

atomic and nuclear physics (J. J. Thomson and Rutherford), molecular biology (Crick and Watson), and radioastronomy (Ryle and Hewish)—all of which the book describes. Last year's award of the Nobel Prize in physics to Ryle and Hewish brought to 24 the number of Nobel laureates associated with the Cavendish. Clearly any author courageously attempting to write the 100-year history of a center of such intellectual excellence and achievement is confronted by many difficulties, not the least of which is the fact that there is material enough for several volumes.

In presenting a history of the Cavendish in one volume, Crowther has in mind "the general as well as the scientific reader." For each the usefulness of the book will be inversely proportional to his familiarity with the many historical works, of which Crowther makes extensive use, which deal directly or indirectly, in part or in full, with the Cavendish and its professors. His own contribution has been to sketch periods, particularly more recent ones, not covered by these other volumes. In his researches he has interviewed many Cavendish scientists, but he has not always fashioned the resultant information into good history. Perhaps the most obvious example of this is chapter 20, "The Cavendish in transition," which is intended to deal with the period between the end of Rutherford's tenure as Cavendish Professor in 1937 and the beginning of W. L. Bragg's tenure in 1938. In particular, the latter part of this chapter reads like a set of notes taken during a rambling oral interview with J. A. Ratcliffe, who entered the Cavendish as a student of radio-physics under E. V. Appleton in 1921 and who later acted briefly as director of the Cavendish following Bragg's departure in 1953. Poor construction is also apparent, although to a lesser degree, in chapters 15 through 19, on the Rutherford era, where again it often happens that the author is controlled by his sources rather than they being dominated and ordered by him.

Crowther has been writing on science since 1926, when he became the first science correspondent of the Manchester *Guardian*, and is the author of a number of other books on science and its history. In view of the fact that some of his earlier historical works have used and given support to a Marxist interpretation of history, his promise in the preface to keep in view "the influence of social factors on the subjects and directions of research" at

the Cavendish comes as no surprise. However, after the introduction and the first chapter, where the creation of the Cavendish is explained as a response of the University of Cambridge to needs of the burgeoning scientific-industrial society of 19th-century Britain, this concern drops quickly from sight and thereafter we are given a conventional, if uneven, history of Cavendish life under the successive leadership of Maxwell, Rayleigh, J. J. Thomson, Rutherford, Bragg, N. F. Mott, and, since 1971, A. B. Pippard.

Although this book is not the definitive history of the Cavendish, it should prove to be rewarding reading to many. The reviewer, who is not unfamiliar with the other literature relating to the Cavendish, has profited by reading it, especially in regard to the more recent history. It is handsomely produced, with large type, reads easily, and has 52 illustrations, including portraits of each of the seven Cavendish Professors.

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of coal tar pitch volatiles"; C. F. Reinhardt, "Fire toxicology." (William E. MacDonald, chairman): P. N. Kaul, "Toxicology of marine natural products."

29 July. (Rolf Hartung, chairman): W. B. Buck, "Toxicology of copper and related metals"; Donald Barltrop, "Toxicology and absorption of lead in the young animals." (R. M. Hehir, chairman): W. K. Talley, "Research and development at EPA"; John Buckley, "Substitute pesticide development."

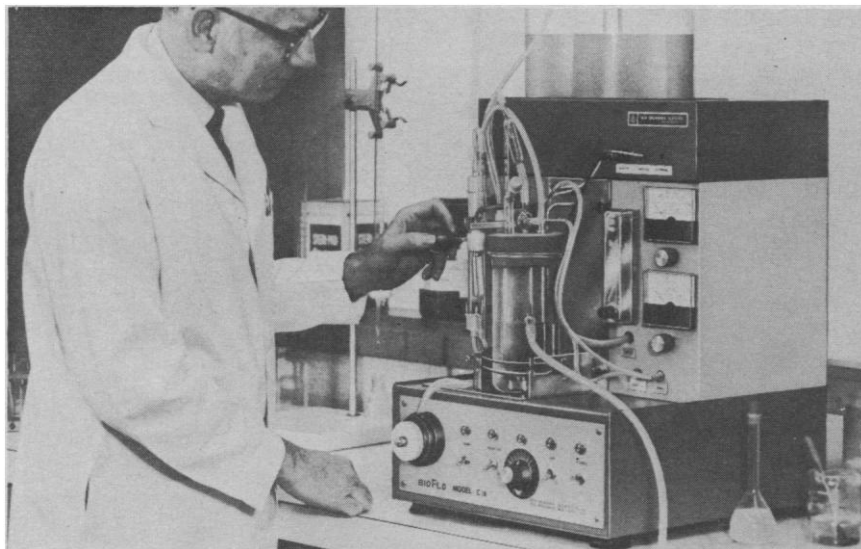
30 July. (W. G. Flamm, chairman):

J. F. Fraumeni, "Human genetics and cancer"; David Brusick, "Mutagenesis and carcinogenesis screening." (R. J. Weir, chairman): A. E. New, "Primate supply and breeding."

31 July. (E. V. Anderson, chairman): Panel discussion: Carcinogenesis data extrapolation. David Gaylor, R. E. Albert and C. S. Weil. (B. D. Dinman, chairman): W. W. Lowrance, "Safety evaluation and the public."

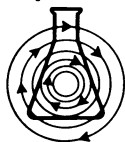
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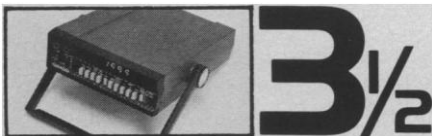
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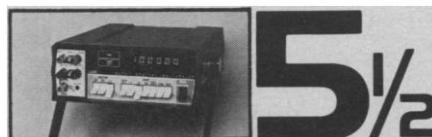
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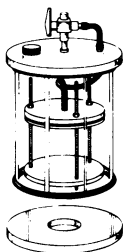
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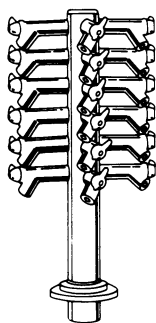
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ECOLOGY AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE edited by Sylvan J. Kaplan, *Chevy Chase, Maryland*, and Evelyn Kivy-Rosenberg, *Jersey City State College, Jersey City, New Jersey*. (24 Contributors) Exactly what is meant by ecology and quality of life? Opinions are offered as to what is known about the projections of available resources to service people in the future. Methods for estimating alternative futures, ways for thinking of change, the logic and illogic of dealing with the human condition, and the plausibility of human capacity for adaptation to the requirements of an acceptable quality of life are given. '73, 308 pp., 23 il., 11 tables, \$17.50

THE PRENATAL DIAGNOSIS OF HEREDITARY DISORDERS by Aubrey Milunsky, *Harvard Univ., Boston, Massachusetts*. Foreword by John W. Littlefield. This monograph concerns those hereditary disorders that can be detected *in utero* and the problems and perspectives which have arisen as a direct result of these most recent advances. Many sex-linked disorders can now be managed through accurate fetal sex prediction. The importance of carrier detection in genetic disease is emphasized. Principles and practices of genetic counseling before and after prenatal genetic studies are outlined. The most complete data currently available on prenatal genetic studies is presented from case surveys. '73, 276 pp., 18 il. (2 in full color), 26 tables, \$11.75

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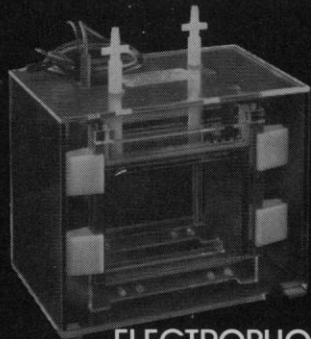
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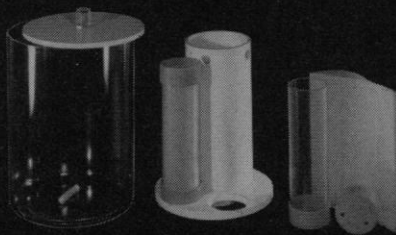
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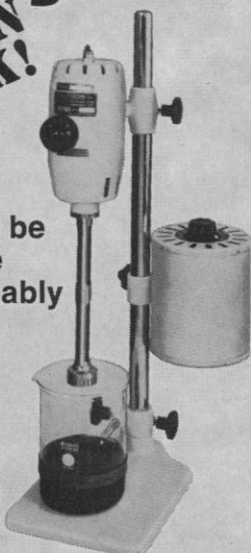
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