

P. Haesaerts et Ch. Dupuis: Recherches sur le cadre chronostratigraphique des gisements paléolithiques du Bassin de la Somme. — Position der Flußterrassen der Somme; die älteste von Montières-Grâce liegt unterhalb der paläomagmatischen Inversion Matuyama/Brunhes. In den Lössen gibt es vornimlich Böden des letzten Interglazials.

S. Balescu: Apport des minéraux lourds à l'étude stratigraphique des gisements paléolithiques du Nord de la France. — Korrelationsversuch mit Hilfe von Schwermineralen.

J. Sommè, N. Cunat, A. V. Munaut et J. J. Puisségur: Stratigraphie et signification climatique du gisement paléolithique de Biache-Saint-Vaast (Pas-de-Calais). — Oberhalb der Fundhorizonte befindet sich ein mit dem Boden von Warneton vergleichbarer Fossilboden, die Besiedlung fand während der Saale-Eiszeit statt.

A. Tuffreau: Biache-Saint-Vaast et les industries moustériennes du Pleistocene moyen récent dans la France septentrionale. — Die Schichten II base und IIIa gehören einem Moustérien de type Ferrassie, das TL-Alter von IIIa ist etwa 170 000 Jahre. Aus saalezeitlichen Sedimenten gibt es ferner ein Acheuléen supérieur (Wimy, Beaumetz-les-Losques), ein Epi-Acheuléen (Bapaume-Oisiers), und Industrien mit Klindgentiden (Basste Terrasse von Montières, Etaples-Bagare).

E. Boëda: Première étude technologique du matériel lithique de Biache-Saint-Vaast. — Eine Studie der Levallois-Technik auf Grund der Funde von Biache, Schicht IIa, und von Experimenten.

C. Farizy et A. Tuffreau: Industries et cultures du Paléolithique moyen récent dans la moitié nord de la France. — Es werden sechs Facies altwürmzeitlicher Industrien unterschieden, die typologischen Unterschiede und deren Bedeutung wird diskutiert.

S. Beyries: Approche fonctionnelle de l'outillage provenant d'un site Paléolithique moyen du Nord de la France: Corbehem. — Trassologische Untersuchung von Moustérien-Artfakten ermöglichte Geräte zur Holz-, Knochen-, Lederverarbeitung zu unterscheiden.

P. Andrieux, E. Boëda, C. Mailleret: Un remontage de plusieurs moustériens de méthode levallois à Villejuif. — Es gelang einen Levallois-Kern zusammenzusetzen.

Von großem Interesse waren die Exkursionen. In der Nähe von Mons präsentierte D. Cahen und P. Haesaerts die Grabungen von Petit Spinnies und Mesvin IV sowie die klassische Carrrière Hélin. Petit Spinnies, elsterzeitlich, gewährte ein Acheuléen mit Levallois-Technik, sehr reich, in Terrassenschottern, Mesvin IV, frithwürmzeitlich, TL etwa 250–300 000 Jahre, zwar in Iuvituation Schottern, doch kaum verlagert, erlaubte mehrere Remontagen sowie trassologische Untersuchungen. Reiche gut bewahrte Fauna. Die tiefste Fundschicht in Schottern in Carrrière Hélin ist spät-saalezeitlich, neben unrestaurierten Levallois-Abschlägen gibt es auch einen Faustkeil. Darüber gibt es noch zwei Zonen mit einem Moustérien à Levallois laminaire aus dem Übergang Em/Wiechsel.

A. Tuffreau mit dem Kollektiv von Mitarbeitern präsentierte die Grabung in Seclin. Mehrere Fundhorizonte stammen aus dem Beginn der Wiechsell-Eiszeit, von einem TL-Alter 90–60 000 Jahre, mit einem etwa gleichen BP und NBP-Anteil. Die Industrie ist ein Moustérien mit Levallois-Technik, klingenförmig, unter den Geräten fallen rückenretuschierte Messer auf.

Die Exkursion in das Somme-Tal besuchte den klassischen Aufschluß in der Grube Carpenter in Abbeville und die Fundstellen Cagny-La Garenne und Cagny-l'Epinette. In La Garenne wurde ein großes Profil gezeigt, dessen Deutung P. Haesaerts gab: der basale fluviatile Komplex stammt aus dem frühen Mittelpaläolithikum und ist älter als vier Glazialzyklen. Auf mehrere archäologische Niveaus verwies A. Tuffreau und R. Agache fäste, ebenso wie in Abbeville, die Geschichte zusammen.

In l'Epinette, wo ebenfalls mehrere altpaläolithische Niveaus vorhanden sind, findet eine Grabung statt; nach A. Tuffreau handelt es sich um das reichste Acheuléen des Somme-Tales. Der gesamte Komplex ist jünger als La Garenne.

Außerdem wurden Museen von Douai und Abbeville sowie Sonderausstellungen des nordfranzösischen Altpaläolithikums im Museum Hospice Comtesse in Lille und der Grabungen von Seclin in Seclin besucht.

Der Kongress trug zur Klärung mancher Fragen alter und mittelpaläolithischer Besiedlung des nordwestlichen Europas bei und regte gewiß künftige Forschungen mit neuen Ideen an.

Karel Valoch

SEMINAR ON "PREHISTORIC REPRESENTATIONS"

Denise Vialou, Vice Director of the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, organized an international seminar every Thursday starting 1st December, 1983 in Musée de l'Homme, Paris. Following themes were presented and discussed:

1st December — D. Vialou: Opening lecture
E. Anat: Vers un inventaire mondial de l'art rupestre.

8th December — J. M. Apellaniz: La méthode de détermination d'auteur et son application à l'art paléolithique.

15th December — H. G. Bandi: La contribution de la zoologie et de l'Ethnologie à l'interprétation de l'art des peuples chasseurs.

A. Beltran: Méthodes d'analyse de l'art préhistorique pariétal: recherche pure et subséquente.

12th January — J. Clegg: Analysis of a large engraving site in Australia.

A. Marshack: Theoretical concepts that lead to new analytic methods, modes of inquiry and classes of data.

R. Marinakis: Quelques réflexions sur l'image paléolithique.

26th January — F. Jordà Cerdà: Une nouvelle interprétation des sanctuaires paléolithiques de la région cantabrique.

A. Roussel: Les espèces rares dans l'art préhistorique aquitain.

The seminar was very successful and contributed in an important way to the international exchange of ideas in this specific field of research.

The papers delivered will be published by the museum (editor D. Vialou).

J. Jelinek

4TH CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION IN FLORENCE

The 4th Congress of the European Anthropological Association met September 4–7, 1984 in the beautiful Villa La Loggia in Florence, Italy. The whole burden of organizing this important scientific venue was carried by Professor Brunetto Chiarelli and his collaborators from the Anthropological Institute of the University of Florence. We must add that they did their best and that the event was a great success. The satisfaction of the participants of the Congress was documented also by the fact that B. Chiarelli received an unanimous nomination for the function of the new President replacing the past president J. Jelinek.

The inauguration of the Congress took place in Palazzo Vecchio, in the famous Signoria of Florence. After the addresses delivered by representatives of the Anthropological Association and of the town of Florence, emphasizing that the Congress was held under the auspices of the President of the Italian Republic Signor Sandro Pertini, followed a lecture by Professor V. Corrensi on "The Development of Italian Anthropology: a historical synthesis". Then the delegates viewed the so-called "Quartieri monumentali" in Palazzo Vecchio.

The congress materials, namely the abstract of papers distributed among the participants of the conference, register 191 papers. According to the daily programmes 120 papers were actually presented. Some papers were presented in the form of posters. It was very difficult, even for a most assiduous participant of the congress, to find out which papers were actually read; after the opening addresses the congress was divided into several parallel sections. The name of the first section was "Time and process of human origin and evolution". Great attention was paid in this connection to new morphometric methods, widely used by a group of anthropologists in Bari. "Genetic polymorphism in isolated and non-isolated populations" was the name of the second section. The third section focused on "Quantitative and qualitative skeletal data as indicators of variation

and evolution in the past and recent populations". The fourth section was to deal with "Molecular approach to primate phylogeny" but to the shortage of papers it was attached to other groups. The fifth section was dedicated to "Socio-biological approach to human evolution" the sixth dealt with "Applied anthropology". A special session was dedicated to dermatoglyphics, in spite of the fact that a few days before the opening of the Congress in Florence the town of Poppi (Arezzo) was the venue of a workshop and symposium on methods applied to dermatoglyphic studies.

From Czechoslovakia 24 anthropologists attended the congress. The nine papers presented by Czechoslovak participants had a very positive echo.

The next congress of the European Anthropological Association will take place in Lisbon, Portugal.

Milan Silouka

POST-Congress SYMPOSIUM ON UPPER PALEOLITHIC AND MESOLITHIC POPULATIONS OF EUROPE AND OF THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN IN PISA

In connection with the IVth Congress of the European Anthropological Association the Institute of Anthropology and Human Palaeontology of the University of Pisa organized a specialized symposium on the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Populations of Europe and the Mediterranean Basin. The event took place between September 8–10, 1984 and was attended by 25 renowned specialists from 8 countries. It was a typical multidisciplinary session at which open problems were confronted mainly by archaeologists and physical anthropologists.

Most scholars agree that the differences between the physical types of the Mesolithic and Neolithic populations are connected with one of the most important changes in human evolution – with transition to food producing economy. This transition is manifested both by the reduction of dental system, and by correlated cranio-metric changes. The reduction is mostly explained mechanistically, as a direct consequence of softer food, not requiring such a large chewing surface as the consumption of food consisting mostly of meat in the earlier periods. Some experts believe, however, that it had been a direct consequence of the growth of the population density in the process of sedentaryization. Certain samples document that this transition was not connected with the reduction of size only, but also with considerable changes in shape. Morphological changes of such a degree are – in the view of certain authors – hard to be explained through mere micro-evolution caused by ecological changes and they postulate therefore the migration of various human groups. The increased variability of the size in the Neolithic period, as compared with the Mesolithic, is explained by the growth of isolation (due to genetic drift or selection processes), however, it was not the only factor, as we shall mention further.

The dispute of long standing between advocates of the origin of the European Neolithic populations by migration seemingly advancing along the major rivers, namely Danube, and between the supporters of the theory of autochthonous development (in the recent years documented among other regions also in Moravia) seems to end in a compromise agreeing with both views. Thus e. g. the populations of Lepenski Vir and Vlasac in the transition period between the Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic show the coexistence of two distinct morphological types. The advancing Neolithic population obviously did not exterminate the previous Mesolithic people, but penetrated step by step the local, autochthonous population. The recent Neolithic finds from the southern part of the Sinai Peninsula also show that on the margin of the Fertile Crescent, in which agricultural traditions reach back to the very end of the Epi-palaeolithic period, there were still populations that had not passed to food production. Morphologically they are very close to the recent Bedouins of the southern Sinai Peninsula and of the Negev Desert. The existence of groups in various stages of the socioeconomic and physical development would be a more plausible explanation of the above-mentioned increase of variability of the Neolithic populations.

Other papers dealt with the reconstruction of the social structure of the Mesolithic groups (language groups, tribes, bands) or with trying to determine the degree of endogamy provided that the density of the population was sufficient. There were even speculations on language groups and ethnicity on the basis of the analysis of decorative elements.

New Mesolithic material was recently found in the Uzzo Cave in Sicily. It is remarkably homogeneous, showing small sexual dimorphism, and the percentage of dental caries is surprisingly high. Another paper contained a survey of the hitherto known Palaeolithic and Mesolithic burials from Italy. In the postcranial material from the Areni Candide Cave Epigravettian and Neolithic individuals were compared and it appeared that both the length and robusticity of the lower limbs had been reduced, while the circumference of clavicles and of the bones of the upper limbs had increased, the length of the latter, however, remained the same in the Neolithic as it was in the Mesolithic period. These changes are related to agricultural activities and to a more sedentary way of life. The study of three geographical samples of Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic skulls (Western, Central and Southern Europe) revealed clinal variability in the robusticity and in the proportions of the face, probably as the result of climatic adaptation.

Eugen Strouhal

5TH EUROPEAN MEETING OF THE PALAEOPATHOLOGY ASSOCIATION IN SIENA

Two years after the successful conference in Middelburg, Netherlands, the European Palaeopathologists and several guests from the overseas met again in Siena, Italy, on September 3–4, 1984. It was a great advantage that the Siena meeting immediately preceded the 4th Congress of the European Anthropological Association in Florence, so that many anthropologists interested in palaeopathology were able to attend. The Organizing Committee of the meeting was headed by Professor V. Capocchi, anatomist at the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the Siena University, assisted by (Mrs.) Dr. E. Rabino Massa from Turin. The Scientific Committee, comprising a number of leading palaeopathologists from various European countries was chaired by Professor A. Ascenzi from Rome. The sessions were held in the modern "Aula Magna" of the Le Scotte polyclinic, belonging to the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the Siena University.

The papers were arranged into several thematic groups. The opening address was delivered by the main organizer of the life of the Palaeopathology Association, the agile Mrs. E. Cockburn. She spoke about the pressure groups in the USA, Israel, Egypt and Australia, calling for burying again the human remains excavated at archaeological sites. This would lead to the destruction of priceless materials that can offer further scientific evidence in the future. The only solution is to secure really scientific dealing with the human remains in the laboratories of scientific institutes. The American Anthropological Association has already voiced its attitude against re-burial and the Palaeopathology Association joins it.

The first block of papers concentrated on the application of new methods in palaeopathology. Of these new methods we may quote crystallography used for the analysis of pleural adhesions found in male skeletal remains coming from a medieval burial ground in Switzerland, analysis with the help of a scanning electron microscope used for studying porotic changes and cribra orbitalia in the Avar populations in Hungary, and a number of others.

Another group of lectures dealt with caries in the ancient populations of Cyprus, Egypt, Italy, Ireland, in *Australopithecus* and *Homo habilis* from Olduvai. Several lectures presented pathological finds from various historical periods and from various countries, including finds from the Qurqumas mausoleum in Cairo, from the St. Domenico Maggiore Abbey in Naples and from the skeletal remains of soldiers and sailors of Mary Rose, the recently salvaged flagship of Henry VIII, or from the Merton Priory in England. A special section focused on palaeopathological finds in Etrurian skeletal remains. The Etrurians once inha-