest University marking the foundation of its Department of Anthropology in 1981.

The scientific programme of the symposium had four half-day sections devoted to genetic, clinical, ecological and kinanthropometric aspects of variation in human growth and physical development. The morning session on May 27 was devoted to genetic aspects and was chaired by H. Walter (FRG). C. Susanne (Brussels) presented a paper on quantitative genetics during the growth period of children: methodology and factors. V. Chopra (Hamburg) spoke on dermatoglyphics and prenatal development and M. Prokopec (Prahá) presented a paper on differences between healthy early and late maturing boys and girls. F. E. Johnston (Philadelphia) dealt with studies of the relationship between anthropometry and densitometry in American youths. G. Hauser (Vienna) introduced a simple attempt for population comparison by somatovariants. A. Kelemen (Székesfehérvár) studied the genetic aspects in examining the so called endogenous psychosis in 821 female patients. G. Gyenis and G. Till (Budapest) studied the effects of genetic and socio-economic factors on body development of students of the Technological University in Budapest. J. C. van Wieringen (Utrecht) presented a paper on human growth and development as a basis of social pediatrics. P. Cholnoky (Szombathely) reported on primary renal tubular disorders interfering with growth and M. Peña on physical fitness in obese, non-obese and specially trained boys. K. Méhes (Győr) presented normal values for palpebral fissure length, philtral length, oral intercommisural distance and sternal length in newborn infants. L. Horváth and J. Buday (Budapest) measured the testicular volume in Down illness patients. J. Buday and O. G. Eiben worked out somatotypes of 89 male and 48 female Down illness patients, aged 17 to 50 years. Rami V. Reddy (Tirupati) presented a paper on the eruption of permanent teeth in Gulbarga people in Karnataka.

A whole-day excursion took place on May 28th. O. Eiben gave a review on his growth study, based on his 25 year research activity in Körmen city. Since his first investigation of children between 3 and 18 years of age in 1958, the population of Körmen increased from 7,500 to 12,500 inhabitants, the physical activities of the children have changed both in quality and quantity. Körmen is now the only Hungarian city, in which changes in the physical development of children have been exactly documented for nearly one generation. The age of menarche of Körmen girls lowered down in the first decade (1958 to 1968) from 13.6 to 12.8 years and remained unchanged in the second decade (1968–1978).

The morning session on May 29 was devoted to ecological aspects. The chairman was J. C. van Wieringen (Netherlands). H. Walter (Bremen) presented a paper on human physique and climate and T. Bielicki (Wrocław) on socio-economic stratification in Poland. M. J. Roede (Utrecht) investigated the growth of Dutch caravan camp children. T. Hoang (Paris) followed the seasonal pattern in the gain and loss of growth in weight of pre-school children living in Paris. E. Bodzsár (Budapest) studied the physique of

girls with regards to socio-economic factors. O. Farkas (Szeged) dealt with social and natural factors exerting influence on the maturity of girls and U. Jäger (Jena) with the acceleration of growth in Jena school children since 1980.

The afternoon session president by M. Peña (Cuba) concentrated on kinantropometric aspects of the variation in human growth and physical development. The paper by G. Beunen, et al. dealt with biological age as related to physical fitness. M. S. Yuhasz (London, Ont.) presented a paper on body patterning of the subcutaneous adipose tissue. W. Duquet and M. Hebbelinck (Brussels) studied the reliability of the photoscopic assessment in the Heath-Carter somatotype method. J. Mészáros and J. Mohács (Budapest) estimated the somatotype of the Hungarian paddlers and rowers.

The entire symposium was vital, encouraging, extremely friendly and cooperative. Professor Otto Eiben and his collaborators were excellent hosts, they made their best to the benefit of the discipline of Human Biology.

M. Prokopec

THE CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONGRESS, BUDAPEST 2nd-5th JUNE, 1981

Hungary took part relatively early in solving anthropological problems in the last century. Among others it was Charles Uflvy (1842-1904) well known through his research journeys to Asia, anatomist Joseph Lenhossék (1818-1888) and a craniologist Aurel Török (1842-1912). An international anthropological congress took place in Budapest in 1876 and 5 years later in 1881 chair of Anthropology under Aurel Török has been founded, as the fourth of its kind in Europe, at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest.

The Congress to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Department of Anthropology and to mark the 100 years of the Hungarian Anthropology was organised by the Eötvös Loránd University and by the Anthropological Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

The scientific programme was divided into 5 sections: 1. Evolution of Homo Sapiens, 2. Paleoanthropology; Paleodemography and Paleopathology, 3. Variations of the recent human populations, 4. Growth and development of children, 5. Variations of human physique (including clinical practice, sport and physical education, ergonomics etc.). Over 180 lectures were on the programme. There were 59 papers in the sections 1 and 2, 65 papers in the section of Growth and Development (4) and 64 in the sections of variation of recent human populations and of human physique (3 and 5). The participants taking active part in the Congress came from 23 different countries.

In the section devoted to the evolution of Homo sapiens special attention was paid to Neanderthal man. The question of the origin of Homo sapiens was discussed in the paper by D. Ferembach. Newly found human remains from Middle Pleistocene in Bad Cannstatt were reported by A. Czarnecki. E. N. Hrizanfova (Moscow) summarized the findings of Upper Palaeolithic human remains in the East European Plain.

In the section of paleoanthropology (P. Lipták) presented a paper on the history of paleoanthropological research in Hungary and T. Tóth on anthropological results concerning the ethnogenesis of Hungarians. A. A. Moysyev (Moscow) used non-metrical cranial traits in analysing genetical anthropological processes in fossil populations of Northern Asia. H. Ullrich (Berlin - GDR) described the evidence of cannibalism, and skull cults and rituals in Pa-

leolithic period. L. Alves Lopez (Lisbon) studied the loss of teeth during life in a Portuguese population. V. Rami Reddy (Tirupati) presented a paper on early food producing communities in South India. M. S. Voyno (Moscow) prepared a paper on skull basis and its role in the development of speech mechanism of the human brain.

In the section of variation of recent human populations the introducing paper was read by J. Nemeskéri. E. J. E. Szathmáry (Hamilton) contributed to the genetic studies on Dogrib Indians of the N. W. Territory of Canada. G. Szemere (Szeged) dealt with some aspects of human population cytogenetics. A. W. Eriksson (Amsterdam) prepared a paper on pigmentation in North-Western European peoples. N. I. Xirotiris studied anthropology of the Walachs from Macedonian villages. V. A. Sheremetyeva and V. A. Gorskow (Moscow) studied the genetic structures of the Koryak populations of Kamchatka. C. Serrano (Mexico) prepared a paper on dermatoglyphics in a Mesoamerican Indian population and D. F. Roberts on size, shape and selection. E. Czeizel studied congenital malformations in the population of Budapest. E. Kaczmarek (Poznan) undertook odontological studies of Polish children between 7 and 15 years of age. V. F. Vashaeva (Tbilisi) described dental-variability of Russians and Byelorussians. Z. Gavrilović (Novi Sad) studied the frequency of occipital hair whorl in children. V. Chopra referred on dermatoglyphics in prenatal development.

The section of Growth and Development of Children was opened by a paper by O. G. Eiben. M. Sempé (Lyon) investigated skeletal maturation and body development in participants of the II European Championship in 1980 in Lyon. N. N. Miklashevskaya et al. (Moscow) analysed the growth and development of children and adolescents in Abkhazia. C. Susanne read a paper on socioeconomical variations of height and weight in Belgium. F. E. Johnston studied relationship between fat cell morphology and anthropometry in infants and children from birth to four years of age. R. Hauspie referred on analysis of individual growth of Indian boys and girls. C. Riscutia (Bucharest) prepared a paper on somatic variation of children between 3-8 years of age and M. Jókay measured skinfolds in boys and girls. H. Helmuth studied the acceleration of growth in children in Canada. R. Singh studied secular trend in stature in a rural Indian population. F. Morabito and G. Aicardi assessed auxologically 66 males and 70 females. G. Bala (Novi Sad) prepared a paper on relation between morphological characteristics and motoric abilities of children aged 6 to 10 years of age.

The fifth section was devoted to variation in human physique. The opening paper was presented by E. Jokl. M. Prokopec studied the impact of profession on the morphology of human body and M. Ulbrichová and J. Soukup dealt with morphological aspects of the analysis of sport movements. E. Zakhariyeva (Sofia) studied body proportions of women athletes. E. Chovanová and I. Pataki presented a study on the physique of young Czechoslovak throwers. G. Beunen et al. prepared a paper on obesity and physical fitness. M. R. Ramos Rodrigues (Mexico) studied changes in body composition in certain Indian populations in Mexico.

The Congress brought together scientists from East and West and as to the number of announced papers and participants belonged to big international congresses of the last years. The participants enjoyed sightseeing of the Capital and those who took part in the excursions appreciated the visit of scientifically, historically and aesthetically interesting places in Hungary. The organisers of the Congress deserve our thanks and admiration for the successful work they realized for the benefit of the discipline of anthropology and for the free exchange of scientific information.

M. Prokopec