

a causative role in, among other things, the birth of civilization and the rise of armies, "bureaucracy," and law courts. Mathematics, we are told, grew out of the need to measure water; metallurgy, out of the need for "sharp digging instruments."

The history of technology is a promising and exciting field, in which serious interest is just beginning to develop. A book of this sort does not whet the appetite for more.

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**The Western Economy and Its Future as Seen by Soviet Economists.** Richard G. Stolt, Ed. International Film and Publications Company, Montreal, Canada, 1958. 102 pp.

It never hurts to know what our self-chosen rivals think about us, and this digest of recent views is useful for that purpose. The editor has collected together, in magazine format on double-columned pages, a miscellany of translated articles, speeches, and interviews by Soviet economists and political leaders, all of the original articles having been published within the last 2 or 3 years. About two-thirds of the space is given over to the economists, who prophesy the ultimate doom of capitalism with a unanimity strange to Western ears. The remaining space contains statements by Mikoyan, Gomulka, and Khrushchev and includes a large segment of the latter's landmark speech to the 20th Party Congress of the Soviet Union.

Through Soviet eyes we see the West as a group of imperialist nations in the last throes of survival, struggling with each other for foreign markets as dumping grounds for the products of overproduction, forcing labor ever deeper into wage slavery and permanent unemployment, moving from one economic crisis to another, and postponing the inevitable collapse only by intensifying militarism and the cold war. Meanwhile communism flourishes, raising production and living standards at an unprecedented pace, embracing an ever-widening circle of mankind, liberating workers from exploitation, and promoting the cause of peace.

Most of the articles were written during the 1957-58 recession, which promised at that time to be the most severe business setback since the Great Depres-

sion. The Soviet economists seized this opportunity to reaffirm the established communist doctrine of progressive worsening of crises, a doctrine that had gone without supporting evidence during the postwar years. The reader may now wonder whether the Soviet economists were not overanxious.

One finds many examples of the tenacity of dogma in the face of contradictory evidence. An interesting case is the following statement by A. Katz of Moscow University (page 7): "It was the war in Korea that halted the development of the 1948-1949 crisis. The fact that the war began in mid-1950 (i.e., after there was a certain upturn in industrial production) does not contradict this conclusion; the big monopolies knew beforehand of the gamble that was being prepared in Korea and already in the first half of 1950 began to extend production, anticipating an increase stimulated by demand of a military nature."

This collection, while useful, would have been more illuminating had a few selections from an earlier period been included. It would also have benefited from further editing. The editor and publisher are poorly identified, and there is no statement explaining the purposes of the volume or the criteria of selection. The translators are anonymous, and the original sources are not documented. The volume is therefore suitable only for casual reading. For more careful study, one should consult the standard scholarly translations, such as those published in the *Current Digest of the Soviet Press*.

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**The Hydromedusae of the Atlantic Ocean and Adjacent Waters.** P. L. Kramp. Carlsberg Foundation, Copenhagen, Denmark, 1959. 283 pp. Illus. + plates. Paper, Kr. 60.

This work—the most recent report in the "Dana"-Expeditions series—reflects the considerable experience of its author, a scientist long devoted to the systematics of the Hydrozoa.

The scope of the report is actually somewhat broader than the title implies. The text is divided into three sections. Section A, "Systematic account of the collected species" (74 pages), is for the most part an annotated list of the species collected (56 genera, 77 species)

but also includes descriptions of three new species and one new subspecies. Section B, "A survey of the Hydromedusae occurring in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent water" (129 pages), contains keys to and diagnoses of all families, genera, and species occurring in the area. Most of the more than 300 figures illustrating this section are redrawn from other works and have a tendency to be diagrammatic, but they are, on the whole, adequate. There is some repetition of the material covered in section A. Section C, "Zoogeography" (70 pages), covers ecology as well as zoogeography; the primary breakdown is ecological, while the neritic species are further treated zoogeographically.

As implied in the text, the work is by no means definitive in any one of its several aspects. Nevertheless, it exceeds anything previously published on the subject and is certain to be of considerable value to systematists, ecologists, zoogeographers, and oceanographers alike.

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**Studies in Invertebrate Morphology.** Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., 1959. v + 416 pp. Illus. + plates.

This volume was published in honor of Robert Evans Snodgrass on the occasion of his 84th birthday and is a very fitting tribute to one of the foremost insect morphologists living today. The first chapter is a delightful account of his life and an evaluation of his work, written by Ernestine B. Thurman. It is illustrated by a number of cartoons and nonentomological drawings by Snodgrass and closes with a very characteristic personal note by the artist. Thurman has also compiled a list of 79 papers published by Snodgrass between 1896 and 1958.

The rest of the volume contains 17 papers on various aspects of invertebrate morphology. This is a truly international tribute, since nine of the 29 authors write from eight countries in Europe and Asia, and it is interesting to note that all 29 are associated with educational institutions.

Space does not permit discussion of each paper, but most of them are very fundamental studies of a number of aspects of morphology, defined by Snodgrass as "what you *think* you see with your mind." The papers range from studies of the external anatomy of a