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Research in Progress

Holmes's rather muted response, certainly not unexpected in a man entering his 84th year, is in sharp contrast to the rather "vigorous antagonism" that marked his previous published and unpublished comments on the antiquity issue. And, perhaps unfortunately for the historian, it does not expressly reveal how the champion of the anti-Paleolithic forces would have mustered his arguments. On the other hand, perhaps his simply dropping the matter is revelation enough.

As a footnote, I have discussed this issue with Drs. Henry B. Collins and T. Dale Stewart, both of whom were beginning their own noteworthy careers as Holmes was ending his. Both remember Holmes as a formidable and rather austere presence, and though neither directly discussed the issue with Holmes, Collins in particular felt that Holmes never doubted the essential correctness of his position. As a consequence, Collins suggests that Holmes did not accept the Folsom evidence.

Holmes, W. H., 1925, "The Antiquity Phantom in American Archaeology," Science 62 (1603):256-258.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Jay Bernstein (graduate student in Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley) is doing research on Laura Watson Benedict (1861-1932), one of the earliest woman anthropologists, who did fieldwork among the Bagobo in Mindinao in 1906-07, going on to take a Ph.D. under Boas at Columbia in 1914.

Laird Christie (Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario) is doing research for a biography of the nineteenth century Canadian ethnologist Horatio Hale.

Ruth Harris (doctoral candidate, History of Science, Oxford University) is doing research on French criminal anthropology in the late nineteenth century.

Dell Hymes (Education, University of Pennsylvania) is planning a collection of essays on the history of linguistic anthropology to be published in the series edited by E. F. Koerner for John Benjamins.

William H. Schneider (History, University of North Carolina at Wilmington) is working on the history of eugenics in France, and on the development of physical anthropology. He has recently been working on a paper entitled "From Cephalic to the Biochemical Index: French Physical Anthropology, 1890-1940."

Robert H. Thornton (Anthropology, University of Cape Town) is doing research on the development of ethnography as a scientific genre, focusing on the early ethnography of east central and southern Africa, 1890-1920. He presented a paper entitled "The Rise of the Ethnographic Monograph in Eastern and Southern Africa, 1850-1920: The Moral Motive and the Market for Ideas" at the Washington meeting of the A.A.A. and is currently involved in organizing a conference on "Ethnography and Literature: Comparative Perspectives on the Narrative Portrayal of Small-Scale Societies."