

culture reached an all-time high in some respects and extended its direct influence as far as Egypt. Semitic influence on the Sumerians goes back to very early in the third millennium (possibly even earlier), but it was never on a par with Sumerian influence on the Semites. The mighty Sumero-Akkadian empire of Sargon I and his successors (the 24th to the 22nd centuries B.C.), founded largely on commerce, was followed by the Third Dynasty of Ur (about 2000 B.C.), which was also built on trade and which became the most completely integrated bilingual civilization known to historians. At that time the Babylonians broke away from the "tyranny of words" and developed such disciplines as algebra and philology to a level beyond that of the Hellenistic world nearly two millennia later.

The author has given us a great deal more than is promised in the subtitle; his book is really an attractively presented compendium of Sumerology, which omits technical details. He gives us descriptions of the recovery of the Sumerian language and culture, of Sumerian history, social organization, religion, belles lettres, education, and intellectual and spiritual values, and he sketches Sumerian influence on the ages that followed. In appendixes he gives us surveys of more technical questions, a discussion of such problems as the extent of Sumerian geographical knowledge, and extensive samples, even complete translations, of important Sumerian historiographic and juristic records. Long extracts from Sumerian literature are distributed through the book at appropriate places. No other Sumerian scholar of our time could possibly equal Kramer's total achievement, though he might improve on him here and there. Virtually every printed synthesis of Sumerian civilization is completely antiquated by *The Sumerians*.

Last but not least, cultural and social anthropologists will find a wealth of pertinent material in this recently recovered civilization of the third millennium B.C. Even where translations or interpretations are uncertain or incomplete, we possess the original documents and can always improve on them. And there can never be any question of borrowing from a still older high culture; we assist at the birth of the highest intellectual tradition of pre-Greek times.

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## Success and Security

**The Reluctant Job Changer.** Studies in work attachments and aspirations. Gladys L. Palmer, Herbert S. Parnes, Richard C. Wilcock, Mary W. Herman, and Carol P. Brainerd. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, 1962. xx + 225 pp. \$7.50.

The authors of this volume have put together four research studies that bear upon the general question of occupational mobility. With divided authorship, but with unity of impact, the monograph points to a high and increasing reluctance on the part of blue collar industrial workers to change jobs and occupations, and the authors attempt to answer the question—Why are these reluctant job changers inclined to stay put? They also wonder about and attempt to resolve an apparent contradiction between this growing indisposition to move onward and upward and traditional subscription to the American Dream of Success.

By means of structured and unstructured interviews, the authors quizzed samples of skilled and semi-skilled workmen about their employment experiences and attitudes. Persons selected as respondents were restricted, in the main, to male workers aged 25 to 50, in order to tap that phase of the life span when family responsibilities are heaviest.

One major tentative conclusion stands out in prominent salience in relation to a set of subsidiary conclusions and qualifications, namely, that the reluctant job changer sits tight or, at least, does not change jobs voluntarily, because he cherishes his seniority. Seniority translates into economic security plus various equities and amenities that give life on the production line a modicum of cheer and well-being. Concomitantly, the demurrer perceives only dimly, if at all, a linkage between "onward" and "upward." Opportunities for job or occupational improvement do not seem to be in the range of his grasp. There is no beckoning bird in the bush to tease release of the one in hand. The American Dream, however, has not been abandoned; it has been redefined. Success is Security, the security of a steady job that pays a wage adequate to maintain standardized patterns of consumption. Aspiration for higher occupational status is passed on to the children.

An interesting but not surprising sub-

sidary discovery is that the company pension plan seems not to increase job attachment. To the industrial worker, \$65 per month would appear to be no more exciting in anticipation than the prospect of being 65 years old.

A procedural challenge lies in the authors' consideration of various "indicators" for measuring job attachment. A basic need here is for a set of measures by which various influences on attachment can be expressed in functional relatedness to form a linguistically coherent frame of analysis.

Whatever their technical difficulties and limitations, the researchers have performed a timely service in adding to our understanding of the reluctantly mobile workman before he is removed from the industrial scene by automation.

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## History of Science

**Japanese Studies in the History of Science.** No. 1. Suketoshi Yajima, Ed. History of Science Society of Japan, Tokyo, 1962. vi + 140 pp. Illus. Paper, \$5.

The first Nobel prize awarded to a Japanese scientist (in 1949 to the physicist Yukawa) is one landmark in world recognition of the achievements of Japanese science. The geographical expansion of the scientific activity behind this event and the shifts in centers of science during the years from 1500 to the present (treated by Yuasa) is one of the many themes presented in this collection of 21 articles; most of the papers are in English, which is commendably clear and readable, with two in German and one in French. The collection is a welcome and noteworthy introduction to the work of the History of Science Society of Japan, whose members are eager and demonstrably qualified to make significant contributions to cosmopolitan scholarship.

Space limitations permit mention of only a few of the outstanding articles; topics include problems in the history of Japanese, Chinese, and world science; pseudoscience (astrology); mathematics; the philosophy of science; medicine, including occupational diseases; and technology. Saigusa, in a paper entitled "Die Entwicklung der