1-1-1994

Gleanings From Academic Gatherings
I. American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies

The 25th anniversary meeting, at Charleston, S.C., included a panel (March 12, 1994) on "Constructing primates: Science, literature and the boundaries of the human," with papers on feral children (Richard Nash), Enlightenment sensationalism (Linda Merians), the wild girl of Champagne (Julia Douthwaite) and Charles-George Le Roy (Alan Kors).

II. History of European Anthropology at the EASA

The Oslo biennial conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists, June 24-27, 1994, convened by Jan de Wolf of Utrecht University, will include a general session on the history of anthropology, with papers by I. Strecker, H. Vermeulen (late 18th century Europe), J. Llobera (Rousseau & Herder), Karl Fink (Kant & storm & stress anthropology), B. Jezernik, Joan Leopold (Tylor and survivals), Hugo Garcia Valencia (British Museum), Arturo Roldan (Torres Straits expedition), and J. Stagl (Malinowski's Austrian roots). A second session, on "Ethics and Anthropology: Perspectives from the Past" will include papers by N. Dias (anthropology & sociology in France), R. Parkin (Robert Hertz), J. de Wolf (H. Junod), P. Pels (practical anthropology, 1875-1929), J. van Bremen (Japanese colonial anthropology), S. Puccini (Anthropology and racism in Italy), L. Soysal (Turkish anthropology), D. Hocevar (Bozo Skerlj), M. Kempny (Polish anthropology).

III. Pithecanthropus Centennial

A congress for the ‘Pithecanthropus Centennial 1893 - 1993’ was held at Leiden University, The Netherlands, 26 June - 1 July, 1993 under the common theme of "Human Evolution in its Ecological Context". The congress, organised by a team chaired by Dr. L.J. Slikkerveer, involved four major panels, the presentation of a book and an exhibition. The panels were on "Palaeoanthropology: Evolution and Ecology of Homo erectus" chaired by John R. Bower; "Cultural Anthropology: Human on Earth" by D. Michael Warren; "Ecological Anthropology/Human Ecology: Adapting to Change" by Alan Barnard; "Philosophy/History: Man, ape, apeman: changing views since 1600" by Raymond Corbey and Bert T.G. Theunissen. The papers will be published in four volumes in one series. During the congress a copy was presented of Man-Ape Ape-Man. The Quest for Human’s Place in Nature and Dubois’ ‘Missing Link’, written by Richard E. Leakey and L. Jan Slikkerveer, and published by the Netherlands Foundation for Kenya Wildlife Service in Leiden, 1993. The book presents an overview of Eugene Dubois’ work and subsequent perspectives on ‘Man’s Place in Nature’, illustrating it with unique photo material. It has almost sold out, but a new edition is in preparation.

An interesting exhibition on the occasion of the centennial of Dubois’ finds at Java was held at the National Museum of Natural History in Leiden. A bilingual catalogue of the exhibition was written by Mary Bouquet, Man-Ape, Ape-Man. Pithecanthropus in Het Pesthuis, Leiden, 1993. It can be ordered at NNHM, P.O. Box 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands. An unexpected highlight of the congress was the presentation of a new palaeoanthropological
find from Java, a complete skull with thigh-bone and a jaw (dated 1.4 or 1.2 million years).

It was found in May 1993, one hundred years after Dubois' discovery, by Prof. Don E. Tylor and Prof. S. Sartono. The find, called the 'Pithecanthropus Centennial Woman', caused a sensation in the media. It severely reshuffles current views on the evolutional history of *Homo erectus* and greatly advances the date of its migration out of Africa towards Asia. Plans are to publish a second edition of the book by Leakey and Slikkerveer, which includes a report on this recent discovery, and to show the exhibition in Indonesia and possibly in Kenya and Japan. In Indonesia the exhibition will be shown in Bandung, together with a follow-up conference on 'Human Ecology and Indigenous Knowledge'. This will take place early summer 1994 on the occasion of the opening of the Indonesian Resource Center for Indigenous Knowledge (INRIK) at the Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung, Indonesia. For information write to Dr. L.J. Slikkerveer, Pieter de la Court Building, Wassenaarseweg 52, 2333 AK Leiden, The Netherlands. (H.F. Vermeulen, CNWS Leiden)

IV. Société Française pour l'histoire des sciences de l'homme


V. Miscellanea

At the 26th annual meeting of Cheiron, at the University of Quebec, Montreal, June 2-5, 1994, there was a paper by Floyd Rudman (Queens University) on "A history of cross-cultural research on private property and a restoration of archival data."

The sessions of the Research Committee on the History of Sociology at the world congress of the International Sociological Association, July 18, 1994, included papers by Frank Furedi on "Sociology's ambivalent encounter with the 'detribalized native' in Africa" and by Josep Llobera on "'Theorizing the 'other': the emergence of a discourse on race in sixteenth century Spain."

The 48th Congress of Americanists, meeting in Stockholm in July, 1994, will include a session on "Cultural and scientific contacts between Scandinavia and Latin America in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries," at which Margot Blum Schevill will present a paper on Gustavus August Eisen, 1847-1940 and Alejandro Haber will present one on the influence of Eric Boman on Argentine archeology.