

Murray in the 1930's; the present classifications are strikingly parallel. Dollard and Auld know Murray's system, and it is hard to believe that enmity between Yale and Harvard could have produced unconscious repression. Rather, it is apparent that Murray's fundamental work on the analysis of projections can now be taken for granted.

In a long appendix, James Dittes contributes a scholarly, evaluative survey of previous studies bearing on content analysis in psychotherapy.

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**Handbook of Circulation.** Analysis and compilation by Philip L. Altman. Dorothy S. Dittmer and Rudolph M. Grebe, Eds. Saunders, Philadelphia, Pa., 1959. xv + 393 pp. Paper, \$7.50.

This volume, prepared under the direction of the Committee on the Handbook of Biological Data (National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council), is the tenth in that committees' *Handbook* series and is a companion volume to the *Handbook of Respiration* (1958). Its purpose is to provide a one-volume, comprehensive compilation of data on circulation; the volume lists 325 contributors and reviewers.

**Class in American Society.** Leonard Reissman. Free Press, Glencoe, Ill., 1959. xii + 436 pp. \$6.75.

Presumably this work is intended primarily as a text for sociology courses, but since the professional jargon is kept to a minimum and the footnotes are grouped inconveniently at the back, a general reader interested in the subject might be tempted to buy it. I do not advise him to do so. Two other recent books with approximately the same title, one by Bernard Barber and one by Joseph Kahl, are more competent, more original, more interesting.

In the very first sentence, we are informed that this work is about "the place of class and its synonyms, status, prestige, and power, in the structure of American society." As Reissman assures us, he has made "no attempt . . .

to insist too obviously upon neat distinctions" among these several terms. This lack of conceptual order, combined with his facile eclecticism, means that every element of the book is the consequence merely of the author's caprice, for it is obviously impossible to include as much as the absence of discrimination promises. Why a discussion of Marx and not of Lenin, Bernstein, Milosz? Why Schumpeter and not T. H. Marshall? Why an analysis of elites with no mention of Pareto and Mosca? And among those who made significant contributions specifically to the study of "class in American society," why pass over Kinsey, Liston Pope, Patricia West, Philip Selznick, Paul Lazarsfeld, Bernard Berelson, and so on? Nor is the book better for concentrating on only a portion of its supposed subject. The study of social classes is ordinarily polemical; Reissman manages, with an adeptness worthy of a better object, to express the bias of his favorite sources while emasculating their frequently virile styles. "Objectivity," as too often in the social sciences, is merely symbolized by flabby prose. The "dominant theme" of the book, announced in the second sentence, is that "classes do exist even though individuals are not chained to these social positions with unequivocal finality"; and the routine perspective suggested in this opening sets the tone for the entire work.

While there are few errors of fact, many interpretations are subject to serious challenge. Is it true, for instance, that Marx began with "the forms and character of classes as they were found to exist" and then "went on from there to a more general analysis"? In his historical studies Marx invariably found it necessary to recognize five or six social classes, and the two-class theory that bears his name derived from his political philosophy and ultimately from the Hegelian dialectic. Is it reasonable, as another example, to measure the educational "opportunities" available to the various social classes by the proportions that actually attend school? Is it consistent to denote professional occupations as "the most closed" to persons born in other classes when the proportion of professionals has increased by almost three times since 1870; or to denote the unskilled as relatively immobile when the proportion so characterized fell off over the same period from 44 to 19 percent of the labor force?

More fundamentally, I seriously doubt whether one can appreciate the complexities of America's social structure without a detailed cross-cultural comparison. As Reissman demonstrates, it is far too easy without such a check to belittle the relatively impressive record of social mobility, to denounce the "prophets of conformity" who express the culture's self-consistency—in general, to analyze every feature of this society as specific to it.

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## New Books

*Advances in Clinical Chemistry*, vol. 2. Harry Sobotka and C. P. Stewart, Eds. Academic Press, New York, 1959. 400 pp. \$12.

*Atlas of Bacterial Flagellation*. Einar Leifson. Academic Press, New York, 1960. 177 pp. \$7.50.

*Cates' Primary Anatomy*. J. V. Basmajian. Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, ed. 4, 1960. 371 pp. \$6.50.

*Chemical Micromethods in Clinical Medicine*. R. H. Wilkinson. Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1960. 121 pp. \$5.

*Chromatographie*. En chimie organique et biologique. vol. 1, *Généralités*. Applications en chimie organique. E. Lederer. Masson, Paris, 1959. 682 pp. Paper, F. 9000; cloth, F. 10,000.

*Classical Mathematics*. A concise history of the classical era in mathematics. Joseph Ehrenfried Hofmann. Philosophical Library, New York, 1959. 159 pp. \$4.75.

*Consequences of Disturbance*. Alan Mozley. Lewis, London, 1960. 71 pp. 9s.

*Cybernetics and Management*. Stafford Beer. Wiley, New York, 1959. 232 pp. \$4.50.

*Directory of Nuclear Reactors*. vol. 2. Research, test and experimental reactors. International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria, 1959 (order from International Publications, New York 22). 348 pp. Paper, \$3.50.

*Elements of Cartography*. Arthur H. Robinson. Wiley, New York, ed. 2, 1960. 351 pp. \$8.75.

*Enzymes*. Uitgevers, Zwolle, Netherlands, 1959. 158 pp. F. 9. The seven lectures published in this volume were given at the International Conference on Enzymes and Their Action held in Wageningen on 6-9 April 1959.

*Figures of Equilibrium of Celestial Bodies*. With emphasis on problems of motion of artificial satellites. Zadnek Kopal. Univ. of Wisconsin Press, Madison, 1960. 141 pp. \$3.

*Fundamentals of Electronics*. E. Norman Lurch. Wiley, New York; Chapman and Hall, London, 1960. 645 pp. \$8.25.

*Subsurface Mapping*. Margaret S. Bishop. Wiley, New York, 1960. 207 pp. \$5.75.

*The Thunder of the Guns*. A century of battleships. Donald Macintyre. Norton, New York, 1960. 352 pp. \$3.95.