

The Classical Equilibrium Theory of Liquids

The Equilibrium Theory of Classical Fluids. Harry L. Frisch and Joel L. Lebowitz. Benjamin, New York, 1964. Unpaged. Illus. Paper, \$5.95; cloth, \$10.

It is difficult to review a book that consists of a collection of reprints. The main point of discussion is that of the selective process used by the editors, and this has already been discussed by them in their preface. They state that "Selection implies omission, and the topics covered in this volume reflect by choice and necessity the interests of the editors and some of their friends." There is no mention of hole theories, lattice theories, cell theories, the theory of significant structures, or the tunnel theory (except in the preface where they state that these theories are omitted). Because of this it seems that the title, *The Equilibrium Theory of Classical Fluids*, is somewhat misleading. A more descriptive title would be "Radial Distribution Function and Integral Equation Techniques in the Classical Equilibrium Theory of Fluids," since this is the mainstream of the book.

The book is divided into three parts. The first, General Theory (Exact Results), consists of five journal reprints and one lecture. The second part, Se-

ries Expansions and Integral Equations, which is two-thirds of the book, consists of five reprints, two revisions and extensions of published papers, and two sections written for this volume. The last part, Phase Transitions and Critical Phenomena, contains eight reprints and one rewritten reprint. The highlight of this section, and perhaps of the whole book, is two famous papers by Ornstein and Zernicke which first appeared in *Proceedings, Akademie van Wetenschappen Amsterdam* about 1915 and which are not readily available. It might be added (for what it is worth) that the very last two papers in the volume are the only ones that contain any experimental data.

The purpose of a reprint volume is to present the recent developments in an active and rapidly expanding field. In principle, this is a useful and necessary concept, but there is nevertheless the danger that, owing to the eagerness of publishers, a plethora of such volumes will appear. A number of fields are expanding and developing at such a rate that reprint volumes are needed, but it is questionable whether the classical equilibrium theory of liquids is one of them.

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Status of Women in South-East Asia Today

Women in the New Asia. The changing social roles of men and women in South and South-East Asia. Barbara E. Ward, Ed. UNESCO, Paris (order from Columbia University Press, New York), 1963. 529 pp. Illus. \$10.

Women in the New Asia is an outgrowth of UNESCO's long-range research project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, which was launched with a symposium of social scientists held at Calcutta in 1958. It should be looked on as a restudy, from a new perspective, of the *Status of Women in South Asia* (1954), edited by A. Appadorai, also under the auspices of UNESCO. During recent history, the world has seen revolutionary changes in the *de jure* status of women—politically, legally, economically, and educationally; but

de facto changes have not kept pace with them. The present volume attempts to explore the latter aspects of the issue, and in so doing, it offers a refreshing document for social scientists as well as interested laymen.

Women in the New Asia is divided into three parts. The first includes a long analytical paper by Barbara Ward wherein she brilliantly examines, in cross-national framework, the influence of modern medical measures, communication, urbanization, new employment and wages, education, political emancipation, and kinship systems on the changing roles of women in South and Southeast Asia. The second part presents autobiographical and sociological data on 11 different countries, contributed by 18 authors. Of the two or more papers written on each country, one provides social-anthropological analysis of women's

role in the society and the other presents an autobiographical sketch of a leading, atypical woman citizen. The third part comprises two papers—one, by Romila Tharper, on women's emancipation movements in southern Asia and the other, by E. Smith, on the population characteristics of South and Southeast Asia.

The volume was written by 20 persons drawn from a wide spectrum of professions, for the contributors include anthropologists, journalists, social workers, physicians, and politicians as well as homemakers. It illustrates at least two points of general interest. First, the change in the social roles of women in Asia during the last three generations is largely the result of their access to modern systems of education. This is obvious, because nine out of ten women writing their biographical notes are successful professionals and the tenth, the first woman to attain the baccalaureate in Laos, is a socially active, nonprofessional by choice. Second, the changes in the women's roles are generally restricted to the urban centers, mainly among the new elites of the new Asia, who radiate innovations to the far-flung corners of their countries. On the sociological level, S. C. Dube points out how caste becomes invisible in Indian cities; B. S. Siriwardena describes how towns have exercised liberating influences on women in Ceylon; and F. Wong shows how urban conditions engender change from extended to nuclear families among the Chinese of Singapore. It is interesting to note that the women in such countries as Burma and Thailand, who have long held equal opportunities with men and have had for generations many roles open to them, are not as professionally active or generally outstanding as the women of India, Ceylon, or Pakistan, who, only two generations ago, had very few roles available to them.

Women in the New Asia is a fascinating, objectively written document offering comparative data from 11 (now 10) different countries, even though it does not tell us much about the women of the masses who live in the rural areas of these old countries that have become new nations.

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