



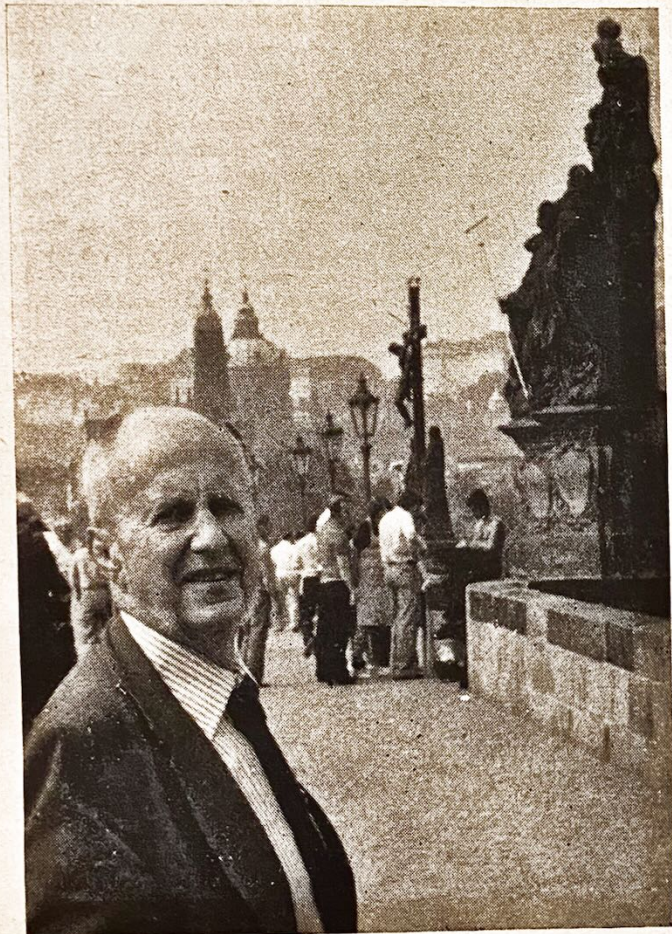
BERICHTE * NEWS * NOTES * HOBOCTH

IN MEMORIAM DR. J. LAWRENCE ANGEL

Dr. J. L. Angel, curator of the Anthropological Department of the Smithsonian Institution in the United States National Museum in Washington, D. C. died of hepatitis at the age of 71 years.

He joined the Smithsonian Institution in the year 1962, following his work at the University of California in Berkeley, at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, and at the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia.

His scientific interest concentrated on the biology of man, on palaeodemography, palaeopathology, ecology of man, microevolution, etc. He visited Greece and the Eastern



Mediterranean altogether eleven times, studying both the living populations and skeletal remains coming from archaeological research. His book on the prehistoric inhabitants of Lerna is one of the classical palaeanthropological studies.

Dr. Angel had very warm and friendly relations to the Czechoslovak anthropology and in the year 1979 at the Second Hrdlička Congress in Humpolec he was awarded the Hrdlička Commemorative Medal.

The Czechoslovak anthropologists are losing a sincere friend in the deceased Dr. J. L. Angel.

M. Prokopc

THE 5th CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION IN LISABON 1986

The Portuguese members of the European Anthropological Association headed by Professor Dr. Emilia de Castro e Almeida were the organizers of the 5th Congress. The event took place in the week between September 29 and October 4, 1986, in the complex of the Gulbenkian Foundation in the modern part of the city.

The programme of the congress focused on several areas. The basic papers were read in the morning in plenary session, the rest of the presentations were on the agenda in the afternoons in 2—3 sections. This solution resulted in isolating the groups of participants, reducing the intensity of discussion, some papers were overlapping or almost identical topics were discussed in two or in three sections at the same time.

Monday, September 29th, was dedicated to morphology and to palaeontology. Following the opening address by Professor C. Almado, M. Pickford presented a survey of the earliest hominids in the period between *Kenyapithecus* (15—16 mil. years) and the time of *Australopithecus* (from 4 mil. years BC onwards). In Africa this period is a "black hole", without any documents on hominids. To-day thanks to new methods, namely to molecular anthropology, the closeness of man to chimpanzee and to gorilla, rather than to other anthropoids, is more and more evident. Some authors tried to fill the above hiatus with various forms of *Ramapithecus* and *Sivapithecus* (8—9 mill. years), they, however, belong to the Pongo line and many authors deny their hominidity. On the other hand *Kenyapithecus* differs from *Ramapithecus*, and due to the characters of both the maxilla and mandible they are much closer to the African anthropoids. It cannot be excluded that *Kenyapithecus* represents the initial form, the beginning of the development which in Africa continued towards the *Australopithecines*, and further to *Homo* and to African apes. Through migration it resulted in the Asian branch of *Ramapithecines*, *Pongo*, *Gigantopithecus*, etc. The above hiatus in the fossil finds can be explained perhaps by the fact that in the Middle Miocene the temperature in Africa rose by 10 °C; and this was perhaps the cause of the above-mentioned migration. A survey of the hitherto finds of *Homo erectus*, their chronology and morphology, and their definition were presented by M. Day. *Homo erectus* is considered to be a typical Palaeospecies, developing from *Homo habilis* to *Homo sapiens* and its forms appear in connection with the chronological and geographical fluctuations and with the extensive morphological variability including typical transition forms. M. D. Garralda dealt with the hitherto results of the research of the Neolithic populations of Europe. Such studies are mostly based on the cranial morphology and follow the usual typological classification (robust and gracile Mediterraneans, Cro-Magnoid, Protonordic and Brachycranial forms). The only exceptions are the well known study of Schwidetzky, Chopra and Manga, documenting the expansion of the population of south-eastern Europe to Central Europe.

From the afternoon presentations let us mention the odontometry of Spanish Neolithic and Bronze Age series (V. Galera), a study of Lusatian cremations from Poland (G. Gralla), the craniometric relations in the Mesolithic population from Musem (W. Howells), and analysis of the ear ossicles of the skeletal remains from Novalesa near Turin (M. Masali), a revision of the Phenice method for the determination of the sex of skeletal finds (S. Maclaughlin), a first attempt