



The Permanent Committee for the International Conferences of Human Genetics meets for lunch during the XI International Congress of Genetics at Scheveningen. From left to right, *front*: Drs. Nakajima (Japan), Franceschetti (Switzerland), Stern (U.S.A.), Mainx (Austria), Sanghvi (W.H.O.), Strauss (Univ. of Chicago), Steinberg (A.S.H.G.) and Neel (U.S.A.); *back*: Anders (Netherlands) and François (Belgium)

A discussion concerning the need of simultaneous translation against that of providing travel grants for participants from abroad led to the decision that simultaneous translation, while desirable, would be provided only if funds obtained for this specific purpose would not be otherwise available.

A first announcement concerning the place and date of the Congress was drafted; request for information should be addressed to: Professor Bernard Strauss, Department of Microbiology, University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Illinois, U.S.A.

## Second Symposium on Dermatoglyphics

On the occasion of the XI International Congress of Genetics (The Hague, Sept. 2-10, 1963), the *Second Symposium on Dermatoglyphics* (digital, palmar and plantar dermal ridges) took place, and in the course of this conference invited papers were read by Prof. L. S. Penrose ("Dermatoglyphics in mosaic mongolism

and allied conditions”), Prof. N. Ford Walker (“The current status of research on dermatoglyphics in medical constitution”), Prof. M. Weninger (“Questioned paternity in the field of dermatoglyphics”); numerous other communications submitted in connection with this subject by workers from nine different countries were read and discussed.

At the conclusion of the Symposium, participating members of the “Organizing Committee” of *International Conferences on Dermatoglyphics* (formed in the course of the II International Congress of Human Genetics: Rome, Sept. 6-12, 1961) met to consider the general regulations governing this international organization. It was agreed, inter alia, that the organization’s aims should include, in addition to the study of dermatoglyphics (methodology, human and comparative morphology, embryology, genetics, racial variations, medical constitution, personal identification), other related subjects, such as researches on cutaneous flexion creases.

It was decided that the organization should have a “Permanent Council” composed of the original Organizing Committee (Honorary President: *H. Cummins*, U.S.A.; Chairman: *J. Pons*, Spain; Secretary: *A. Sharma*, India; Members: *G. Alciati*, Italy; *M. Bat Miriam*, Israel; *J. Dankmeijer*, Holland; *N. Ford Walker*, Canada; *M. Gessain*, France; *S. B. Holt*, England; *C. H. Vogelius Andersen*, Denmark; *M. Weninger*, Austria; *M. Yasunaka*, Japan) enlarged to represent other countries and the various fields of dermatoglyphics. Therefore, eight new members have been elected (*H. Fleishhacker*, Germany; *T. Furuhashi*, Japan; *G. Geipel*, Germany; *W. Lasinski*, Poland; *M. Malán*, Hungary; *L. S. Penrose*, England; *D. C. Rife*, U.S.A.; *J. A. Valšik*, Czecho-Slovakia), and we are waiting for their acceptance.

Within the framework of the Permanent Council there has been selected an “Executive Committee” formed of seven members: an Honorary President (*H. Cummins*), a Chairman (*J. Pons*), a Secretary-Treasurer (*A. Sharma*), and an Editor of the “Bulletin of International Conferences on Dermatoglyphics” (*S. B. Holt*); the other three members of the Committee are at a later date to be proposed by the Chairman from within the Permanent Council.

Through the good offices of Prof. J. Pons, the “*Bulletin of International Conferences on Dermatoglyphics*” will be financed by the “Spanish Research Council”; this publication will contain news and informations in regard to dermatoglyphics and associated subjects. All those resident in Italy who would like to receive copies of this publication are asked to send their name and address to Dr. G. Alciati (Istituto di Antropologia, Città Universitaria, Roma). Dr. S. B. Holt (Galton Laboratory, University College London, Gower Street, London, W. C. I, England) would be glad to hear from those actively engaged in dermatoglyphic research so that she may contact them with a view to obtaining news of their work for inclusion in the Bulletin.