

ANTHROPOLOGY

Modern Man Gets New Kin; Palestine Man "One of Us"

Anthropologists and Archaeologists From All Over World Gather for Symposium on Early Man

THE WORLD'S two billion living inhabitants have been handed a new relative.

Speaking at the opening session of the International Symposium on Early Man, held at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Theodore McCown of the American School of Prehistoric Research introduced Palestine Man—who must have lived at least 60,000 years ago—as no mere ancestor of modern man, but one of the family, so to speak. Sir Arthur Keith, eminent British anthropologist, was joint author of the report brought to America by Mr. McCown.

Thus, Palestine Man may give people who now live on earth a new pride in their antiquity. For *Homo sapiens* is discovered existing in the middle of the Old Stone Age.

Two types of man lived in the Palestine caves, and both lived about the same time, Mr. McCown explained. The caves which have yielded their skeletons are at Mount Carmel. British and American archaeologists have been working jointly to salvage the important chapter of prehistory buried there.

Of the two types of Palestine Man extracted from their hardened earth beds, one type was small and had many traits like the clumsy, chinless, low-browed Neandertal men of western Europe. The other type was tall, even approaching six feet, and these men had faces much nearer our own modern type.

Evolutionary Plasticity

The fact about these latter people that astounds scientists is that they varied widely among themselves in type, in what is described as "their evolutionary plasticity."

They are a varied type of man, the report declares, "who may be considered as the prototype of the earliest modern Europeans."

Carrying the history of mankind back into a much earlier chapter, long before *Homo sapiens*, W. C. Pei, of the Institute of Human Paleontology in Paris, sent word to the Symposium of dis-

covery in China of extremely ancient stone tools. One piece of worked stone and some worked bones are believed to be "the oldest indication of human handwork in China."

These tools, he said, seem to be even older than Peking Man, who is credited with beginning the true Stone Age industry in China. Peking Man, China's oldest known inhabitant, has been given an estimated age of half a million years. The new discovery of stone tools goes back to the Pliocene period of geologic time, when man and his work are still almost completely mysterious.

Earth Revolution

A violent revolution of the earth, upheaving and lifting the whole of eastern Asia, gave China its first human immigrants.

This picture from man's earliest days on earth was brought to the International Symposium on Early Man, by Père Teilhard de Chardin, consulting paleontologist of the National Geological Survey of China.

Peking Man, China's oldest inhabitant, whose skeletal remains and camp-

fires and tools have been found buried in caves near Peking, can be used as an index to happenings in his time in Asia, Malaya, India, and Europe, Père Teilhard said.

Giving Peking Man the same geological antiquity as Java Man, who is generally rated half a million years old and the oldest and most ape-like type in man's ancestry, Père Teilhard stated that Peking Man represents an early man of primitive type, closely approaching Java Man. Peking Man, he added, is definitely a step below the Neandertal type of prehistoric man.

"Sinanthropus (Peking Man) is perhaps the next to last step traceable between anthropoids and man," he declared.

Peking Man arrived in China, the geologist explained, just after eastern Asia was uplifted in a rejuvenating movement of the earth's crust. Lakes in North China dried up definitely in this geologic revolution. Their sediments were tilted. Rivers cut deep gorges, and thick fans of red clay spread along the slopes. Subtropical animal life vanished from China, replaced by other animals such as deer migrating from the northwest. Water buffalo came up from the south, and from the south, probably, came Peking Man.

The water buffalo and euryceroid deer that were contemporaries of Peking Man are seen as significant evidence which will eventually fit China's earliest human chapter to that of central Europe.

A lack of sea-going craft kept early man from making long voyages, and delayed human occupation of some dis-

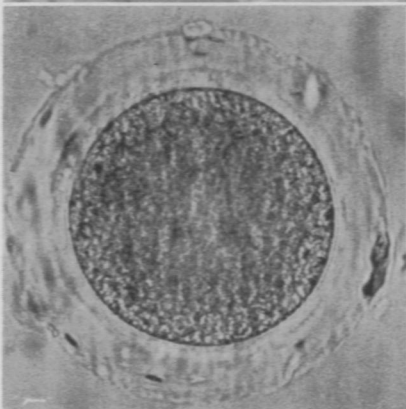
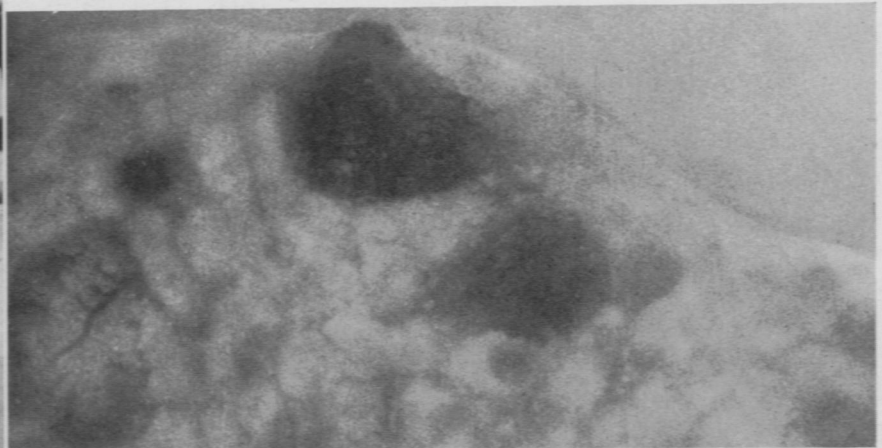


EASTER GREETINGS

A whole family of Easter bunnies. They hatched from eggs, too, as you may see by referring to page 197.

BIOLOGY

It Is True After All— Easter Bunnies Do Have Eggs



LIFE'S BEGINNINGS

Creation's most vital scenes have been captured on the motion picture screen in a "real life drama" produced by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. E. I. Evans, left, probes for life's start.



THE EGG

A real rabbit's egg, center left, in the single cell stage and after division. The egg bursts from the ovarian follicle, shown by the dark bulge at top right. Lower, the baby bunny just before and after birth.

