

Arthur Smith Woodward, "A New Cave Man from Rhodesia, South Africa," *Nature* 108:371 (17 Nov. 1921)

This skull was found in a lead zinc mine along with two or possibly three other individual (Day 1986), one of which has a very modern looking maxilla. They were all probably miners. Interestingly, most evolutionists state that Rhodesian man was found in a cave.

The skull exhibits what some believe is a bullet hole. There is also an exit hole near the foramen magnum not visible in the picture (Cuozzo 1999).

This skull was originally dated at 45kya and has been re-dated to 200-400kya. Notice that the skull is not fossilized indicating that it is not very old.

A New Cave Man from Rhodesia, South Africa.

By DR. ARTHUR SMITH WOODWARD, F.R.S.

DURING recent years the British Museum has received from the Rhodesia Broken Hill Development Co. numerous bones from a cave discovered in their mine in North-west Rhodesia about 150 miles north of the Kafue river. All except the smaller of these bones are merely broken fragments, and they evidently represent the food of men and flesh-eating mammals who have at different times occupied the cave. As described by Mr. Franklin White (*Proc. Rhodesia Soc. Assoc.*, vol. 7, p. 13, 1908) and Mr. F. P. Mennell (*Geological Magazine* [5], vol. 4, p. 443, 1907), rude stone and bone implements are abundant among the remains, and there can be no doubt that the cave was a human habitation for a long period. Very few of the bones can be exactly named, but, so far as they have been identified by Dr. C. W. Andrews and Mr. E. C. Chubb, they belong to species still living in Rhodesia or to others only slightly different from these. The occupation of the cave, therefore, seems to have been at no distant date—it may not even have been so remote as the Pleistocene period.

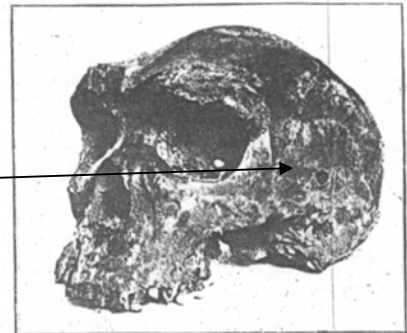
Until lately no remains of the cave man himself have been noticed at Broken Hill, but at the end of last summer Mr. W. E. Barren was so fortunate as to discover and dig out of the earth in a remote part of the cave a nearly complete human skull, a fragment of the upper jaw of another, a sacrum, a tibia, and the two ends of a femur. These specimens have just been brought to England by Mr. Ross Macartney, the managing director of the company, and they are to be added to the many generous gifts of the company to the British Museum.

The skull is in a remarkably fresh state of preservation, the bone having merely lost its animal matter and not having been in the least mineralised. As shown in the accompanying photograph, it is strangely similar to the skull of the Neanderthal or Mousterian race found in the caves of Belgium, France, and Gibraltar. Its brain-case is typically human, with a wall no thicker than that of the average European, and its capacity, though still not determined, is obviously well above the lower human limit. Its large and heavy face is even more simian in appearance than that of Neanderthal man, the great inflated brow-ridges being especially prominent and prolonged to a greater extent at the lateral angles.

The roof of the skull at first sight appears remarkably similar to that of *Pithecanthropus* from Java, having the same slight median longitudinal ridge along the frontals and rising to its greatest height just about the coronal suture. It is, however, very much larger, and the resemblance may not imply any close affinity. The length of the skull from the middle of the glabella to theinion is about 210 mm., while its maximum width at

the parietal bosses is 145 mm. The skull is therefore dolichocephalic, with a cephalic index of 69. Its greatest height (measured from the basion to the bregma) is 131 mm. In general shape the brain-case is much more ordinarily human than that of the La Chapelle Neanderthal skull, which differs in the expansion and bun-shaped depression of its hinder region. The mastoid process, though human, is comparatively small. The supramastoid ridge is very prominent and broad. The tympanic meatus is short and broad, as always in man. The foramen magnum occupies its usual forward position, so that the skull would be perfectly poised on an erect trunk.

The facial bones much resemble those of the La Chapelle skull, the great flat maxillaries, without canine fossae, being especially similar. The nasal bones, however, are more gently sloping; the sharp lateral edge of the nasal opening runs down on the face (as in the gorilla), allowing the



premaxillary surface to pass uninterruptedly into the floor of the nasal cavity; and the infranasal region is unusually deep. The typically human anterior nasal spine is conspicuous.

The palate is of enormous size, as large as that inferred by Boule from the fragments preserved in the La Chapelle skull. It is, however, in all respects human, being deeply arched and bounded by the horse-shoe-shaped row of teeth, which are unusually large, but also entirely human. The teeth are much worn, and those of the front of the jaw met their lower opposing teeth in the primitive way, edge to edge. The canines are not enlarged. The second molar is square, 13.5 mm. in diameter. The third molar is much reduced, measuring 12.5 mm. in width by 9.5 mm. in length. The total length of the molar series is about 33 mm. The outside measurement of the dentition across the second molars is 78 mm. The width between the sockets of the third molars