Gleanings From Academic Gatherings

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GLEANINGS FROM ACADEMIC GATHERINGS

I. American Anthropological Association--Based on a somewhat cursory review of the program by someone who did not attend, it would seem that history of anthropology was not heavily represented at the 93rd Annual Meeting, November 30-December 4, 1994, in Atlanta. There was one session devoted to "American Perspectives in the History of the Anthropology of Europe," but judging from the titles they seemed to have had a rather shallow time depth--save for an analysis of "Trends in the history of anthropology of Europe [in the] American Anthropologist, 1888-1994" by Susan Parman (Cal State, Fullerton). There was also a double session on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Committee on the Status of Women in Anthropology, which included historical papers by David Givens (AAA), Naomi Quinn (Duke) and Joan Mencher (CUNY-New York). Other papers with evident history of anthropology relevance included: Karen Dohn and Valery Pinsky (Smithsonian), "Archaeology and photographic images of the past"; Robbie Ethridge (Georgia), "The US government's civilization plan for the Creek Indians: A late 18th century experiment in development"; Ives Goddard (Smithsonian), "J. W. Powell’s 1891 classification and map"; Charles Laughlin (Carleton), "The relevance of William James' radical empiricism to the anthropology of consciousness"; Andrew P. Lyons (Wilfrid Laurier), "The neotenic career of Ashley Montague"; Eugenia Shanklin (Trenton State), "Old and new directions in the study of racism" [the last two at a session honoring Montagu]; Lynn M. Schmelz (Harvard), "Over 70 years of indexing the literature of anthropology: A case study"; Robin Sewell (UCBerkeley) "Europe's construction of Egypt's past: The making of Egyptology"; Joan Vincent (Barnard), "Marxism and anthropology: An intellectual history"; Darrell Whiteman (Asbury Seminary), "Human rights and missionary response: The case of the South Pacific labor trade."

II. American Society for Ethnohistory--The 1994 annual meeting, at Tempe, Arizona, 10-13 November, included papers by Patricia Albers (Utah) on visions of ethnicity in postcards of the American Southwest since 1898; Benay Blend (Louisiana School for Mathematics), on Ruth Underhill; Walden Browne (Stanford) on Sahagún's Universal History; Dagmar Frerking (Purdue) on Boas, Germany and American anthropology; Andie Palmer (U. of Washington) on James A. Teit; Nancy Shoemaker (SUNY-Plattsburgh) on how Indians got to be 'redskins'; Brian Thom (British Columbia) on Harlan Smith and the Jesup Expedition; Christopher Vaughan (UCBerkeley) on the Philippine exhibit at the 1904 World’s Fair.
III. European Association of Social Anthropologists—At the third biannual conference of the EASA in Oslo, 24-27 June, 1994, sessions were held on the History of European Anthropology for the third time. They were convened by Jan de Wolf (Utrecht) on behalf of the History of European Anthropology Network (HEAN) established in Prague, August 1992. Fifteen papers were presented during two afternoon sessions, the first a general session, the second on ethics and anthropology from a historical perspective. The former included papers by I. Strecker, Mainz (constraints on anthropological discourse); H. Vermeulen, Leiden (plural origins and multiple paradigms in late 18th century European anthropology); K. Fink, Northfield (Kant’s dialogue with storm and stress anthropology); B. Jezernik, Ljubljana (18th century discovery of a savage people in Europe); J. Leopold, Los Angeles (Tylor and the concept of survivals); H. Garcia Valencia, Bristol (ethnography in the British Museum); J. Stagl, Salzburg (the Austrian roots of Malinowski). The ethics session included J. Llobera, London (Rousseau and Herder); R. Parkin, Krakow (Robert Hertz); J. de Wolf, Utrecht (H. Junod); P. Pels, Amsterdam (British colonial administrators, 1890-1940); J. van Bremen, Leiden (Japanese colonial anthropology); L. Soysal, Harvard/Berlin (the state and anthropology in early republican Turkey); D. Knezevic-Hocevar, Ljubljana (Bozo Skerlj, Slovene anthropologist); M. Kempny Warsaw (roots of contemporary Polish anthropology). Speakers from Spain, Portugal and Italy who had expressed interest were unable to participate, due to the high cost of travel. Although publication of the proceedings is not foreseen, a selection of papers may be offered to the journal History and Anthropology. Further sessions of the HEAN network are planned for the next EASA conference, to be held in the summer of 1996, probably in the South of Europe. The address of the HEAN secretary is Dr. Jan de Wolf, Department of Cultural Anthropology, University of Utrecht, PO Box 80.140, 3508 TC Utrecht, the Netherlands. (HVF)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Future of the History of Anthropology—Volume eight of the History of Anthropology series ("Völksegeist as Method and Ethic: Essays on Boasian Ethnography and the German Anthropological Tradition"—which has just gone into production), will be the last in the series under the editorship of George Stocking. The series will continue under the editorship of Richard Handler, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Virginia, who has contributed several essays to the earlier volumes, and who has been chosen as editor-designate. There will be a transition volume, to be edited jointly by Handler and Stocking, devoted to the historiography of anthropology. Although the volume will include retrospective views of the development of the history of anthropology since its efflorescence in the 1960s, and critical evaluations of the series itself, the emphasis will be on discussions of possible future directions (and redirections) that may broaden and enrich the historiography of anthropology, without sacrificing the commitment to historiographical craft which has been a hallmark of the series. In addition to generalized historiographic and critical material, the editors are particularly interested in including substantive essays which exemplify, in relation to specific historical issues and materials, alternative approaches to the history of anthropology. Anyone who would like to submit or to propose such an article should communicate with either Handler (Cabell Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903) or Stocking (as indicated on the second page of this issue).