Social Stigma is the second major book on the subject. It contrasts sharply with Goffman's effort. Stigma was the product of a highly original individualist; Social Stigma is a group effort. Stigma was fascinating but unsystematic; Social Stigma is less exciting but systematic and theoretically self-conscious. Most important, the two books derive from different lines of inquiry: Goffman was a symbolic interactionist (in sociology and nonpositivistic); most of the six authors of Social Stigma are experimental social psychologists (in psychology and positivistic).

Jones and his colleagues focus on relationships and face-to-face interaction between stigmatized and non-stigmatized individuals. They introduce a helpful nomenclature: "mark" covers the many conditions that may trigger stigmatization, "markable" refers to the person whose mark may be stigmatized, "marked" refers to the person whose mark has been stigmatized, and "marker" is the person who reacts to the mark as a stigma. The volume considers in detail how stigmas vary, how reactions to stigmas are shaped by emotion and social factors, and how stigmas influence self-concepts, self-presentation strategies, and long-term relationships. The discussion is enlivened by the insertion of two cartoon strips and 28 excerpts from books, journals, and newspapers.

Numerous popular ideas about stigmas are seriously questioned. The book points out, for example, that many blind people and deaf people come to experience no special sense of handicap. The authors reason that this occurs because of "the difficulty of constructing a selfconcept around a void" (p. 141). Consider, too, the resistance that victims evince to the acceptance of their personal tragedy as a chance event. Thus, researchers report that individuals suffering from severe spinal cord injuries deal better with their traumas if they hold themselves partly responsible for their fates. The volume links such surprising research findings to basic social psychological theory. Indeed, the book's special strength is in its demonstration of how social psychological theory can be usefully applied to a problem of major significance. Theories of causal attribution, social comparison, exchange, and social cognition are exploited persuasively. And a research agenda is advanced that I hope will stimulate further work.

Social Stigma, then, is an important addition both to social psychology and to the many specialized fields that have to do with stigmas. Yet in several ways it disappoints. Though it includes a

thoughtful sociological chapter by Robert Scott, most of its chapters remain parochially within experimental social psychology. Though it offers an extensive bibliography, it ignores much of the work on stigmas by the nonexperimental branches of social psychology. In particular, it deals only briefly with the labeling theory of symbolic interactionism. The work of Lemert is not mentioned. Goffman is cited 14 times, yet no use is made of his most fundamental distinctions.

Particularly disappointing is the final chapter, on remedy. Rightly, the authors avoid a "dreary fatalism" by closing the book with suggestions about how "destigmatization" might be achieved. But societal remedies are not the forte of experimentalists. In striking contrast to the care with which the hypotheses and research summaries are set forth, sweeping—and often demonstrably incorrect—views about society and politics are advanced that weaken this discussion.

Nonetheless, Social Stigma can be highly recommended. For general readers, it would be best to peruse Goffman's Stigma before tackling Social Stigma. For specialists familiar with Goffman and interested in a more systematic formulation, this new volume will be an especially welcome contribution.

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Some Other Books of Interest

Antarctic Nutrient Cycles and Food Webs. W. R. SIEGFRIED, P. R. CONDY, and R. M. LAWS, Eds. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1985. xiv, 700 pp., illus. \$59. From a symposium, Wilderness, South Africa, Sept. 1983.

Since its founding in 1958 the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) has sponsored four international symposiums on antarctic biology. This volume is the proceedings of the most recent. It includes revised versions of most of the papers accepted for presentation at the symposium, arranged under the headings Marine Nutrient Cycles (18 papers); Terrestrial and Freshwater Nutrient Cycles (18 papers); Marine Food Webs (41 papers); Terrestrial Food Webs (six papers); and Interactions Between Marine, Freshwater, and Terrestrial Systems (nine papers). The opening paper of each section is a solicited review, the respective authors being O. Holm-Hansen, R. I. Lewis Smith, G. Hempel, A. E. Burger, and J. C. Hureau. R. M. Laws provides an introduction to the volume and a brief chapter of summary and conclusions, and a subject (including taxonomic) index is appended. All the papers are in English, and each is preceded by an abstract.—K.L.

Neotropical Ornithology. P. A. BUCKLEY, MERCEDES S. FOSTER, EUGENE S. MORTON, ROBERT S. RIDGELY, and FRANCINE G. BUCKLEY, Eds. American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C., 1985 (available from F. R. Moore, Department of Biology, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg). xii, 1044 pp., illus. \$70. Ornithological Monographs, no. 36.

This volume, conceived as a memorial to the late Eugene Eisenmann, is described by the editors as not a textbook but "a collection of papers on what has been and what is being done by researchers on birds in the neotropics." The contributions are grouped under the following headings: New Taxa (five papers, reporting on birds assigned to the genera Thryothorus, Pyrrhura, Panterpe, Tachybaptus, and Coeligena); Zoogeography and Distribution (11 papers); Systematics (nine papers); Evolution (ten papers); Community and Population Ecology (ten papers); Evolutionary and Behavioral Ecology (eight papers); Breeding Biology (two papers); and Conservation (five papers). Within each section after the first the papers are arranged alphabetically by first author's surname. The final contribution is a 12page "overview" by Kenneth C. Parkes in which the preceding papers "are reviewed in the context of the progressive stages of ornithological knowledge and of current neotropical ornithological research in general." All the papers are in English, with abstracts in both English and Spanish. Eight colorplates and an index of key words from the paper titles are included.—K.L.

Golden Past, Golden Future. The First Fifty Years of Beckman Instruments, Inc. HARRISON STEPHENS. Claremont University Center, Claremont, Calif., 1985 (distributor, Corporate Communications Department, Beckman Instruments, Fullerton, Calif.). 144 pp., illus. Paper, \$15.

Beckman Instruments provides an early example of a commercial enterprise founded by an academic scientist. The company had its origins in a commission Arnold Beckman, then an assistant professor of chemistry at the California Institute of Technology, received in 1934

to devise an ink that would not clog postal meters. Begun as the National Inking Appliance Company, it soon extended its activities and took the name National Technical Laboratories. World War II brought about a rapid expansion of the company, which "went public" as Beckman Instruments in 1952. By the early 1960's it was producing some 120 different instruments and was expanding into foreign markets. In 1982 the firm merged with SmithKline Corporation to become SmithKline Beckman, of which the present Beckman Instruments operates as a subsidiary. This account of the company's history is based heavily on interviews with officers and employees of the company. The book is celebratory rather than scholarly or analytical in tone, but hardships as well as successes of the company are dealt with. The book has a page size of 8½ by 11 inches, is printed on glossy paper, and is lavishly illustrated. The author reports that transcripts of the interviews conducted will be on deposit in the Beckman archives and the Claremont Graduate School oral history files.—K.L.

The Dialectical Biologist. RICHARD LEVINS and RICHARD LEWONTIN. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1985. xiv, 303 pp. \$20.

"As biologists who have been working self-consciously in a dialectical mode for many years," the authors of this book write, "we felt a need to illustrate the strength of the dialectical view of biology in the hope that others would find a compelling case for their own intellectual reorientation." To that end they have brought together some dozen essays written by themselves over the last decade, some of which were originally published in relatively inaccessible sources. Some of the papers appear in English for the first time, and the authors report having made some revisions. The volume opens with a group of three papers headed On Evolution. A second group of three papers (including an exchange on the matter of the pseudonymous Isidore Nabi) is headed On Analysis. Considerations of subjects ranging from Lysenkoism through applied biology in the Third World to "the issue of 'human' nature" make up a third group, Science as a Social Product and the Social Product of Science. The final chapter of the book, written especially for it, is characterized by the authors as a "first attempt" to make explicit the view of dialectics underlying the writings included. The volume has a general bibliography and an index.-K.L.

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