

Postscript by the Editor

Four original papers, a bibliography on howler monkeys done by Dr. Jeweldine L. Jack, and a book review, instead of short communications, are published in this issue. The main purpose of the book review, a new feature, is to introduce valuable papers or books that have been written in Japanese, so that foreign readers may notice them. Book reviews will continue to appear in the following issues. Among the four original papers, Mr. N. Koyama's paper presents a minute analysis of kinship in Japanese monkeys. His paper raises basic problems regarding the occurrence of dominance and subordinate relationships, or social organization. It is also a pleasure to inform you that a paper on the pigtail monkey, the ecology of which is almost unknown, is published by Dr. Bernstein in this issue. One of a series of studies on squirrel monkeys, by Drs. Ploog, Latta, and Hopf, appears as the first paper that has been contributed from Germany. Malformations in the Japanese monkeys at Takasakiyama and other areas have been studied mainly by Japanese ecologists. Dr. Iwamoto discusses, for the first time, the problem of malformation from a morphological viewpoint. This problem should be studied in all its aspects in the future.

In September of 1968 the 8th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences is to be held in Japan. According to replies to the first circulars, many primatologists have applied for the opportunity of giving a lecture at the symposium; therefore, the members of the Organizing Committee charged with making the programme decided that one more session, entitled "Primate Studies," would be added to the sessions of the sectional meeting. The deadline for the acceptance of the final circular is the end of April, 1968. I hope that our readers will attend this Congress and read as many papers as possible, and that this Congress will be a great success. As I previously told you in this column, fourteen symposia are to be held in Kyoto, and preparations for one of them, the subject of which is "Social Structure of Primates," are now being made by Dr. C. R. Carpenter, the chairman, and Dr. K. Imanishi, the convener.

In the last two issues of this journal I have reported on the change in the Takasakiyama troops. I must mention it again in this issue, because another new change occurred in the troops.

In October of 1967, it was confirmed that a third fission had occurred among A troop, the population of which is over 700. Till then, each of A, B, and C troops had had a radial nomadic range, the center being the only feeding ground, and each troop appeared at the ground at a different time, which kept

their society stable. Every research worker had recognized that these troops had been at a climax, in an ecological sense, so we research workers forecast that fission would probably not take place. However, Mr. A. Toyoshima, who has observed the troop, says that there seems to have been signs of a new fission about one year ago.

The branch troop comprises about 70 monkeys who were in the peripheral part of A troop, and some male monkeys who transferred from B troop to the peripheral part of A troop about one year ago are included among them. As the monkeys of the branch troop could not utilize the feeding ground, they have found a new nomadic area of their own at the back of Takasakiyama and began to lay waste the patch at the foot of the mountain. Some Japanese primatologists and the managing authorities of Oita city have discussed this troop, and then the troop will be captured.

The relationship between the overpopulation of monkeys and artificial thinning out has hitherto been at issue, and we researchers have so far objected to the thinning out of the monkeys. However, it can be said that the monkeys themselves found a solution to the problem by this fission. The main causes for the fission of A troop are that the individual monkeys, who were in the peripheral part of the troop, could not obtain enough food, and the organization of the troop became loose because of overpopulation. One more cause is that social integration became weak on account of the desertion of such leaders as *Bacchus* and *Boor*.

The leader of the fourth troop is *Sei*, who is eleven years old and ranked low in A troop. It is very interesting to note that old *Boor*, who was once a leader of A troop, was found by Mr. Toyoshima in the peripheral part of the new troop, not in the leader class. Perhaps this fission occurred after the desertion of *Boor*, and then he must have found shelter in the periphery of this troop. (J. I.)