

hospital admissions in several Caribbean territories, and the closure of severe traumatic wounds were read by Dr. G. H. Wattley and Mr. E. L. S. Robertson respectively, from Trinidad. Dr. P. Curzon reported results of investigations of enzyme histochemistry of ninety-two placentae obtained from normal and abnormal pregnancies of different stages of gestation. The author suggested that a high concentration of alkaline phosphatase and glucose-6-phosphatase together with a low concentration of acid phosphatase constituted the histochemical parameters of placental insufficiency.

A paper by Dr. J. B. Davies of the Sandfly Research Unit, Jamaica, demonstrated that the emergence rates of three species of *Culicoides* were closely related to the tidal amplitude and mean weekly tide-levels, thus establishing that control of these insects would be brought about by water management methods. Dr. T. Poon-King (Trinidad) reported on an epidemic of acute glomerulonephritis which occurred recently in South Trinidad. Two hundred and ninety-seven patients were admitted to hospital, and children 3-9 years of age were most frequently affected.

Three-quarters of all patients were East Indians and the incidence was considerably higher in rural than in urban areas. Oedema was the presenting symptom in all cases, and whereas few patients gave a history of preceding sore throat, many had septic skin lesions 1-4 weeks before the onset of oedema. Group A β -haemolytic streptococci were isolated from the skin and throat of a representative sample of nephritic patients. Dr. D. A. Gale presented the findings of a retrospective study of anaphylactoid reactions occurring in Barbados. This survey revealed that ninety-two reactions were reported by forty-two doctors and the number of reactions appeared to be on the increase. Penicillin was the antigenic agent in 57 per cent of cases, the second commonest cause being ATS and other antisera (28 per cent of cases). Five of these reactions were fatal. Dr. Gale believes that few doctors practising in the area appear to be adequately prepared to deal with this medical emergency. He concluded with a discussion of present-day testing procedures to detect potential reactors, prophylactic measures and treatment of an anaphylactoid reaction.

CANADIAN ANTHROPOLOGY

THE National Museum of Canada has recently published, in its *Anthropological Series, Newfoundland Dorset Eskimos*¹, by Dr. Elmer Harp, jun., which is based on work carried out by him in 1949 and 1950. It had been submitted to Harvard University as a Ph.D. thesis in 1952, and is now published without substantial alteration because it is a fundamental contribution to the understanding of the Cape Dorset culture. It is clearly right that this source material should be available, in spite of the many advances of knowledge since the thesis was written.

It consists of an historical introduction and a description of the sites and materials, followed by chapters which compare the various sites showing the Newfoundland Dorset to be a unit, and relate this to the Dorset culture elsewhere. There is a brief reference to non-Dorset sites on the Island, and they are shown to be related to the Laurentian aspect of the north-eastern Archaic of North America, and are tentatively ascribed to the Beothuk Indians, but Dr. Harp does not think that there can have been much contact between the Beothuk and Dorset peoples.

Comparison with Dorset sites outside Newfoundland was somewhat hindered by the state of knowledge at the time of writing, and the publications available. Thus, several of the sites mentioned belong to the Sarqaq culture, which is now recognized as a pre-Dorset unit containing some non-Dorset traits. Rowley's description of the Abverdjar Dorset site (*American Anthropologist* (N.S.), 42, 490; 1940) does not attempt to be exhaustive and some traits are omitted, so Dr. Harp was unable, for example, to include the site among those yielding chipped stone snub-nosed scrapers although there are several good examples in Rowley's collection at Cambridge. Dr. Harp did not always make the best of the data he had, because he also omitted Abverdjar from the sites having triangular projectile points with concave base on p. 115, whereas he rightly included this trait in the description of the site on p. 101.

Although his dating estimates were far too late in the light of the knowledge now available, Harp already felt in 1952 that the Denbigh Flint Complex of Alaska was the source of some elements of the Dorset culture, a view which has recently been reinforced by J. L. Giddings, who discovered Denbigh (*The Archaeology of Cape Denbigh*, Brown University Press, 1964). It seems likely that some of these features may have been transmitted by way of pre-Dorset cultures like Sarqaq and that recently found on Victoria Island (*An Interim Account of Archaeological*

Survey in the Central Arctic, 1963, by W. E. Taylor, jun., in *Anthropological Papers of the University of Alaska*, 12, No. 1; 1964), although true Dorset sites are being found further and further west, such as that at Bernard Harbour, about 115° west, which extends its range 400 miles in that direction (W. E. Taylor, jun., *ibid.*).

Harp has carried out further work in Newfoundland and the adjacent parts of Labrador in 1961, and further publications are promised. A first instalment is already available, namely, *Evidence of Boreal Archaic Culture in Southern Labrador and Newfoundland*, which is one of several papers on diverse subjects, mostly of more local interest, in Part I of *Contributions to Anthropology*, 1961-62 (ref. 2). This gives further information about the non-Dorset material already mentioned, recording many more sites and illustrating more objects. The only material found consists of stone tools and weapons, mostly collected on the surface, but it adds a good deal to the assemblage previously reported, and the only comment I would make is that I find it difficult from the illustrations to distinguish between some Dorset and some Boreal Archaic side-notched points.

An attempt is made to seriate the sites in order of age, distinguishing a possible pre-Boreal Archaic stage from the main group, but the evidence is rather thin. In the absence of any proof of Beothuk occupation of particular sites, it is now cautiously suggested that the Boreal Archaic in this area is the base from which the historic Beothuk culture ultimately evolved.

Like Part 1, Part 2 of the *Contributions to Anthropology*, 1961-62 (ref. 3) contains papers on a variety of subjects. Among those likely to be of particular interest to readers outside Canada are a study of nine North-west Coast 'coppers', in which it is shown, contrary to expectation, that all these examples were made of copper plate of White origin and not of native copper, and two papers on the manufacture and use of kayaks in the Belcher Islands, North-west Territories, and at Ivuyivik in the Province of Quebec. All in all, these volumes are evidence of great activity in research by the Museum.

G. H. S. BUSHNELL

¹ National Museum of Canada. Bulletin No. 200. *Anthropological Series, Newfoundland Dorset Eskimos*, 1964. Elmer Harp, jun. Pp. vi + 110. (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1964.) 3 dollars.

² National Museum of Canada. Bulletin No. 193 (*Anthropological Series*, No. 61). *Contributions to Anthropology*, 1961-62, Part 1. Pp. viii + 201, (53 plates). (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1964.) 3 dollars.

³ National Museum of Canada. Bulletin No. 194 (*Anthropological Series*, No. 62). *Contributions to Anthropology*, 1961-62, Part 2. Pp. iv + 230. (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1964.) 3.50 dollars.