

Book Reviews

Essays Honoring Paul Radin

Culture in History. Stanley Diamond, Ed. Published for Brandeis University. Columbia University Press, New York, 1960. 1014 pp. \$15.

The opening statements penned in the contributions by Claude Lévi-Strauss and A. Irving Hallowell best express the qualitative significance of this exceedingly rich tribute to the late Paul Radin. "Among the many talents," writes Lévi-Strauss, "which make him one of the great anthropologists of our time, Paul Radin has one which gives a singular flavor to his work. He has the authentic esthetic touch, rather uncommon in our profession. This is what we call in French *flair*: the gift of singling out those facts, observations, and documents which possess an especially rich meaning, sometimes undisclosed at first, but likely to become evident as one ponders the implications woven into the material" (page 351). And Hallowell observes, "It has become increasingly apparent in recent years that the potential significance of the data collected by cultural anthropologists far transcends in interest the level of simple, objective, ethnographic description of the peoples they have studied. New perspectives have arisen; fresh interpretations of old data have been offered; investigation and analysis have been pointed in novel directions" (page 19).

A *Festschrift* that is not a symposium runs the risk of becoming a rag-bag into which authors dump their miscellaneous, hitherto unpublished articles. By a happy combination of circumstance and good editing, there is very little of this in *Culture in History*, despite the fact that 55 different authors contributed. Three unifying strands bind the many parts into a medially integrated whole. These are: (i) the application to specific field-work data, or to historically derived materials (Greek, Hebrew, and Christian), or to general

theory making, of Radin's seminal ideas relating to the intellectual and religious processes among primitive peoples; (ii) the application of new anthropological data and theory to the further explication of the culture of Radin's own Indians, the Winnebagos, among whom he did intensive field work from 1908 to 1913, and concerning which Radin published seven books or monographs and 17 articles; (iii) the editorial limitation of other articles to aspects of culture in which Radin manifested some interest (language, mythology, class stratification and political-economic organization, history, and social theory). Thus, there is but one article on archeology (and that relates to the Winnebago) and none on physical anthropology. The book falls definitely within the social sciences and humanities, and not within the physical sciences. Forty-four of the authors are anthropologists, ten are humanists, and one is a psychiatrist. A number of the articles (for example, those by Hallowell, Murra, and Mandelbaum, to name but three) are fascinating manifestations of systematic, exacting, and critical research, empirically founded and sophisticatedly enriched through the application of subtle and profound theory. Others are equally exacting historical studies in the best humanistic tradition, some vitalized with culture theory infused from anthropology. A number of the papers either directly or indirectly deal with processes of social evolution (Goldman, pages 687-712, specifically in Polynesia; Fried, pages 713-731, generally; Tillich, pages 631-641, and Moore, pages 642-662, in terms of Marxian theory), while Leslie White, the leading anthropological protagonist of social evolutionism, contents himself with a brief ethnographic summary of the Keresan Pueblo world view (pages 53-64). There are no papers on personality and culture, the topic that was so popular between 1935 and 1955. Gene Weltfish offers a new dimension to materialism as a sug-

gested unifying method for anthropological research (pages 160-180). Lenneberg argues a developmental-genetic hypothesis for the evolutionary emergence of speech in a paper that should be of general interest (pages 869-893), while the remaining six papers on linguistics, including one by Kroeber, make up the bulk of the specifically technical papers in the volume.

To return to the papers that directly relate to Radin's own contributions: James Griffin painstakingly reviews, synthesizes, and reinterprets the vast body of archeological data from the full range of the Mississippi Valley to place Winnebago prehistoric origins in a new and more firmly rooted perspective (pages 809-865). In a much briefer paper N. O. Lurie performs the same task with documentary sources for the Winnebago protohistoric era of 1620 to 1670 to show how a Siouan tribe became assimilated to an Algonkian cultural setting (pages 790-808). Lévi-Strauss unfolds the deep altruism of Winnebago ideals of heroic self-sacrifice through a fascinating structural analysis of four Winnebago myths published by Radin in 1941 (pages 351-362).

Among those who go in the other direction, approaching their own field work with a Radinian kind of orientation, are Hallowell (pages 19-52) and Kluckhohn (pages 65-98). Hallowell, in demonstrating the nature of Winnebago perceptive categories forcefully reveals anew the conceptual artifactuality of our own notions of what is natural and therefore subject to scientific explanation. Kluckhohn does somewhat the same thing for the Navaho, whose cultural focus is on minute categorical definition. Redfield and Bidney re-examine two of Radin's major notions. Redfield (pages 3-18) applies Radin's theory of the primitive intellectual as the systematic unifier of tribal beliefs to an explanation of how the Dogon tribe of the French Sudan could possibly have achieved so incredibly an elaborate scheme of symbolically represented knowledge as is reported for it by the French ethnologist, Griaule. Maurice Stein, for his part, reflects on how anthropological interpretations, exemplified in the work of Radin and Redfield, may be used by other social scientists to reform modern civilization in terms more meaningful to individual livelihood (pages 281-297). David Bidney contributes a healthy neutralizer for the enthusiasts who tend to get carried away into loose generalization as they pick

up some of Radin's larger ideas. He shows (pages 363–379), in a tough-minded critique of Radin's writings on primitive monotheism and economic exploitation of religious gullibility, that Radin vacillated and reversed his thinking several times over half a century. He was not himself too certain of the objective content of some of his more stimulating ideas.

Anthropologists will all cherish this volume for its intrinsic worth. They will also sentimentally value it. Radin died shortly before the 75th birthday it was intended to celebrate, and in it are posthumously published articles by four other great men of anthropology—Kroeber, Lowie, Redfield, and Kluckhohn—who wrote to honor their friend but, like him, did not live to see the book become a reality. Nonanthropologists whose scholarly interests find enjoyment in occasional forays into fertile fields outside their own will find it to be well worth sampling.

E. ADAMSON HOEBEL
Department of Anthropology,
University of Minnesota

Tides and Currents

Physical Oceanography. Albert Defant. Pergamon, New York, 1961. vol. 1, xvi + 729 pp.; vol. 2, viii + 598 pp. Illus. + maps. \$35.

This two-volume work is a textbook about that part of physical oceanography which comprised the whole prior to 1939. Its two volumes are each divided into two parts; volume one contains material on distribution of physical and chemical properties of the oceans (part 1) and dynamical oceanography (ocean currents) (part 2). Volume 2 is devoted to surface and long waves (part 1) and to tides and tidal currents, including internal waves, (part 2).

The book is arranged as a textbook (without problems), and each new subject is introduced with a lucid, and readable, elementary description which will be most helpful to new students and experienced oceanographers alike. In the theoretical parts, mostly volume 1, part 2, and volume 2, fundamental theory is also presented clearly, and the special vocabulary of oceanography and meteorology (they are very similar) is introduced term by term, so that you are left with the feeling that you have

been led simply by the hand, and by a master.

The author is one of the older members of the group of German oceanographers who sailed the *Meteor* extensively in the North and South Atlantic between World Wars I and II. These scientists were prolific contributors to the literature produced by the larger group of European oceanographers who dominated this branch of science prior to 1930. Hence it is not surprising that Defant's references are largely to the work of German oceanographers and that his illustrative examples come mostly from the Atlantic Ocean. Nevertheless, his outlook is international in that he includes, with due credit, contributions from scientists of many nations.

The present book (published only in English) is a second revision of a manuscript (in German) originally written before and during World War II. The revisions bring it up to date, as of May 1957, in the fields of special interest to the author. Unfortunately, in other fields, such as bathymetry and optics, his material is not at all up to date, and he has not included in his summary of the structure of the ocean basins any impression of the wealth of geophysical material published during the early 1950's. The book would be a better textbook had these matters been attended to, but I am content to see the result as it is; Defant has kept abreast of his own interests, and as a result, we have an immensely valuable book.

Both descriptive and theoretical parts are profusely illustrated with examples taken from nature. Thus one is left with a feeling that difficult or abstract-sounding mathematics has been used successfully to account for the rather complex results of observation. Furthermore, when such is not the case, the author skillfully defines the shortcomings of both theory and observation.

Though he makes no commitment to do so, Defant summarizes in tables and charts the distribution, usually on a world-wide scale, of many oceanographic variables. While his summaries will scarcely satisfy a specialist, they should prove very helpful to students.

No attempt is made to describe instruments, except a few of the older types—for example, the Nansen bottle and reversing thermometer—which have a venerable history in oceanography. Instruments are an important expression of the state of understanding in any observational science, and an instrumental revolution which is complete-

ly missing in this book was underway in oceanography long before 1957. I believe this to be the book's greatest lack.

The composition is so well worked out that only rarely does one have to turn the page to consult a figure referred to in text. This is a considerable achievement which compositors often seem to try to avoid. Although the figures are generally clear, a magnifying glass is sometimes needed for identifying the coordinates of graphs. The bibliographies (at the end of each part) form an important part of the text, since Defant, in the course of a few sentences, frequently leaves the student a considerable assignment of outside reading. I am least well equipped to comment on this part of the book, since I am almost totally ignorant of European oceanographic literature. However, I hope that before future printings are made the large number of obvious editorial mistakes in the bibliographic references can be corrected. I think it likely that these errors are more characteristic of the parts of the literature I know than of the whole bibliography, but they will prove confusing and should be repaired.

I had great pleasure in reading this book, and I except to have a great deal more. It should be useful to a wide professional readership as a detailed and yet grand exposition of man's understanding, just past mid-century, of water motion of the oceans.

J. B. HERSEY
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution,
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

Gram Determinant

The Theory of Crystal Structure Analysis. A. I. Kitaigorodskii. Translated from the Russian by David and Katherine Harker. Consultants Bureau, New York, 1961. xi + 275 pp. Illus. \$12.50.

The title of this book is a fair representation of its content. The book deals with the theoretical background useful in finding the location of atoms in a crystal, using as data a set of the absolute values of the amplitudes of the x-ray diffraction spectra. It is directed, therefore, to the crystal-structure analyst who already has a considerable background in the theoretical and practical experimental aspects of x-ray dif-