

as the period from 1880 to 1920, the selections span a much longer time—from Bernal Diaz, Sahagun, and Jefferson to Spier. These are divided chronologically into six periods, from "Exploring the New World" to "New Horizons," and the intermediate periods are given such terms as "Gaining Understanding of the Indians." The authors are furthermore grouped under such titles as "Dedicated Amateurs" and "The United States National Museum."

In the printed matter the senior editor, Margaret Mead, contributed only the main introduction, but the introductions to each of the six parts and the many and full biographical accounts of the authors as well as the historical backgrounds of their periods, by Ruth Bunzel, are delightfully written, with insight, empathy, and knowledge, based on her long experience in the field and her acquaintance with most of the later contributors.

The only mistake that I found is a trivial one (page 155): Bulletin 30 of the Bureau of American Ethnology is the great *Handbook of American Indians*, not that of American Indian Languages. And it is not—though generally believed by others—Mormon creed that our Indians are descendants of the lost tribes of Israel.

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The Orion Book of Evolution. Jean Rostand (translated from *L'Évolution* by Rebecca Abramson). Orion Press, New York, 1961. 105 pp. Illus. \$6.95.

In this publication two quite separate small books have been shuffled and bound together: an essay on evolution and an album of pictures. Any relationship between the two is not merely coincidental; it is nonexistent.

Rostand's background in French literature and philosophy gives his essay some freshness and interest for American readers, but unfortunately the essay cannot otherwise be highly recommended. The first section, on the history of evolutionary theories, repeats some tired clichés and misapprehensions and does not reflect recent historical scholarship. In next discussing the present status of evolutionary theory Rostand gives a grossly oversimplified and part-

ly mistaken statement of the "neo-Darwinist" (synthetic) position and then has no difficulty in maintaining that his version of that theory is inadequate. As supplement or corrective he offers only vague speculation and largely irrelevant philosophy. In a brief final section (about five text pages) he gives his views about man's evolutionary future, opinions already treated better and at greater length in another of his books (*Can Man Be Modified?*) where they should be read, if at all.

The awkwardness and errors stem in part from bad translation of the French original. The subject of the essay is regularly called "transformism," a Gallicism absent from proper English, and in other respects as well the translator reveals ignorance of the subject and fails to produce idiomatic literary English.

No connection whatever is made between the pictures and the text or the supposed subject of the book. The picture captions are highly inadequate. Some are incorrect: an engraving of "Armadillos and lizards" features a pangolin or scaly anteater; an "embryo" is really a larva. Others are almost humorously vague: "Unicellular form," "Fish." The few that are more precise still are not very enlightening for an average reader: "*Campylognathus Zitteli*. Fossil remains"; "*Membracida hemipteran* (true insect)." Citations of original sources are rarely given for the numerous reproductions of historic illustrations.

The binding is unattractive and that of the review copy, at least, is so poor that the book went to pieces as soon as it was opened.

It is a relief finally to be able to bestow some wholehearted praise: the pictures are magnificent. There are 41 photographs, 5 in color, and 30 reproductions of old engravings and paintings, 7 in color. Most of them are superb works of art excellently reproduced. Almost all are of animals, with great range of subject and technique: a color photomicrograph of a paramecium in cross-polarized light (that technique of course not specified); an x-ray photograph of a stingray; an 18th century colored engraving of a butterfly fish and an "*Ican Suangi*" (whatever that may be); a painting on vellum of sea turtles by Claude Aubriet (one of very few artists named); a terrific enlarged head of an Australian lizard; a color photograph of 56 jewel-like (but unidentified) beetles; a Persian minia-

ture of a "feline" (a leopard, as it happens)—and many others. Simple contemplation of these pictures is an exciting esthetic experience. Their publication without Rostand's text, with adequate captions, and in a good binding would have been a triumph of artistic and scientific bookmaking.

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Miscellaneous Publications

(Inquiries concerning these publications should be addressed, not to Science, but to the publisher or agency sponsoring the publication.)

Aletsch Glacier as of September 1957. Sheet 3. Topographical survey of Switzerland and section of hydrology. Federal Inst. of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland, 1960. F. 10. This series, a Swiss contribution to the IGY, is planned to present a detailed map of the Great Aletsch glacier and its drainage basin. Scale 1:10,000. This sheet covers the main glacier tongue from Marjelen Lake to the snout plus the adjoining watershed within the drainage basin. Four maps are planned.

Aspects of Public Health Nursing. Public Health Paper No. 4. Glete de Alcántara *et al.* World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, 1961. 185 pp. \$1.75.

Belgian Advisory Council for Scientific Policy. Annual Report, 1960. The Council, Brussels, Belgium, 1960. 132 pp. The advisory council was created on 16 September 1959. The first part of the report surveys "the future defining fundamental attitudes to problems of scientific policy in Belgium and also in the international sphere"; the second surveys the council's operations.

Clef des Cyprinidés ou Ménés du Québec. *Les Poissons d'Eau Douce*. vol. 2 of Vianney Legendre. Le Jeune Naturaliste, Joliette, Canada, 1960. 35 pp.

Financial Management in the Federal Government. Prepared by the Staff of the Committee on Government Operations, U.S. Senate. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1961. 375 pp. An analysis of existing and proposed legislation relating to the financial management of the federal government, including a history of improvements made prior to the 80th Congress, recommendations of the first and second Hoover commissions on budget and accounting and the implementation of these recommendations, legislation enacted in the area by 80th–86th Congresses, financial management improvement made by departments and agencies on a government-wide basis under specific acts, and the history of major budgeting and accounting legislation proposed.

Instrumentation and High-Speed Photography. Papers reprinted from *J. Soc. Motion Picture Television Engrs.* vol. 1, series 11. Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, New York, 1960. 185 pp.