

upcoming sale of a family property that contains a partly unexcavated Indian mound, and eventually Colin's professional expertise is brought into play. In the course of the story old memories rise to the surface, an unsettling early love is briefly rekindled, and dark family secrets are newly revealed, leaving Colin as narrator to reflect that "I hope now only to return" to the "contented and prosaic" condition of his life in Cambridge. Notwithstanding the use made of archaeology in uncovering the remains of an old crime, the author wears his learning lightly, and this is not really a "sciency" book; it also transcends the norm for the mystery genre, and no allowances need be made for the author's novice status as a non-academic writer.

Social scientists with interests in issues beyond bones and burials are seldom main characters in mysteries, and aficionados (if any there be) of works featuring such thinkers will be glad of the appearance this month of a third novel by Marshall Jevons, entitled *A Deadly Indifference* (Carroll and Graf, New York, \$18.95). This doubly composite author (really the economists William Breit of Trinity University and Kenneth G. Elzinga of the University of Virginia) has produced two earlier works, *Murder at the Margin* (Princeton University Press, \$34.95 or, in paper, \$10.95) and *The Fatal Equilibrium* (Ballantine paperback, \$4.95) featuring economics professor Henry Spearman of Harvard, whose grasp of such concepts as utility maximization puts him at an advantage in identifying perpetrators of crime. The new work is set in the "Marxo-Keynesian" Cambridge, England, of the 1960s, where Spearman and his wife Pidge have traveled to assist in the purchase by an American foundation of Balliol Croft, a home once occupied by the great economist Alfred Marshall. Spearman, "an academic hot property," is quickly engaged in the fierce debates being waged by the Cambridge economists, he confidently predicting the collapse of communism as they loftily present their case for the inviability of capitalism. Much economic theory and Cambridge lore are expounded as murder erupts to affect the fate of Balliol Croft and Spearman involves himself in the investigation of the case. As in Jevons's earlier books, Spearman's rationality prevails in matters large and small, but this potentially maddening quality is tempered by his pixieish good humor and the exposition of other points of view on matters at issue (see Vignettes, p. 111).

The range of ways in which scientists are being represented in fiction is only barely indicated in this account. Among recent works that readers interested in foraging further on their own might like to include on their browsing lists are Erich Segal's

Prizes (Ballantine, \$23.95), and, set in earlier eras, Nicholas Mosley's *Hopeful Monsters* (Dalkey Archive Press, \$21.95; Vintage paperback, \$13) and A. S. Byatt's *Angels and Insects* (Random House, \$21; Vintage paperback, \$12).

Katherine Livingston

Books Received

Advances in Environmental Remote Sensing. F. Mark Danson and Stephen E. Plummer, Eds. Wiley, New York, 1995. xiv, 184 pp., illus., + plates. \$49.95. Based on a conference, Nottingham, UK, 1994.

Agents Unleashed. A Public Domain Look at Agent Technology. Peter Wayner. AP Professional (Academic), Cambridge, MA, 1995. xii, 358 pp., illus. Paper, \$39.95.

Agriculture and the Environment. Bridging Food Production and Environmental Protection in Developing Countries. Anthony S. R. Juo and Russell D. Freed, Eds. American Society of Agronomy, Madison, WI, 1995. xviii, 275 pp., illus. Paper, \$25. ASA Special Publication no. 60. From a symposium, Cincinnati, OH, Nov. 1993.

Biodegradation of Nitroaromatic Compounds. Jim C. Spain, Ed. Plenum, New York, 1995. viii, 232 pp., illus. \$79.50. Environmental Science Research, vol. 49. Based on a symposium, Las Vegas, NV, May 1994.

The Biological Rhythms and Clocks of Intertidal Animals. John D. Palmer. Oxford University Press, New York, 1995. xiv, 217 pp., illus. \$65.

Biotechnology Guide U.S.A. Companies, Data and Analysis. Mark D. Dibner. 3rd ed. Oryx, Phoenix, AZ, 1995. xii, 692 pp. Paper, \$249.

Blow-up in Quasilinear Parabolic Equations. Alexander A. Samarskii et al. De Gruyter, Hawthorne, NY, 1995. xxii, 535 pp., illus. \$198.95 or DM 328 or ÖS 2.559 or SFr 312. De Gruyter Expositions in Mathematics, vol. 19. Translated from the Russian edition (Moscow, 1987) by Michael Grinfeld.

Bodies of Evidence. Reconstructing History through Skeletal Analysis. Anne L. Grauer, Ed. Wiley-Liss, New York, 1995. xii, 247 pp., illus. \$39.95.

Brain and Memory. Modulation and Mediation of Neuroplasticity. James L. McGaugh, Norman M. Weinberger, and Gary Lynch, Eds. Oxford University Press, New York, 1995. xiv, 350 pp., illus. \$75. Based on a conference, Irvine, CA, Oct. 1992.

Cohomological Induction and Unitary Representations. Anthony Knapp and David A. Vogan, Jr. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1995. xviii, 948 pp. \$69.50 or £55. Princeton Mathematical Series, 45.

Computational Approaches to Novel Condensed Matter Systems. Applications to Classical and Quantum Systems. D. Neilson and M. P. Das, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1995. viii, 280 pp., illus. \$89.50. From a workshop, Sydney, Australia, July 1993.

Computational Geomechanics. Arnold Verruijt. Kluwer, Norwell, MA, 1995. viii, 383 pp., illus., + diskette. \$147 or £95 or Dfl. 225. Theory and Applications of Transport in Porous Media, vol. 7.

Confined Electrons and Photons. New Physics and Applications. Elias Burstein and Claude Weisbuch, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1995. x, 907 pp., illus. \$195. NATO ASI Series B, vol. 340. From an institute, Erice, Italy, July 1993.

Conservation Biology in Australia and Oceania. Craig Moritz and Jiro Kikkawa, Eds. Surrey Beatty, Chipping Norton, NSW, Australia, 1994. xii, 404 pp., illus. \$A93. Based on a conference, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, Oct. 1991.

Constructing the Self, Constructing America. A Cultural History of Psychotherapy. Philip Cushman. Addison-Wesley, Reading, MA, 1995. xviii, 430 pp. \$27.50.

Conversation Repair. Case Studies in Doctor-Patient Communication. Frederic W. Platt. Little Brown, New York, 1995. xiv, 194 pp. Paper, \$24.95.

Darwin's Laboratory. Evolutionary Theory and Natural History in the Pacific. Roy MacLeod and Philip F. Rehbock, Ed. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, 1995.

x, 540 pp., illus. \$45. Based on a symposium, Hamburg, Germany, 1989.

Development of Ideas in Physics. Nils Ryde. Almqvist and Wiksell, Stockholm, Sweden, 1994. iv, 196 pp., illus. SEK 207.

Diagnostic Bacteriology Protocols. Jenny Howard and David M. Whitcombe, Eds. Humana, Totowa, NJ, 1995. x, 283 pp., illus. Spiralbound, \$69.50. Methods in Molecular Biology, vol. 46.

The Duckfoot Site. Vol. 2. Archaeology of the House and Household. Ricky R. Lightfoot. Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, Cortez, CO, 1994 (distributor, University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ). xx, 171 pp., illus. Paper, \$19.95. Occasional Paper no. 4.

Elements of Petroleum Processing. D. S. J. Jones. Wiley, New York, 1995. x, 408 pp., illus. \$74.95.

ELISA. Theory and Practice. John R. Crowther. Humana, Totowa, NJ, 1995. xiv, 223 pp., illus. Spiralbound, \$59.50. Methods in Molecular Biology, vol. 42.

The Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences. N. J. A. Sloane and Simon Plouffe. Academic Press, San Diego, CA, 1995. xiv, 587 pp., illus. \$44.95.

The Engine of Reason, the Seat of the Soul. A Philosophical Journey into the Brain. Paul M. Churchland. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 1995. xii, 329 pp., illus. \$29.95.

Environmental Organic Chemistry. Illustrative Examples, Problems, and Case Studies. René P. Schwarzenbach, Philip M. Gschwend, and Dieter M. Imboden. Wiley, New York, 1995. Variously pagged, illus. Paper, \$29.95.

Experimental Use and Patents. David Gilat. VCH, New York, 1995. xii, 141 pp. Paper, \$80. IIC Studies, vol. 16.

Extraterrestrial Dust. Laboratory Studies of Interplanetary Dust. Kazuo Yamakoshi. Terra Scientific, Tokyo, and Kluwer, Norwell, MA, 1994. xvi, 213 pp., illus. \$156 or £99 or Dfl. 230. Astrophysics and Space Science Library, vol. 181.

Eye, Brain, and Vision. David H. Hubel. Scientific American Library (HPHLP), New York, 1995 (distributor, Freeman, New York). x, 242 pp., illus. Paper, \$19.95. Scientific American Library, no. 22. Reprint, 1988 ed.

Geometric Measure Theory. A Beginner's Guide. Frank Morgan. 2nd ed. Academic Press, San Diego, CA, 1995. x, 175 pp., illus. \$34.95.

The Geometry of Kerr Black Holes. Barrett O'Neill. Peters, Wellesley, MA, 1995. xviii, 381 pp., illus. \$79.95.

Introduction to Logic and to the Methodology of Deductive Sciences. Alfred Tarski. Dover, New York, 1995. xvi, 239 pp. Paper, \$8.95. Reprint, 1946 ed. Translated by Olaf Helmer.

An Introduction to Molecular Electronics. Michael C. Petty, Martin R. Bryce, and David Bloor, Eds. Oxford University Press, New York, 1995. xiv, 387 pp., illus. Paper, \$42.50.

Laparoscopic Hernia Repair. A New Standard? M. W. Bücher et al., Eds. Karger, Farmington, CT, 1995. viii, 194 pp., illus. \$139.25 or SFr. 160 or DM 192. Progress in Surgery, vol. 21. From a meeting, Bern, Switzerland, May, 1994.

The Last Harvest. The Genetic Gamble That Threatens to Destroy American Agriculture. Paul Raeburn. Simon and Schuster, New York, 1995. 269 pp. \$24.

Lectins. Biomedical Perspectives. Arpad Pusztai and Susan Bardocz, Eds. Taylor and Francis, Philadelphia, 1995. xiv, 331 pp., illus. \$99.50.

Lemurs of Madagascar. Russell A. Mittermeier et al. Conservation International, Washington, DC, 1994. 358 pp., illus. Paper, \$37. Tropical Field Guide Series, 1.

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Identities Over the Lifespan. Psychological Perspectives. Anthony R. D'Augelli and Charlotte J. Patterson, Eds. Oxford University Press, New York, 1995. x, 457 pp. \$39.95.

Light Detectors, Photoreceptors, and Imaging Systems in Nature. Jerome J. Wolken. Oxford University Press, New York, 1995. xiv, 259 pp., illus. \$65.

Linear Algebra and Matrix Theory. Jimmie Gilbert and Linda Gilbert. Academic Press, San Diego, CA, 1995. x, 394 pp. \$39.95.

The Machine in America. A Social History of Technology. Carroll Pursell. Johns Hopkins University Press,

Baltimore, MD, 1995. xviii, 358 pp., illus. \$45; paper, \$15.95.

Managing Today's University. Strategies for Viability, Change, and Excellence. Frederick E. Balderston. 2nd ed. Jossey-Bass, San Francisco, CA, 1995. xxii, 399 pp. \$34.95. Jossey-Bass Higher and Adult Education Series.

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Microwave and Optical Waveguides. Nigel J. Cronin. Institute of Physics, Philadelphia, 1995. xii, 119 pp., illus. \$90 or £45; paper, \$30 or £15.

A Miracle and A Privilege. Recounting a Half Century of Surgical Advance. Francis D. Moore. Joseph Henry (National Academy), Washington, DC, 1995. xiv, 450 pp., + plates. \$29.95.

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Modern Global Seismology. Thorne Lay and Terry C. Wallace. Academic Press, San Diego, CA, 1995. xii, 521 pp., illus. \$54.95. International Geophysics, vol. 58.

Modern Semiconductor Quantum Physics. Ming-Fu Li. World Scientific, River Edge, NJ, 1994. xiv, 573 pp., illus. \$109. International Series on Advances in Solid State Electronics and Technology.

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Navajo Multi-Household Social Units. Archaeology on Black Mesa, Arizona. Thomas R. Rocek. University of Arizona Press, Tucson, 1995. xvi, 239 pp., illus. \$50.

Neurotoxicology. Approaches and Methods. Louis W. Chang and William Slikker, Jr., Eds. AP Professional (Academic), San Diego, CA, 1995. xxii, 851 pp., illus. \$149.50.

Neurotransmitters in the Human Brain. David J. Tracey, George Paxinos, and Jonathan Stone, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1995. viii, 245 pp., illus. \$75. Advances in Behavioral Biology, vol. 43. From a conference, New South Wales, Australia, Feb. 1994.

The New Science Journalists. Ted Anton and Rick McCourt, Eds. Ballantine, New York, 1995. x, 341 pp. Paper, \$12.50 or £C17.50.

The Pill. A Biography of the Drug That Changed the World. Bernard Asbell. Random House, New York, 1995. xviii, 414 pp., + plates. \$25 or £C35.

Plant Conservation. David Ehrenfeld, Ed. Society for Conservation Biology, Madison, WI, and Blackwell Science, Cambridge, MA, 1995. vi, 224 pp., illus. Paper, \$24.95. Readings from *Conservation Biology*.

The Polar Oceans and Their Role in Shaping the Global Environment. The Nansen Centennial Volume. O. M. Johannessen, R. D. Muench, and J. E. Overland, Eds. American Geophysical Union, Washington, DC, 1994. xiv, 525 pp., illus. \$70; to AGU members, \$49. Geophysical Monograph 85.

The Rise of Fishes. 500 Million Years of Evolution. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD, 1995. 223 pp., illus. \$49.95.

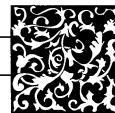
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Satisfying Reason. Studies in the Theory of Knowledge. Nicholas Rescher. Kluwer, Norwell, MA, 1994. xii, 243 pp. \$99 or £65 or Dfl. 155. Episteme, vol. 21.

Scale Invariance, Interfaces, and Non-Equilibrium Dynamics. Alan McKane *et al.*, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1995. viii, 344 pp., illus. \$105. NATO ASI Series B, vol. 344. From an institute, Cambridge, UK, June 1994.

Science, Politics and Social Practice. Essays on Marxism and Science, Philosophy of Culture and the Social Sciences. In Honor of Robert S. Cohen. Kostas Gavroglu, John Stachel, and Marx W. Wartofsky, Eds. Kluwer, Norwell, MA, 1995. x, 395 pp. \$150 or £99 or Dfl. 235. Boston Studies in the Philosophy of Science, vol. 164.

The Social Dimension. Ethics, Policy, Law, Management, Development, Economics, Education. David



Vignettes: The Promotion and Tenure Committee

Bell's top priority was to get through the remaining folders of the candidates for promotion. Just before his backyard visit to the bird feeders, he had completed the material pertinent to the natural sciences. Now he turned to his review of social science dossiers. . . .

The first one at hand was the candidate being fielded by the Economics department. As he looked through the titles of the reprints, Bell was relieved when he noticed that one of the publications dealt with a subject that interested him greatly, environmental pollution. It also pleased him to see that the method of exposition was in his favorite language, mathematics. The piece was written by . . . a young man named Dennis Gossen. The argument . . . could be compressed into a few words: to achieve any standard of air pollution determined to be desirable by a regulatory agency, business firms should be permitted to bid for a license to pollute. In this way, Gossen claimed to demonstrate, the standard of air purity could be attained at the least total cost to society. . . .

Bell was no political radical. He did not consider himself to be anti-business. . . . What bothered Bell about Gossen was that the economist seemed to accept pollution as inevitable. He only wanted to produce it at the least cost. How absurd! Where in all his equations does he make room for more abundant birds and beasts and fish and vegetation? And where is the equation for healthy lungs and longer life spans?

Salary scales in universities seemed to [Barrett] wholly irrational and arbitrary. Why should a physicist or an economist fresh out of graduate school receive higher pay than an established scholar in the humanities? . . .

How unfair and ironic it was that those with the most elegant tastes on a university's faculty seemed always to receive the poorest salaries. . . . Take for example that economist whose reprints he had been reading before lunch. Now there was a Philistine if ever there was one.

Barrett had skimmed Dennis Gossen's work and had seen enough to know that Gossen, a man so concerned with the narrow pursuit of self-interest in the marketplace, would have little interest or use for a bottle of Montrachet. . . . A cultivated person with exquisite tastes like his own surely needed more money than a bourgeois colleague.

As he cleaned his plate of a final morsel of crabmeat, Barrett decided that in a just universe money payments would be in proportion to the refinement of tastes.

Sophie Ustinov had just completed reading a number of candidates' files for her assignment on the promotion and tenure committee. As a chemist, she had been surprised by Dennis Gossen's article, which supported the view that there is a finite range of brand proliferation that benefits the consumer. He had purported to discover the theoretically optimal number of brands, a range that if exceeded or not met in number would lessen consumer welfare.

Sophie Ustinov knew that many products sold under different brand names were chemically identical. Liquid bleach was only one case in point. . . . "If Mr. Gooseman knew some chemistry, he would have reached some quite different conclusions," she murmured as she shopped. "One brand is all you need."

—From Marshall Jevons's *The Fatal Equilibrium*

Ehrenfeld, Ed. Society for Conservation Biology, Madison, WI, and Blackwell Science, Cambridge, MA, 1995. vi, 235 pp., illus. Paper, \$24.95. Readings from *Conservation Biology*.

Tobacco. Mark S. Gold. Plenum Medical, New York, 1995. xii, 211 pp., illus. \$37.50. Drugs of Abuse, vol. 4.

Venomous Creatures of Australia. A Field Guide with Notes on First Aid. Struan K. Sutherland. 4th ed. Oxford University Press, New York, 1995. 128 pp., illus. Paper, \$24.95.

Wittgenstein Reads Freud. The Myth of the Unconscious. Jacques Bouveresse. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1995. xx, 143 pp. \$19.95 or £15.95. New French Thought. Translated from the French edition (Paris, 1991) by Carol Cosman.

Women and Prenatal Testing. Facing the Challenges of Genetic Technology. Karen H. Rothenberg and Elizabeth J. Thomson, Ed. Ohio State University Press, Columbus, 1994. xviii, 304 pp. \$75; paper, \$17.95. Women and Health.