

OTHER NOTICES

Adams, William Y. *Shonto; A Study of the Role of the Trader in a Modern Navaho Community.* Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 188. 1963. Pp. xi + 329. Price \$2.00.

Howard, James H. *The Ponca Tribe.* Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 195. 1965. Pp. xii + 191. Price \$2.25.

Johnston, Denis Foster. *An Analysis of Sources of Information on the Population of the Navaho.* Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 197. 1966. Pp. v + 220. Price \$2.00.

THESE ARE THREE further volumes in the now famous B.A.E. series. Two are concerned with aspects of Navaho anthropology (a large group still bravely resisting final integration into the American "way of life"). The other is a good general review of what is at present known of the Ponca tribe (on the Missouri River). Of special reference value to those interested in population biology is the work by Johnston. Aspects of Navaho demography are well presented, and the literature exhaustively covered in this field (and going back to about 1840).

Incidentally, this vast series is now being superseded by a new series called *Smithsonian Contributions to Anthropology*.

D. R. B.

Bowman, Robert I. (Editor) *The Galápagos; Proceedings of the Galápagos International Scientific Project.* Berkeley, Cal., 1966. University of California Press. (London, 1967. Cambridge University Press). Pp. xvii + 318. Price \$10.00; 80s.

SINCE DARWIN PUT the Galápagos Islands biologically "on the map" in the last century, their natural history had continued steadily to arouse research interest. Exactly how much information is now available is clear from the number and varied nature of the papers presented in this volume. The work is nicely "introduced" by Sir Julian Huxley, who considers "Charles Darwin: Galápagos and After", which is followed by useful general papers relevant to the study of animal variation in these islands. Botanical, geological, oceanographic and climatological studies follow, as well as more specific papers on animal groups. A final section on applied science reviews the problems of conservation and the economic resources and possibilities of development. An invaluable reference work on these islands.

D. R. B.

Drillien, Cecil M., Ingram, T. T. S. and Wilkinson, Elsie M. *The Causes and Natural History of Cleft Lip and Palate.* Edinburgh, 1966. Livingstone. Pp. viii + 288. Price 47s. 6d.

THE AUTHORS DESCRIBE a very thorough survey of 160 patients with clefts of the lip or palate who had been referred to Edinburgh surgeons and who were resident in South-East Scotland or Fife. The investigations included a family study, a partial cytogenetic study, pregnancy histories, neonatal complications and feeding difficulties, health and development, and a detailed study of speech and of the dental health of the children.

Most interesting and novel are the cytogenetic findings. Whereas none of thirteen patients with cleft lip (\pm cleft palate) were found to have any chromosomal anomaly, four

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of twenty-four patients with midline cleft palate had such anomalies. These were one case of trisomy 21, one case of trisomy of an autosome on the C group, one case of partial monosomy of a C group chromosome, one case of trisomy of a C group chromosome and monosomy for part of a B group chromosome. All these patients were severely mentally subnormal.

There was one instance of dominant Van de Woude's syndrome. Otherwise the family findings were similar to those in the large-scale family studies available; for cleft lip (\pm cleft palate) 2.8 per cent of sibs were affected (usually with the same class of defect) and for cleft palate alone, 3.2 per cent of sibs were affected.

The authors have made some interesting though somewhat inconclusive comparisons between patients with and without an affected relative. The latter more often have associated malformations, are of below normal intelligence and are born to mothers of relative infertility and have a history of abortion, stillbirth or early death in other pregnancies.

C. O. C.

Gunther, Hans F. K. Trs. **Vivian Bird** in collaboration with **Roger Pearson**. *The Religious Attitudes of the Indo-Europeans*. London, 1967. Clair Press. Pp. 127. Price 21s.

THE UNSUSPECTING READER should not be misled by the scholarly appearance of this book into supposing that it is worthy of his serious attention. It is a translation, apparently, of the sixth edition of a work first published in Nazi Germany in the late 'thirties. References to work done subsequently by other scholars are included rather than incorporated. The author associates a set of manly virtues with a people whom he calls true Indo-Europeans and the book is devoted to contrasting these virtues with the values of socialistic, industrial society and mass culture. It is, in short, a tract. The author's clarion call is given in his Foreword to the sixth edition: "If, in our era . . . the remnants of the Western Indo-European peoples are submerged due to the dearth of true-blooded Nordics, then nevertheless the last few survivors will retain that same . . . conviction which supported and inspired 'the last Romans' . . . the proud belief in inflexible and unyielding courage before destiny which will be portrayed in this work as characteristically Indo-European, and above all Nordic . . ."

We can perhaps turn our eyes away in embarrassment as an elderly scholar attempts to palliate the tergiversation that history has forced upon him. What is stranger is that it should have been thought worth while at this time to engage on the labour of translating a work best forgotten. I should note in concluding that Professor George Dumézil, to whom two slight references are made, is very far from being "unknown" as the author would lead us to suppose. He is, on the contrary, one of the world's leading scholars in this field. His work *Les Dieux des Indo-Européens* is strongly recommended to anyone whose interest may have been aroused by the title of the present work.

DAVID F. POCOCK

Parsons, P. A. *The Genetic Analysis of Behaviour*. London, 1967. Methuen. (New York, Barnes and Noble.) Pp. vii + 174. Price 30s.

METHUEN'S MONOGRAPHS ON Biological Subjects have a well deserved reputation for providing authoritative introductory texts on specialized subjects. Professor Parsons's monograph, in this series, on the genetic analysis of behaviour is undoubtedly such an authoritative text. He is to be congratulated on this clear account of a very complex subject. However, the reader must not start out with the idea that he is going to find the book easy to understand, unless he has a good knowledge of genetics and also some acquaintance with statistics. This is not the fault of the author, since it would require two more monographs

to provide this necessary background knowledge. Incidentally, such monographs would be very useful if Methuen cared to produce them.

Because the investigation of behaviour genetics is so difficult technically, there is very little accepted fact available as yet, and the author has very wisely concentrated on explaining the techniques used in the subject and the many pitfalls in the interpretation of results.

Throughout the book Professor Parsons's enthusiasm for population and evolutionary genetics breaks through in the form of apparent digressions from the main theme of the book. The reviewer found this most refreshing, although it might perhaps irritate a purist. The monograph is undoubtedly a first class contribution to the literature on the genetics of behaviour and should be read by anybody interested in the subject. It will be particularly helpful to undergraduates and research students.

P. M. SHEPPARD

MacArthur, Robert H. and Connell, Joseph H. *The Biology of Populations*. New York and London, 1966. Wiley. Pp. xv + 200. Price 45s.

THE AUTHORS OF this work on population biology (along with those of its two companion books on organism and cell biology) believe that a student entering a university should be presented with biology as a discipline showing strong uniformities as against the method that discourses on the endless variety in the living world. They try to focus on life *in toto* rather than on "endless documentation". Another view they adopt is that the biological world exists at various levels, each with its own characteristics. This book is concerned with the top level, that of population studies. The presentation is based on the expectation that, in the educational system of the USA, students from school will already have wide knowledge of biology. The reader may get the feeling that this way of teaching biology tries to make it look as tidy as the physical sciences appear to be. The emphasis is on the principles of population biology using broad brush strokes and the text draws sparingly on a wide range of examples.

There are quick sketches of the rise and fall of the main fossil groups, world climate and moisture, a number of large scale vegetation, marine and fresh water patterns, an introduction to population density and a sketch of colonization of new land areas. The section on evolution of populations is more coherent, exploring the mechanisms of natural selection and genetic variation in the face of environmental change. It goes into some detail on the role of mutations in evolution. (A fair amount of mathematical reasoning is included at this point.) The themes of genetics and environment are brought together in a discussion on speciation. Population regulation and growth are discussed followed by population interactions with special emphasis on the predator-prey relationship. A brief description of some ecological communities ends the book.

The reaction of a traditionally trained biologist may well be that the treatment of the subject is not well grounded in descriptive biology. Such a characteristic is bound to be inherent when such a wide range of subjects is covered in less than 200 pages. The question to be asked is whether the broad principles emerge in fact as well as intent. They do emerge and in realizing this aim the book is successful.

K. W. WILKES

Timms, Noel. *A Sociological Approach to Social Problems*. London, 1967. Routledge and Kegan Paul. Students Library of Sociology. Pp. viii + 109. Price 15s.

THE EXPANSION OF the number of courses in sociology at universities and training colleges has led to an increased demand for introductory textbooks on all aspects of the

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subject. As General Editor of this series, Professor Roy Emerson weighs the advantages and disadvantages of the comprehensive introductory volume against those of a series of selected monographs such as will appear in the Students Library of Sociology of which Mr. Timms's *A Sociological Approach to Social Problems* is the first to be published.

The series will cover an extensive range of topics—the dust cover lists ten “forthcoming titles”—and each volume will provide “a thorough introductory treatment of any one topic”.

This book is divided into five sections, including Sociology and Crime; Sociology and Mental Illness; The Family and Sociology, and ends with a summary, a guide to further reading, and a nine-page bibliography.

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *Proceedings of the World Population Conference, Belgrade, 1965.* Volume II. New York, 1967. United Nations. Pp. xiii + 510. Price \$7.50 cloth; \$5.50 paper.

VOLUME I OF the *Proceedings* was noticed in our September number (59, 204) and a reference was then made to the Report of the Conference which had appeared in the March 1966 issue of the REVIEW.*

The *Proceedings* are to be published in four volumes and volume II has recently been issued. It contains selected papers and summaries of the papers given at eight meetings: A. 4. Future population trends and prospects; A. 1. Fertility; B. 1. Factors and patterns of fertility in areas where fertility is relatively high; B. 2. Factors and patterns of fertility in areas where fertility is relatively low; B. 13. Studies relevant to family planning; A. 2. Mortality; B. 3. Mortality, morbidity and causes of death; B. 12. Population genetics. They are printed in English, with a note, where applicable, of the language from which the originals have been translated.

As there are some 177 papers and summaries contained within the 510 pages of this book, it is obviously impossible to review it fully and it would be invidious to draw attention to a few of the writers, each an authority in his own field, who have contributed to this most valuable record of an important Conference.

World Health Organization. *Services for the Prevention and Treatment of Dependence on Alcohol and other Drugs.* 1967. Technical Report Series, No. 363, Pp. 45. Price 5s. Available through HMSO.

IT IS INCREASINGLY being recognized that problems of alcoholism have much in common with those of dependence on other drugs. This, the fourteenth report of the WHO Expert Committee on Mental Health, notes that, despite differences in types of dependence, there are many significant similarities in their causation and hence in the measures required for their prevention and treatment. After considering the complex and changing patterns of abuse, widespread drug dependence among adolescents, and the rapid development of new drugs with potential for abuse, it recommends that dependence on alcohol and other drugs be considered as different facets of one problem that should be of concern to all public health authorities. This should lead to the establishment and operation of services for the prevention of drug dependence and for the treatment and rehabilitation of dependent persons. Services now in operation in different countries are reviewed in some detail, and the need for educating the public in these problems is emphasized. The report discusses the provision of personnel training programmes, attention being given to the subjects that should be covered in professional training courses.

* 58, 7. The World Population Conference, Belgrade, 1965 by Peter R. Cox, John Peel and Clifford J. Thomas.

After a discussion of the necessity for further research, and of the areas where it is required, the report closes with a list of recommendations on approaches to the whole problem.

World Health Organization. *Standardization of Procedures for the Study of Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase.* Report of a WHO Scientific Group. 1967. Technical Report Series No. 366. Pp. 53. Price 5s. Available through HMSO.

GLUCOSE-6-PHOSPHATE DEHYDROGENASE, an enzyme that occupies a key position in red cell metabolism, has in recent years attracted attention because its deficiency in human beings may, in certain circumstances, cause various haemolytic disorders, and it has been suggested that it may confer some resistance to the most serious form of malaria. The number of deficient individuals in the whole world is estimated as close on 100 million. G6PD has been the subject of much research, both for its clinical manifestations and its use as a genetic marker, and a large number of variants have been discovered. But research has been hampered by the lack of a uniform nomenclature and of criteria for the identification of mutants, and of standardized procedures for their analysis and characterization.

This report attempts to remedy these deficiencies. It deals with nomenclature, recommending a consistent system for universal use. It examines the criteria for the identification of G6PD mutants. It urges the establishment of an international reference centre, and of regional reference centres, which would establish the nature of newly discovered variants, develop techniques for their characterization, and investigate methods of shipping and storing samples of blood. Various other recommendations are made for research into the enzyme and its variants. There are ten appendices to the report covering the effect of drugs on G6PD-deficient cells; methods for G6PD assay of haemolysates; screening methods for G6PD deficiency in hemizygous males; screening procedures; electrophoretic characterization of G6PD variants; the partial purification of human red cell G6PD; Michaelis constants; thermostability studies; the classification of variants by certainty of distinctiveness; and the geographical distribution of G6PD deficiency.