

The following 21 papers have been presented as progress reports at the "Highlands Anthropological Conference", held under the auspices of the Government of Netherlands New Guinea in Wamena, Baliem Valley. According to their profession the authors of the papers can be grouped into four categories: students of anthropology working on their PhD dissertations (O'Brien, Heider, Ploeg), Government officials (Dubbledam and Grootenhuis), members of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (Bromley, Ellenberger, and Larson), and priests of the Roman Catholic Mission (Peters, and van der Stap).

The purpose of the conference was to exchange ethnological data on cultures of the Dani and Uhunduni Papuans, people hitherto known only from few brief articles. This exchange of ethnological information is expected to accelerate and facilitate further research and should also serve as an aid to the Government's officials charged with the administration of the Highlands territory. Since the papers represent only progress reports, it should not be understood that they constitute final opinions of the authors. Quite to the contrary; it is expected that due to further research and as a result of the Conference the ideas and interpretations of cultural material will be necessarily changed, in some cases in a substantial way. Because of this temporary aspect, and in order to make the information readily available to the individuals concerned with the administration and research in the Highlands area, the reports are presented as they have been read, without any subsequent additions or changes.

Leopold Pospisil
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A. INTRODUCTION.

2. PERSONAL DATA ON THE MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Bromley Position: CAMA missionary linguist in the Grand Valley.
 Background: M.A. degree in anthropology from the University of Minnesota; graduate work in the Summer Institute of Linguistics; work among the Dani since 1954.
 Interests: Linguistics; general acculturation studies, particularly regarding nativistic movements.
 Publications: The Phonology of Lower Grand Valley Dani; A Preliminary Report on Law among the Grand Valley Dani, New Guinea Studies.

Den Hann Position: District Commissioner for the Central Highlands.
 Background: Anthropological training as part of his university studies to become an official of native affairs.
 Interest: Acculturation of the Dani people.
 Publications: None.

Dubbeldam Position: Het Hoofd van Plaatselijk Bestuur (H.P.B.) Wamena.
 Background: Training in sociology and native law at the University of Leiden; two years as patrol officer at the Wissel Lakes
 Interest: Acculturation and native law.
 Publications: A report on Dani leadership in the New Guinea Studies; two other reports to be published in the next two editions.

Ellenberger Position: CAMA missionary linguist for Uhunduni work.
 Background: Undergraduate work and major in anthropology, Wheaton College; linguistic training at Summer Institute of Linguistics; graduate work toward M.A. degree at Kennedy School of Missions (under which program he is now working); work among Uhundunis (Damals) since 1957.
 Interest: Linguistics and acculturation of Damal north and south of the ranges by impinging Dani acculturation rather than western acculturation.

Grootenhuis Position: Acting Head of Bureau of Native Affairs.
 Background: Studies in anthropology at the University of Utrecht within his main subject of Human Geography; joined Bureau of Native Affairs in 1960 with main assignments to study nativistic movements in the Wissel Lakes; and the emerging political elite; 2 periods of 2½ months of field work in southern part of New Guinea.
 Interest:

Interest: Now working on an ethnographical survey of the Mandoboo tribe in southern Netherlands New Guinea.

Publications: A report on nativistic movements in the Wissel Lakes.
Report on Papuan elite and political parties.

Heider.

Position: Graduate student in Department of Anthropology, Harvard University.

Background: B.A. in anthropology at Harvard; one year at University of Vienna, Institute of Ethnology; graduate work at Harvard toward Ph.D. Started work in archaeological problems, dealing in particular with typology; ethnological field work at Yavapai Reservation in Arizona; now in New Guinea with Harvard-Peabody Expedition under broad sense of using, besides the regular means, films and slides in anthropological work.

Interest: Starting from the material culture, looking through the eyes of an archaeologist, working toward the softer parts of cultures and looking at a material object in relationship to the entire framework; using movie techniques as an adjunct for scientific research.

Publications (Not personal but by Harvard Expedition): In September, an article in Life magazine, Under the Mountain Wall, by Peter Mathiesson published by Viking Press; a film, Dead Birds, by Mr. Gardner; a book of primarily photographs put out by Viking Press coming out in a year.

Larson.

Position: CAMA missionary linguist for Western Dani (Iloga).

Background: M.A. degree in anthropology and linguistics at the University of Michigan; two summers at the Summer Institute of Linguistics; work as a linguist among the Western Dani; work from 1953-1956 among the Moni of the Kemondora.

Interest: Primarily linguistics.

Publications: Preliminary Studies in Moni. Bijdragen; Hierarchical Verb Structure in Moni; Western Dani Intonation.

O'Brien.

Position: Research work for doctoral dissertation at Yale University.

Background: Undergraduate work and B.A. degree at Vassar College with major in anthropology; two years of graduate work at Yale; short study of economic acculturation in peasant community in Mexico; arrived at Swart Valley in November of 1961, intending to remain until 1964.

Interest

Interest: Primarily Dani religion in aboriginal form but since this seems impossible, gathering material of a general nature. The eventual focus may be social structure.

Publications: None.

Ploeg.

Position: Research scholar working toward Ph.D.
Background: Law and anthropological studies in Groningen University in the Netherlands; scholarship, Australian National University, Canberra; arrived in Bokondini in May 1960 and did about ten months of field work; went back to Canberra; came again in December of 1961; will leave shortly for Canberra.

Interest: Law and political organization.

Publications: A few reports for the Bureau of Native Affairs.

Pospisil.

Position: Associate professor, Yale University.
Background: Law studies in Charles University, Prague, Czechoslovakia; became lawyer in 1947; due to Communist activity went to Masaryk University in Ludwigsburg, Germany and studied philosophy one year; went to U.S. and received B.A. in sociology at Willamette University; two years at University of Oregon in anthropology for M.A. with thesis on comparative theory of law; 1952-1956 at Yale to receive Ph.D. in anthropology; did work among the Hopi Indians the summer of 1952; 1954-1955 did major research among the Kapaukus; in 1957 did work among the Nunamiut Eskimos south of Pt. Barrow, Alaska; 1956 returned and spent a summer among the Kapaukus; this year returning to Kapaukus to do an acculturation study.

Publications: Kapauku Papuans and Their Law; Kapauku Economy; several articles on different aspects of Kapauku culture such as kinship, political structure; and social structure; two articles on Nunamiut Eskimos.

Interest: Political structure and law.

Van der Stap.

Position: Catholic missionary linguist at Wamena.
Background: Linguistic and anthropological studies at the University of Leiden; five months as phonetic laborant at Municipal University of Amsterdam; at Wissel Lakes for eight months and now in Baliem.

Interest: Linguistics.

Publication: None.