

only half the sample) retrieved an object hidden under a transparent cup as retrieved one hidden under an occluder. Bower also presents in support of his contention that infants have a grasp of object permanence the fact that they will reach for a once-visible object that experimenters put out of sight by plunging the test chamber into darkness. However, his and Wishart's study failed to determine if infants would under similar conditions "find" an object they had not seen before. Intriguing, but not proved.

In a chapter that should have preceded, not followed, Bower's, Gerald Gratch reviews the literature on Piaget's concept of the object with respect to its theoretical implications and psychometric assessment. He contributes the hypothesis that in traditional experiments designed to assess knowledge of object permanence young infants fail to solve the problem because they misinterpret the hiding of the original object (does the infant perceive the object as being transformed in Bower's sense?) and that older infants fail because they forget the hiding place. But, like Yonas and Pick, Gratch shuns pulling the data toward an integrated conclusion concerning this aspect of the infant's perceptual world.

Michael Lewis and Jeanne Brooks chart the course of social perception, specifically the development of the ability to discriminate between pictures of human and other objects, infants and adults, and themselves and strangers. Although it contains more conceptual perambulation than the quantity and quality of the data merit, the chapter is provocative.

In the final section, Kurt Hecox sketches the anatomy and neurophysiology of the auditory system and summarizes the development of the auditory evoked response, and Peter Eimas presents data on the infant's perception of certain speech sounds. These are solid contributions, but because of the density of material and the technical vocabulary they will appeal only to readers already conversant with speech audiology and sensory neurophysiology.

These volumes have several liabilities: certain topics are omitted (for example, the orienting response to auditory stimuli, sense modalities other than vision and audition, substantial topics in perceptual-cognitive development); some authors rely disproportionately on their own data; several chapters are rather technical for newcomers and are written in a plodding style; and the material is not well integrated. Moreover, most of the contributors are trained in the behav-

ioral sciences, and neurophysiologists will occasionally find naive, outdated information, and misinterpretation in the accounts of research related to their disciplines. Nevertheless, most of the contributors are leading authorities in their own fields, the amount of literature surveyed is considerable, and the volumes bring together data from a variety of perspectives. Undoubtedly, some of the papers in these volumes will become major references and points of departure for future research in this growing field.

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