

additional work are obvious—two notable ones are metabolism (particularly of larval forms) and the development and use of effective control or ameliorative measures. Paradoxically, however, reducing the prevalence of this parasite will undoubtedly seriously affect its popularity as material for use in teaching and research.

Even though this book lacks the structural excellence that the reader has the right to expect, it will undoubtedly fulfill much of the role intended by its author. For the nonspecialist, it will tie together the picture of *Fasciola* and fascioliasis, and for the helminthologist it will serve as a useful secondary source of information.

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## Metaphysicians of Economics

Marginal utility theory has an important but controversial place in the history of economic thought. Its very contributions, not unexpectedly, were the objects of profound criticism. Yet contemporary economic theory not only incorporates its basic ideas but also manifests both its marginalist stamp and formal concern with narrowly defined static economic categories. The doctrines of the marginal utility school of the half century following 1870 provided an organizing principle and a heuristic system, and was a source of renewed confidence and even inspiration for economists. Marginal utility analysis was instrumental in comprehending the forces underlying demand, household equilibrium, and even the theory of free trade. Moreover its doctrine was an important weapon in the ideological defense and legitimation of the market system and a policy of *laissez faire*. Individualism was both a methodological and valuational premise.

Yet the accomplishments of the school and its theory—diminishing marginal utility, the equimarginal principle, and imputation, for example—were not permanently satisfying. Utility theorists have been the great metaphysicians of economics; their continuation of the quest for an absolute and invariant basis of value, their conscious attempt to superimpose utility as an all-encompassing organizing principle, and their practice of ideological apologetics—all

contributed to an inherent philosophical monism. Most important, utility analysis itself encountered diminishing returns as many of the newer problems of interest to economists simply had no, or little, place for—and really could take for granted—the exercise of consumer valuation and choice and its implications. Also crucial has been the largely nonoperational character of utility theory. Finally, the oversimplified understanding of the utility theorists—at least so far as their formal theory encompassed—of human psychology and of the basic issues of economic policy relevant to market interaction with the legal and moral framework, became a dangerously naive defense of the free market economy. For these and other reasons, marginal utility theory has been in eclipse for about half a century, its central contributions absorbed in the corpus of economic theory though not in the position the utility theorists would have preferred.

In this book, **A History of Marginal Utility Theory** (Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J., 1965. 270 pp., \$6.50), Emil Kauder has given us an important contribution to an appreciation of this stage in the history of economic theory. He is one of a remaining relative handful able to present a sympathetic account of the growth of marginal utility theory (in part due to his multilingual abilities as well as his early training and affinities). Kauder traces the precursors of the Austrian school (the users of such concepts as utility and value-in-use) and developments in recent years (largely game theory). Kauder correctly focuses upon Menger, Jevons, and Walras, and presents an exciting account of the major and minor issues, problems, and controversies as seen by the original developers of utility theory. It is also to Kauder's credit that he traces the philosophical connections and significance of marginal utility analysis.

I am somewhat ambivalent about Kauder's accomplishment. His account of the development of the Austrian school is unquestionably well done and edifying, and his judgment, when he directs attention to evaluation and assessment, is generally judicious and balanced—indeed rarely would I take issue with him. But the book lacks definitiveness and, more serious, is marked by a sympathy that too frequently becomes outright partisan de-

fense. The book is both a history of thought and a polemic. But it is primarily the former, and as such is a fine piece of work, so that its author's often defensive and hypersensitive posture in the latter regard is a small price in comparison. The book will be hard going for a nonspecialist who lacks perspective and to whom equivocal *obiter dicta* may be misleading. As for the specialist, he will wish that Kauder had substituted greater breadth of coverage for passion. Yet part of this difficulty is not due to Kauder: marginal utility theory, for all its pretensions, is not that elaborate. Its distinctions have been eclipsed by other achievements and interests of economic theorists, calling in doubt the relative importance of utility theory (as distinct from the marginal technique) as a heuristic system. Kauder's book, moreover, confirms the metaphysical preoccupations of marginal utility theorists, including their view of marginal utility theory as dealing with the eternal, immutable, inevitable, and the essence of things economic, things to be discovered and not created. To some, then, this book will represent a renewed call to virtue; to others, a futile cry from the past.

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## Testing Tests

Some 35 years ago, Oscar Krisen Buros aspired to establish a "test consumers research organization" to test tests for use in education, industry, and psychology. Lacking financial support for such a venture, Buros initiated a test reviewing service in 1938. This "yearbook" series (published in 1940, 1949, 1953, 1959, and now 1965) has consisted primarily of critical test reviews written by selected individuals who have different specialties and points of view.

The 1965 volume, **The Sixth Mental Measurements Yearbook** (Gryphon Press, Highland Park, N.J., 1965. 1752 pp., \$32.50), edited by Buros, lists complete identifying information for 1219 tests (all those known to have been published in English-speaking countries from 1959 to mid-1964), grouped into 15 broad classes. It presents 795 new test reviews by 396 reviewers, 8001 relevant references, and