

somewhat idealistic. I am disturbed, however, by what he has called the standard method of interpreting the data. Although the bibliography indicates his acquaintance with the literature from both the Old and the New World (a circumstance all too rare among faunal analysts), he shows a certain temporal and spatial provincialism in his discussion of analytical techniques. It is quite correct that there are basic principles that may be applied to a site of any age, but the statistical approach used on material from a Roman villa or a Saxon farm is hardly applicable to long-term occupation sites such as are found in the Near East. Chaplin makes the dubious assumption that a large sample indicates a high preservation rate of bone (in fact, except in special situations, the preservation rate is very low). This assumption is implicit in his calculation of the grand minimum number of individuals per species (GMT), which he derives from the well-known minimum number of individuals calculation (MNI). The latter is a perfectly valid statistical technique, but it is inapplicable unless the sample is very large. Chaplin makes the error of thinking that the MNI calculation is an approximation of the actual number of individual animals killed, which it is not, and from this he evolves his GMT calculation, which is statistically invalid. He has lost sight of the primary objective of quantifying faunal material, which is not to determine the number of animals killed during the period of occupation (surely a Utopian goal) but to determine the relative frequency of each species and consequently its economic importance. It is high time that those of us in faunal analysis take a close look at our quantification methods (preferably with the help of a statistician) so that such errors will not be repeated.

Although the author emphasizes the necessity of close cooperation with the archeologist, his orientation is essentially that of the zoologist. He is not thinking in cultural terms and, indeed, he never discusses bone as an artifactual material. There are limitations in the "specialist" approach, and nowhere is this more evident than in faunal analysis. Let the archeologist beware: the specialist he hires must be part archeologist himself.

DEXTER PERKINS, JR.  
Faunal Research Group,  
Department of Anthropology,  
Columbia University, New York City

## Effects on Behavior

**Pharmacological and Biophysical Agents and Behavior.** ERNEST FURCHGOTT, Ed. Academic Press, New York, 1971. xii, 402 pp. \$14.50.

This book can be divided into two portions. The first four chapters deal with the behavioral effects of ionizing radiation, nonionizing radiation, anoxia, and ambient temperature. The main concern of these chapters is with the possible behavioral toxicity of these environmental hazards. The last three chapters deal with the effects of stimulants, sympathomimetic agents, and muscarinic blocking agents (atropine and scopolamine) on behavior, but from the point of view of their possible therapeutic use in behavioral disorders. In addition there is an emphasis on the utilization of drugs having known pharmacologic effects in order to elucidate the role of various chemical systems in behavior.

These two sections of the book differ not only in subject matter and approach but also in style and quality. The first is quite disappointing in terms of the title of this volume and its intent. In the introduction, the editor states, "Since some of the original research reports [on the behavioral effects of environmental agents] were not written by psychologists, the terminology and conceptualizations are not compatible with current behavioral science. The literature is, therefore, in need of evaluation. This volume is an attempt to bridge this existing gap." Unfortunately, the gap is not bridged, nor are the terminology and conceptualization compatible with current behavioral science. Much time is spent in defining the physical nature of these environmental factors and describing their biological effects. Such information is easily available from other sources. In contrast less than a third of the first 179 pages deal directly with behavioral effects. The presentation of behavioral effects is moreover totally uncritical, leaving the reader lost in a series of references to experiments that the authors fail to evaluate or place in perspective. Effects on learning are cited without a concern for whether the observed changes are due to associative or performance variables. Furthermore, there is no attempt to abstract general phenomena that have a common feature with other biological manipulations. For example, many of the symptomatic effects of radiation on behavior are also obtained following

brain damage or toxic dosages of drugs. Perhaps the authors are simply the victims of the paucity of experimental data within their fields. Certainly the impression gained by the reader is that virtually nothing is known in any systematic way concerning the effects of environmental hazards on behavior. Considering the current interest in the toxic effects of our environment on behavior of all organisms one might hope that systematic studies will be initiated in this area.

In contrast to the first part of the book, the final three chapters are well-written evaluations of effects of drugs on behavior. The chapter by Calhoun on stimulants is a gem of clarity and lucidity. The strengths and shortcomings of experiments are pointed out, problems of research methodology are made understandable, and the general conclusions that can be reached are clearly stated. Great care is taken to lead the reader through the maze of results and provide him with a coherent picture of what we know concerning the behavioral effects of stimulant drugs. The same comments can be made concerning the other two chapters in this section.

This volume could prove useful for those interested in a general handbook for this field. There are over 1200 references in it and a reasonably good index of authors and subjects.

JOHN A. HARVEY  
Department of Psychology,  
University of Iowa,  
Iowa City

## Acquiring Language

**The Ontogenesis of Grammar.** A Theoretical Symposium. DAN I. SLOBIN, Ed. Academic Press, New York, 1971. xiv, 248 pp. \$14.50. Child Psychology Series.

Transformational generative grammar as developed by N. Chomsky and other linguists, as well as the philosophical orientation of these scholars, has challenged psychologists in the past decade to consider more carefully the structure of individual knowledge and the preconditions for speech and language. Much of this interest has centered on first language mastery. This book includes papers on that subject written in 1965, when the symposium that prompted it was held, additions to those papers, and other, independent papers written in the last five years.

The major characteristics of young