

tion to liking for a comparison other and in one by Arkin and Baumgardner that discusses the phenomenon of self-handicapping. Unlike defensive attributions, which involve the distorted processing of extant information, self-handicapping consists in the "manufacture" of evidence aimed at avoiding damaging attributions to oneself in the future. Arkin and Baumgardner offer insights into the antecedent conditions, particularly maladaptive ones, of self-handicapping and its consequences.

Arkin and Baumgardner's chapter begins a section on applications of attribution theory. It is followed by a chapter on close relationships in which Fincham criticizes the relative lack of contact between basic attributional notions and the study of close relationships from the point of view of attribution theory. At least in part, the problem could stem from basic attributional models' having been oriented to process whereas attributional studies of close relationships have dwelt on attributional contents and, in so doing, have gone well beyond the global causal dimensions adumbrated in the early models. But beyond problems there is promise: close relationships do seem to involve intense attributional activity occasionally leading to attributional conflicts. Furthermore, formation or dissolution of a relationship may be accompanied by more attributional activity than routine maintenance of the relationship. Fincham's critical review is informative and useful.

The section concludes with a chapter by Anderson and Arnoult that extends Weiner's seminal work on attribution-mediated affect in achievement settings to problems of shyness, loneliness, and depression. Though the (conceptual and empirical) distinctions between these problems are occasionally less than crisp, the linking of attributional styles to affective difficulties is useful, as are the authors' methodological suggestions for ways of measuring spontaneously invoked causes and causal dimensions and of investigating attributional styles as causes of problems in living.

The volume concludes with an elegant analysis by Olson and Ross, who give a historical perspective to the topics covered and highlight the themes of the book. They make the point, a good one, that the attributional paradigm has managed to retain its vitality and distinctiveness and that in the mid-80's it offers an exciting alternative to the information-processing approach of studying social-cognitive phenomena.

ARIE W. KRUGLANSKI
Department of Psychology,
Tel-Aviv University,
Tel-Aviv, Israel

Some Other Books of Interest

Insect Locomotion. MICHAEL GEWECKE and GERNOT WENDLER, Eds. Parey, New York, 1985. viii, 254 pp., illus. Paper, \$32. From a congress, Hamburg, Aug. 1984.

This proceedings volume begins with a survey of the field of insect locomotion and ends with a paper on the control of insect locomotory systems by proprioceptive and exteroceptive inputs. The remaining papers are divided into sections on aerial locomotion (14 papers), terrestrial locomotion (ten papers), and aquatic locomotion (two papers). The papers range from a discussion of the role of adipokinetic hormone in maintaining the efficient transport of lipids to the flight muscles in locusts to a description of the effect of amputating a middle or a rear leg on motor activity in cockroach leg muscles. Three papers report the results of film analyses. In one, slow-motion film is used to analyze the flight maneuvers and behavior patterns of dragonflies in their natural surroundings; in another, film of hexapods walking on rough terrain is analyzed to determine the animals' tactics for finding footholds and their strategies for negotiating obstacles; in the third, film of stick insects walking along straight paths and around curves under different equilibrium conditions is analyzed to determine the relation between the observed temporal pattern of leg movements and the equilibrium conditions—L.H.

Bacteria in Their Natural Environments. MADILYN FLETCHER and GEORGE D. FLOODGATE, Eds. Academic Press, Orlando, FL, 1985. x, 197 pp., illus. \$45; paper, \$24.95. Special Publications of the Society for General Microbiology, vol. 16. From a symposium, Reading, England, Jan. 1984.

The six chapters in this volume deal with microbial adaptations to low-nutrient environments. The volume was prompted by the isolation and study of increasing numbers of very slow growing microbes that are apparently adapted to "starvation" conditions. The book begins with a discussion of the economics of bacterial growth in various nutrient regimes by A. L. Koch. The survival of bacteria under the stress of starvation and the role of storage compounds in survival are discussed by E. A. Dawes, who concludes that survival depends on the interplay of a variety of factors, which may differ in importance depending on the organism. The critical requirement is "the provision of energy to maintain the essential cellular machinery" that will allow growth to take place when a supply of nutrients is restored. The

survival of bacteria in soils and in the marine environment is dealt with by S. T. Williams and R. Y. Morita, respectively. P. Morgan and C. S. Dow survey the prosthecae and stalked bacteria ubiquitous to low-nutrient ecosystems and consider the adaptive advantages of these bacteria in such environments as well as the expression of similar adaptive features in bacteria that do not have specialized appendages. The book ends with a discussion of microbes in a nutrient-rich environment by R. H. Dainty that is intended to provide readers with a comparison of the problems encountered by microorganisms in different nutrient conditions.—L.H.

Nucleic Acid Hybridisation. A Practical Approach. B. D. HAMES and S. J. HIGGINS, Eds. IRL Press, McLean, VA, 1985. xvi, 246 pp., illus. \$40; paper, \$25. The Practical Approach Series.

Though the primary aim of this book is "to provide detailed practical protocols for the major hybridisation procedures," Hames and Higgins note that "rationale and practical advice are interwoven throughout" to facilitate the optimal use of hybridization. The book begins with a short introduction by Southern. It is followed by a discussion of hybridization strategy by Britten and Davidson that is "entirely practical." A considerably more detailed account of the quantitative analysis of solution hybridization and quantitative filter hybridization is contained in two chapters by Young and Anderson. A chapter by Arrand describes the preparation of nucleic acid probes. The use of hybridization in the analysis of recombinant DNA and RNA is described in two chapters by Mason and Williams. Oudet and Schatz discuss electron microscopic visualization of nucleic acid hybrids, and Pardue describes the equipment and procedures used in situ hybridization. The volume contains four appendixes—on restriction enzymes (Roberts), nucleic acid size markers (Minter, Sealey, and Arrand), computer analysis of nucleic acid hybridization data (Young and Anderson), and suppliers of specialist items—and a subject index.—L.H.

Books Received

Arzneimittel- und Apothekenrecht der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik. Gesetzessammlung mit Kommentar. 13. Lieferung. Joachim Richter *et al.* Akademie-Verlag, Berlin, 1985, 393 pp., unbound. 35 M.

Aspects of Fluvial Sedimentation in the Lower Triassic Buntsandstein of Europe. Detlef Mader, Ed. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1985. viii, 626 pp., illus. Paper, \$58. Lecture Notes in Earth Sciences, vol. 4.

Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics of Air Pollution. John H. Seinfeld. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1986. xxvi, 738 pp., illus. \$59.95.

(Continued on page 669)