PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING ON DECEMBER 28TH.

1929 IN THE LIBRARY OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,

9, PING MA SSU, W. PEIPING.

The Special Meeting is called for announcing the result of the recent excavation of the Chou Kou Tien cave, Dr. W. H. Wong director of the National Geological Survey presiding. Dr. Wong in opening the meeting, first referred to the irreparable loss to geological science is the death of Mr. Yatseng Chao who was so dreadfully killed by bandits in northern Yunnan. A memorial meeting was held on 8th Dec. by the Society jointly with the Geological Survey and the Geological Department of the National University. He then expressed his pleasure to announce the discovery of a skull of Sinanthropus made by Mr. W. C. Pei on Dec. 2 1929. His address is as following:

The discovery of Sinanthropus from Chou Kou Tien is not entirely new. The researches made on the first pieces of the anthropoid remains have been already published in the Geological Society Bulletin and the Palaeontologia Sinica. The excavation carried out by the Geological Survey began in April 1927 with Mr. Li Chieh as geologist and field director and Dr. Bohlin as palaeontologist. Since then the field work was continued by Dr. C. C. Young and Mr. W. C. Pei and later on by Mr. W. C. Pei alone who has made recently the last discovery of a skull of Sinanthropus besides other important fossils.

Both the field work and Laboratory researches are carried out by the Geological Survey with a special fund granted from the Rockefeller Foundation. Contrary to some newspaper reports published some time ago, the grant was not made on any condition of division of the collections between Peiping Union Medical College and the Geological Survey, it was made simply on the constitution, which has been duly approved by the Ministry, of a new department of the Geological Survey, called the Conozoic Research Laboratory of the Survey, which specially aims at the collection and study of all vertebrate fossils of Cenozoic age including early man but excluding archaeological objects of historical value. All material collected including the anthropoid is the property of the Geological Survey and shall not be exported abroad.

The staff of the Laboratory now consists of Dr. V. K. Ting as honorary director of the Cenozoic Research, Dr. Davidson Black anthropologist and director of the Laboratory, Dr. C. C. Young palaeontologist and vice-director of the Laboratory, Pere Teilhard de Chardin scientific adviser to the Survey and palaeontological collaborator to the Laboratory, and Mr. W. C. Pei in charge of the field work and palaeontological assistant. The Peiping Union Medical College lends its valuable collaboration in allowing Dr. Black to devote his time to the Cenozoic research and study the anthropoid material and to put at the disposal of the Cenozoic Laboratory all the facilities required for such research.

The tremendous amount of the material collected from Chou Kou Tien during the last two years will need long laboratory preparation and study. We have now several work men working on that material in our old offices of Fengsheng Hutung, and we have another group in a special room at Lockhart Hall provided for the Cenozoic Laboratory of the Geological Survey. The fossils when prepared and studied will be gradually exhibited in the Museum of the Geological Survey.

Then the following four papers were read:

W. C. Pei: On the recent excavation at Chou Kou Tien.

Davidson Black: On the skull of Sinanthropus.

C. C. Young: On the fossils accompanying Sinanthropus.

Teilhard de Chardin: On the origin of the Chou Kou Tien deposits

These papers with some extension are printed in this bulletin.