

**Palaeo-Zoology.** — *On the Oldest Domestic Animal and its significance for Palethnology.* By A. E. VAN GIFFEN. (Communicated by Prof. J. F. VAN BENMELEN.)

(Communicated at the meeting of December 17, 1927).

This paper records the first results of a lengthy and time-consuming inquiry regarding pre-, and proto-historical domestic animals, notably dogs, which, at all events, in Europe, seem indeed to be the oldest companions of man.

One of the earliest known domestic animals is *Canis palustris*, acknowledged as such by RÜTIMEYER. Besides this we have since that time gathered much information concerning other prae-, and proto-historical forms from the works of JEITTELES, WOLDRICH, STROBEL, TROUESSART, STUDER, KELLER, WINGE, HILZHEIMER, BRINKMAN, etc., etc. I mention only :

*Canis palustris ladogensis* Anutschin  
*Canis inostranzewi* Anutschin  
*Canis matris optimae* Jetteles  
*Canis intermedius* Woldrich  
*Canis mikii* Woldrich  
*Canis spalletti* Strobel  
*Canis de le Mirei* Hue  
*Canis leineri* Studer  
*Canis putiatini* Studer  
*Canis intermedius newelskii* Brauner  
*Canis kryschtovovitschi* Brauner  
{ *Canis decumanis* Nehring }  
{ *Canis molossus* Kraemer } (Roman)

When at the time of the commencement of my investigation of the "Terpen" <sup>1)</sup> in the year 1908 I was confronted with a large number of proto-historical remains of domesticated animals I was desirous to examine the material by a similar method to that adopted by RÜTIMEYER in his research of the fauna of the Swiss lake-dwellings. This not only facilitated my efforts, it also placed at my disposal a number of so-called standard types. But at the time the result of those efforts consisted only of a thesis entitled "Die Fauna der Wurten". The title is disappointing, as it suggests much more than the contents impart, so the addition "Teil I" on the title page is every way justifiable. However, the fact is that "Teil II" has never

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<sup>1)</sup> "Terpen" = the artificial protohistorical hills in the low lands along the shores.

appeared, although I may apologize by adding that I have been busy at it, and have already gathered some material for it.

It is into this material that I wish to make a dip now.

How was it that the study of the domesticated "Terpen"-fauna was retarded so long, in spite of the masterly work done by RÜTIMEYER, and notwithstanding the establishment of the above-named standard-types, and even despite the increase of our knowledge of domestic animals. It stands to reason that various factors may have come into play here, as e.g. pursuits in another direction, irrelevant private circumstances, difficulties in appreciating osteometrical researches, arising from the altered views in the genetic domain, etc., etc. It would not do, however, to ascribe this neglect to lack of interest. The contrary is the fact.

The true and primary cause of the retardation of the results of the early specific study of domestic animals must be looked for in the overwhelming mass of available material and the doubtful significance of the standard-type, as well as in the selection of the special domestic animal for a first treatment, i.e. the dog.

Before long I had the disposal of a few hundreds of skulls from a large variety of dogs, not to mention other skeletal parts. The standard-types mentioned appeared not to be adequate for the determination of these bones. Moreover the border values of the latter, and the features considered as typical of them, appeared to give rise to the greatest difficulties.

All sorts of differences between those types could be removed by help of that new material, whereas a number of forms lay quite beyond the limits assigned by them.

All this, added to the knowledge that identity of phenotype does not warrant identity of genotype, made me look out for another working-method.

A lecture by Prof. J. W. MOLL on Darwinism and experimental systematics in 1909 induced me to study the material systematically, in which efforts I was constantly encouraged by Prof. J. F. VAN BEMMELEN. I feel specially indebted to him for enabling me to carry out a new investigation of the Swiss lake-dwellings.

We refrained from a determination of the available forms piecemeal, and worked the material "en masse", i.e. the population as a whole, i.e. a group of domesticated animals, typical of the first half of our era. It seemed to me that it would be interesting for the solution of questions about origin and affinity, if we could work and compare such groups, as they are also characteristic of other regions and of other times. Therefore I will make a dip into the studied material, for if this working-method and the conception underlying it, should be right, it might just as physico-anthropological, prehistoric-archaeological, philological and other methods do, furnish an independent series of supplemental and also partly new data for an insight into the palethnological problems. If I am not mistaken this has already been shown.

A comparative, and so far as was possible, a statistic study was made of the results of our investigation and measurement of three large populations of dogs and of one smaller one, viz.

- a. from the Frisian and Groningen "Terpen" of the late iron-age ;
- b. from the neolithic, and bronze-age Swiss lake-dwellings ;
- c. from the mesolithic Danish-Cimbric Kjøkkenmøddingen, and
- d. from the neolithic-megalithic settlement of Flintholm in the island of Alsen.

For the sake of comparison we also studied recent dogs, as well as their recent and less recent relations, to be found exclusively in the neighbourhood of Thooïden, the wolves and the jackals, from various regions.

Broadly outlined the results are provisionally to the following effect :

1. The terp-dogs inter se display much smaller divergencies than the recent dogs. A later increase is quite ascribable to the bulldog- resp. pug-type on the one side, and the greyhound on the other. The indices imply a predominance at the time of large bulldogs, hounds, and the like in our parts. Huge, greyhound-like forms of Leineri-, resp. "Deerhound"-type, were, however, represented among them. They betray much wolf's blood.

2. When compared with the dogs from the lakedwellings the Terp-dogs reveal an enormous increase of divergencies. The lacustrine dogs themselves can be split up into two groups, (double-topped curves with more than fifty characteristics). They are a large group of smaller dogs, and a small group of larger dogs. To the former belong *C. palustris*, *C. de le merei*, and *C. spalletti*, to the latter *C. matris optima*, *C. leineri*, *C. inostranzewi*, while *C. intermedius* is to be grouped under the latter for one characteristic, and under the former for another. Furthermore it has appeared that the small group of larger dogs is absent in lakedwellings with pure stone-cultures, while the *palustris* group characteristic of it shows fewer variations, or rather smaller differences than those of the lake-dwelling-culture, as a whole. For the rest as regards the facioneurocranium-length-index, and the neurocranium-width-index, the small group behaves like the jackals, but the large group like the wolves.

3. The Kjøkkenmøddinger dogs when compared with the dogs from the lakedwellings collectively, even with those from the same-age, exhibit on the contrary a considerable decrease of divergencies. Apart from the possibility that they also admit of a division into two groups, just as the arctic dogs, their divergencies agree completely with those of the *palustris* group of the lake-dwelling of the stoneage. They are isomorphous inter se, and on an average not only larger than the latter, but also larger than the well-known European jackal-forms.

4. Compared with the dogs from the lake-dwellings, and with the Kjøkkenmøddinger-dogs the Cimbric-megalithic dogs bear a great resemblance to the latter.

To express this more distinctly I may be allowed to report here a single

variability-coefficient, more particularly "Streuungs"-coefficient, namely  $C = 100 \times \frac{\sigma}{M^a}$ . In this way we can demonstrate more or less the divergencies that increase gradually with age. The coefficient in question is namely for the length of the praemolars (III—IV = 27), the molars + cuspid (I—III = 28), the molars (II—III = 29), and of the cuspid (PM<sub>1</sub> = 56) superior, resp. for those of the base of the jaw (ba = 62), the row of molars (III—IV = 66), the three molars (I—III = 67), the two posterior molars (II—III = 68), and of the cuspid (M<sub>1</sub> = 78), for the above-named canine populations, successively :

Characteristic :	Dogs from the			
	"Terps"	Lakedwellings		Kjökkenmøddinger
		together	stone age	
III—IV = 27	12. <sup>4</sup>	8. <sup>2</sup>	7. <sup>2</sup>	—
I—III = 28	—	8. <sup>3</sup>	7. <sup>5</sup>	2 6.
II—III = 29	11	9. <sup>4</sup>	8. <sup>4</sup>	7.
PM <sub>1</sub> = 56	10. <sup>2</sup>	9. <sup>5</sup>	8. <sup>2</sup>	4 5.
ba = 62	17. <sup>4</sup>	12. <sup>2</sup>	8. <sup>5</sup>	6 3.
III—IV = 66	—	12. <sup>3</sup>	7. <sup>6</sup>	2 4.
I—III = 67	—	12. <sup>5</sup>	7. <sup>4</sup>	7 5.
II—III = 68	—	9. <sup>4</sup>	6. <sup>8</sup>	5 4.
M <sub>1</sub> = 78	—	12. <sup>6</sup>	9. <sup>6</sup>	1 6.

From the available comparable statistic results we may, to my thinking, conclude already now :

1. in particular :

a. that the *Canis de le mirei* of the French lake-dwellings is not a type of itself, but belongs to the palustric-group ;

b. that the dog of the at all events typological, meso- and neolithic culture of Ryckholt—St. Geertruid, does not belong to the palustris-group, but to the group of larger dogs, which elsewhere do not appear before the lake-dwellings of the bronze age.

2. in general :

a. that e.g. earliest known Asiatic dogs (Anau in Turkestan) do not belong to the *palustris*-, but to the *matrix optima*- (wild form *Canis pallipes* Sykes) type ;

b. that the earliest known European (i.e. Kjökkenmøddinger) dogs



Lakedwelling Dogs.

Characteristic CC' = 3  
Length nasal bone

Portion belonging to the pure  
stone-culture

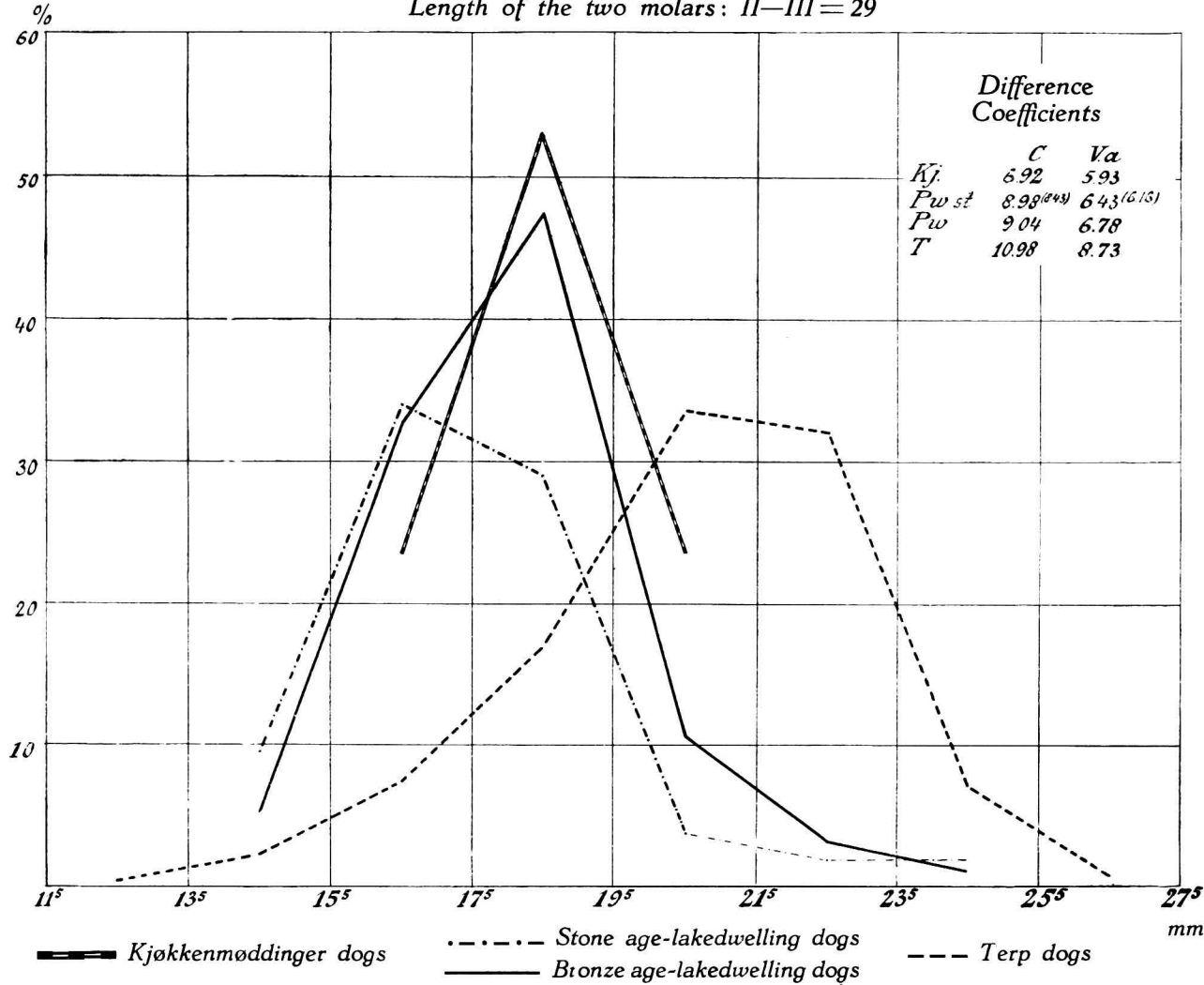
	Interval	Num-ber	Frequency	Num-ber	Frequency	Procentic num-ber of all lacustrine dogs			
• Stone	44 <sup>s</sup> - 47 <sup>4</sup>	5	5.55	5	10.87	5.55			
* Copper	47 <sup>s</sup> - 50 <sup>4</sup>	14	15.60	4	8.70	4.44			
△ Bronze	50 <sup>s</sup> - 53 <sup>4</sup>	19	21.10	13	28.26	14.46			
●* Stone-copper	53 <sup>s</sup> - 56 <sup>4</sup>	20	22.20	9	19.56	10.00			
●△ Stone-bronze	56 <sup>s</sup> - 59 <sup>4</sup>	12	13.35	6	13.07	6.67			
●*△ Stone-copper-bronze	59 <sup>s</sup> - 62 <sup>4</sup>	9	10.00	6	13.07	6.67			
	62 <sup>s</sup> - 65 <sup>4</sup>	5	5.55	1	2.17	1.11			
	65 <sup>s</sup> - 68 <sup>4</sup>	3	3.33	1	2.17	1.11			
	68 <sup>s</sup> - 71 <sup>4</sup>	1	1.11	1	2.17	1.11			
	71 <sup>s</sup> - 74 <sup>4</sup>	1	1.11						
	74 <sup>s</sup> - 77 <sup>4</sup>	0	0.00						
	77 <sup>s</sup> - 80 <sup>4</sup>	0	0.00						
	80 <sup>s</sup> - 83 <sup>4</sup>	1	1.11						
	<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100.01</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>100.01</b>	<b>51.11%</b>			
				<b>Group I</b>	<b>Group II</b>				
				<b>Minimum Variant</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>A</b>			
				<b>Maximum Variant</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>64</b>			
				<b>M</b>	<b>Q<sup>o</sup></b>	<b>Q<sup>p</sup></b>			
				<b>Q<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Q<sup>2</sup></b>	<b><math>\frac{Q - Q^1 + Q^2}{M} = \frac{Q^1 + Q^2}{2M}</math></b>			
			<b>All together</b>	54,55	51,05	58,87	3,50	4,32	0,072
			<b>Group stone age</b>	53,67	51,08	58,25	2,59	4,58	0,067
			<b>Group C. palustris</b>	54,17	50,82	57,75	3,35	3,58	0,064
							<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	
							<b>Group I</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>60</b>
							<b>Canis aureus</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>56 (61)</b>
							<b>Canis lupus</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>93</b>
							<b>Group II</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>83</b>
							<b>Terpdogs</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>93</b>

	<i>E</i> <sub>1</sub> <i>K</i> <sub>2</sub> <i>E</i> ' <sub>2</sub> <i>A</i> ' <sub>1</sub> <i>A</i> <sub>1</sub> <i>D</i>	Values found
	<i>E</i> <sub>3</sub> <i>K</i> <sub>7</sub> <i>K</i> <sub>8</sub>	after Rüttimeyer
<sup>*)</sup> <i>K</i> <sub>1</sub> = 43 m M	Width of variation	47-58
<sup>**)</sup> <i>I</i> <sub>2</sub> = 95 m M	Arithm. means	52 <sup>s</sup> M 54,17

N.B. Number<sup>1)</sup> with A = *Canis matris optima* JEITTELES.  
 " " B<sup>2)</sup> = " *palustris* RÜTIMEIJER.  
 " " C = " *inostranzewi* ANUTSCHIN.  
 " " D = " *leineri* STÜDER.  
 Number with E = *Canis intermedius* WOLDRICH.  
 " " K = " *spalletti* STROBEL.  
 " " I = " *decumanis* NEHRING.

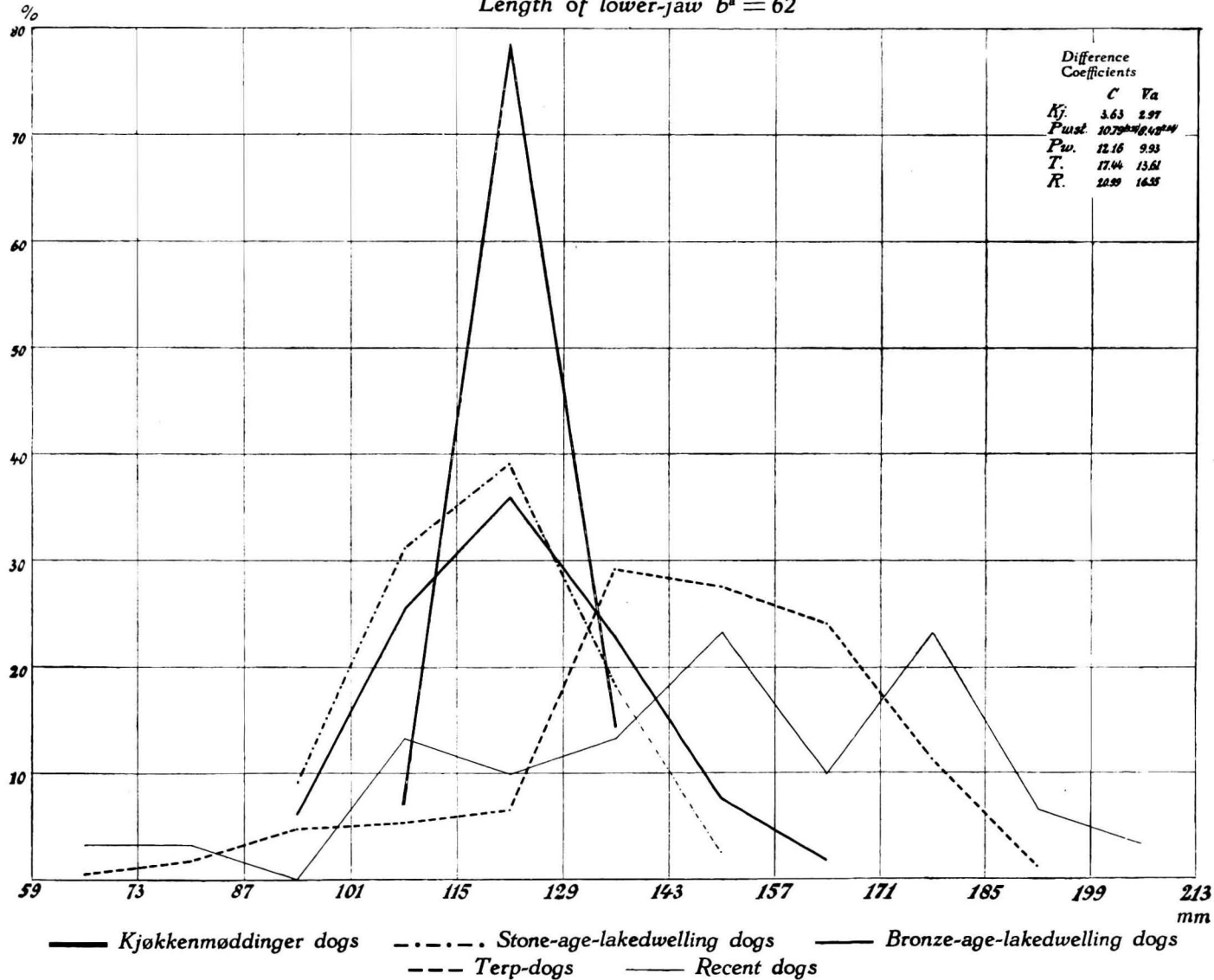
<sup>1)</sup> These numbers refer to those in the catalogue of the remains of dogs in the different Swiss collections as described or measured by the writer.  
<sup>2)</sup> Since the greater part consists of *Canis palustris*, the letter B is omitted.

Frequency-curves  
Length of the two molars: II—III = 29



Frequency-curves  
Length of lower-jaw  $b^a = 62$

PLATE 4





Statistic comparative review of the characteristics: length of lower-jaw, and tearing molars of the oldest housedogs and those of their nearest wild relations.

ba = 62															Medians					
Jackals															Kjokkenmøddinger dogs	123.7				
South-Asia	2	12	8	1											Stone age-Lakedw. dogs	117.9				
Minor-Asia	2	13	11	3											Jackals { Europe	117.0				
Africa	1	14	12	7	2	1									Jackals { Africa	117.0				
Europe (S. E.)	1	5	7	2											Jackals { Minor-Asia	115.2				
INTERVAL:	94 <sup>5</sup>	101 <sup>5</sup>	108 <sup>5</sup>	115 <sup>5</sup>	122 <sup>5</sup>	129 <sup>5</sup>	136 <sup>5</sup>	143 <sup>5</sup>	150 <sup>5</sup>	157 <sup>5</sup>	164 <sup>5</sup>	171 <sup>5</sup>	178 <sup>5</sup>	185 <sup>5</sup>	192 <sup>5</sup>	199 <sup>5</sup>	206 <sup>5</sup>	Mesopotamia etc.	113.5	
Wolves																				
Europe											3	1	11	10	6	2	3	} numbers		
Diluvium Europe													2							
Asia											1	1	1	1						
Oldest dogs																				
Kjokkenmøddinger				111	120 <sup>4</sup>	123 <sup>8</sup>	127 <sup>5</sup>	132									} Explanation: — min. variant — Q <sub>a</sub> <sup>0</sup>			
Stone age-Lakedwellings	95	108 <sup>4</sup>	117 <sup>2</sup>	126 <sup>1</sup>	157												} — max. variant — Ma			
Peat-findings Denmark				1	1	2	6	5	5	8	2						number	Q <sub>a</sub> <sup>P</sup>		
PM <sup>4</sup> = 56															Medians					
Jackals															Kjokkenmøddinger dogs	16.9				
South-Asia	4	7	10	3											Stone age-Lakedw. dogs	16.9				
Minor-Asia	4	8	14	5											Jackals { Europe	16.5				
Africa	3	4	12	12	4	3	1									Jackals { Africa	17.1			
Europe (S. E.)				6	7	2											Jackals { Minor-Asia	16.5 <sup>5</sup>		
INTERVAL:	14 <sup>3</sup>	15 <sup>3</sup>	16 <sup>3</sup>	17 <sup>3</sup>	18 <sup>3</sup>	19 <sup>3</sup>	20 <sup>3</sup>	21 <sup>3</sup>	22 <sup>3</sup>	23 <sup>3</sup>	24 <sup>3</sup>	25 <sup>3</sup>	26 <sup>3</sup>	27 <sup>3</sup>	28 <sup>3</sup>	29 <sup>3</sup>	Mesopotamia etc.	16.4 <sup>5</sup>		
Wolves																				
Europe											2	5	4	6	9	7	3	1	} numbers	
Diluvium Europe											(1)	1			2	4	2			
Asia											1	1	2	1	1					
Oldest dogs																				
Kjokkenmøddinger	15 <sup>5</sup>	16 <sup>05</sup>	16 <sup>9</sup>	17 <sup>6</sup>	19 <sup>2</sup>												} Explanation: — min. variant — Q <sub>a</sub> <sup>0</sup>			
Stone age-Lakedwellings	15	16 <sup>15</sup>	17 <sup>2</sup>	18 <sup>5</sup>	21												} — max. variant — Ma			
Diluvial dogs																				
Gaillenreuth. G 32											(20)						number	Q <sub>a</sub> <sup>P</sup>		
Peat-findings Denmark				2	2	7	9	6	4								number			
M <sub>1</sub> = 78															Medians					
Jackals															Kjokkenmøddinger dogs	20.5				
South-Asia				10	13											Stone age-Lakedw. dogs	19.8			
Minor-Asia	8	8	18	3											Jackals { Europe	17.3				
Africa	1	6	22	8	1	1									Jackals { Africa	19.1				
Europe (S. E.)				9	5	1											Jackals { Minor-Asia	18.8		
INTERVAL:	14 <sup>5</sup>	16 <sup>5</sup>	18 <sup>5</sup>	20 <sup>5</sup>	22 <sup>5</sup>	24 <sup>5</sup>	26 <sup>5</sup>	28 <sup>5</sup>	30 <sup>5</sup>	32 <sup>5</sup>	Mesopotamia etc.	18.6								
Wolves																				
Europe											6	15	14	6	} numbers					
Diluvium Europe													1	6	8					
Asia											1	2	2							
Oldest dogs																				
Kjokkenmøddinger	17 <sup>8</sup>	19 <sup>5</sup>	20 <sup>45</sup>	21 <sup>4</sup>	24												} Explanation: — min. variant — Q <sub>a</sub> <sup>0</sup>			
Stone age-Lakedwellings	17 <sup>3</sup>	18 <sup>6</sup>	19 <sup>7</sup>	20 <sup>8</sup>	22 <sup>5</sup>												} — max. variant — Ma			
Peat-findings Denmark				1	17	17	1								number	Q <sub>a</sub> <sup>P</sup>				

before, especially of Southern and Western Europe on the one side and Western Europe on the other. If we had comparable curves also of those types, I feel convinced that the solution of the palethnological problems would be largely benefited. It is my firm conviction that to this end it will be first of all required to make a careful collection, (too often neglected) of the often ignored prae-, and protohistorical bones of domesticated animals, and that international co-operation will be of inestimable value. My conviction is based on the statistic results obtained, especially curves, differences in width, medians quartiles and variation coefficients. I here refer to the diagrams and the tables. (Plate I—V.)

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