

WILTON MARION KROGMAN: 1903-1987

Wilton Marion Krogman was one of the founding fathers of biological, forensic, and dental anthropology. The work of this multitalented, intellectual giant spanned almost every aspect of our discipline. His passing marks the loss of one of the most respected and prolific scientists of our time.

I was very fortunate to have had the opportunity to get to know Dr. Krogman while assisting him and Dr. Iscan with the second edition of the classic "The Skeleton in Forensic Medicine." The depth and breadth of his knowledge was astounding. Although he was over 80 at the time, he could instantly recall a particular article or expert for almost any aspect of the field. Even more impressive was the fact that he himself had laid much of the foundation from which physical anthropology has evolved. He published nearly 200 books, chapters, and articles in the most prestigious journals in the fields of anthropology, dentistry, and anatomy. Excelling in all areas of skeletal biology, Dr. Krogman was particularly noted for his work in child growth and development, dentition, and cleft palate research.

Dr. Krogman graduated (Phi Beta Kappa) with a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1929 where he also taught physical anthropology for a year. Following a fellowship at the Royal College of Surgeons in London, he became a professor of physical anthropology and anatomy at Western Reserve University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Pennsylvania, respectively. In 1947, he founded what is now known as the W.M. Krogman Center for Research in Child Growth and served as its director until 1971. Dr. Krogman went on to become director of research at the H.K. Cooper Clinic in Lancaster, PA, adjunct Professor of Pediatrics, Hershey Medical Center, and Anthropologist Emeritus at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Krogman has received numerous awards, grants, fellowships, and honorary degrees from several disciplines. Interestingly, the first major award of his illustrious career was the 1925 M. L. Chaim Prize for the Outstanding Research Article in the Field of Dentistry. Other highlights include the 1950 Viking Medal in Physical Anthropology, the Drexel Institute Award for Contributions to Child Growth and Development (1958), the 1967 Callahan Award and Medal from the Ohio State Dental Association, the 1969 Ketchum Award from the American Association of Orthodontics, the American Association of Arthodontists Annual Award (1982), and the 1983 American Cleft Palate Association Honors Award. Besides his many professional affiliations in anthropological and dental associations, Dr. Krogman was inducted into the National Academy of Sciences in 1966. He has been awarded honorary degrees from Baylor University (LL.D., 1955), the University of Michigan (D.Sc., 1969), and the University of Pennsylvania (D.Sc., 1979).

The world has lost a most honorable, eminent scholar. Those of us who knew him have lost a friend and mentor.

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