

textbook. The listing and explanation of standard European time units, such as Turonian, Danian, and so forth, are very helpful.

There are certain differences in terminology from those generally used in the United States. For example, following earlier custom, the Silurian is regarded as the Lower Ordovician, and the terms *Primary* and *Secondary*, obsolete in America, are used for the Paleozoic and Mesozoic, respectively.

There are 322 drawings and maps that supplement the text, and also a bibliography, mostly of French works, that covers all sections of the book except historical geology, for which the reader is referred to the work of Gignoux.

I found the book most interesting and well organized. It might well be assigned as collateral reading to seniors and candidates for higher degrees. Not only would it improve their knowledge of French, but it would also prove helpful in giving somewhat different viewpoints of certain problems and in filling in gaps, especially in reference to events that took place in the geologic history of Europe.

HORACE G. RICHARDS

Department of Earth Sciences,
University of Pennsylvania and
Academy of Natural Sciences

The Negro Potential. Eli Ginzberg. Columbia University Press, New York, 1956. 144 pp. \$3.

Concern for human resources should grow increasingly in view of the serious shortage of personnel in scientific and technical fields—and in all fields, so my colleagues insist. Some of the factors that affect the participation of a social group in the activities of society are ably discussed by the director of the conservation of human resources project at Columbia University, Eli Ginzberg, professor of economics, and his associates. This slim volume, which is the second major publication of the project [the first was *The Uneducated* (1953)], reports the results of a study of the Negro in the United States, supported by a judicious selection from the documentary material bearing upon the problems of the Negro.

In the six chapters the authors focus their attention in turn upon: (i) "The challenge of Negro potential"; (ii) "Expanding economic opportunities"; (iii) "The educational preparation of the Negro"; (iv) "The Negro soldier"; (v) "Better preparation for work"; and (vi) "Lessons for manpower policy." The second longest chapter, the fourth, is probably the most significant, for it deals with the Negro soldier, and it is in the

armed forces that the most thorough integration of the Negro has been achieved. The authors handle their material here, as throughout the book, in a candid, objective manner, balancing fact against fact without any tendency toward an extreme position. Part of their conclusion is: "But integration in services has demonstrated the remarkable ability of both whites and Negroes to adjust to new relations with each other in such a manner that the potential of each can be more fully realized." The book quotes a 1955 report from the U.S. Department of Defense which states: "Thorough evaluation of the battle-tested results to date indicates a marked increase in overall combat effectiveness through integration. Economies in manpower, material, and money have resulted from the elimination of racially duplicated facilities and operations."

In my opinion, the material in the final chapter, "Lessons for manpower policy," deserves especially wide dissemination. If two statements made and carefully supported by the authors find wide acceptance, the book will make a salutary contribution to the perspective that is essential for intelligent planning to meet these national problems. The first of these is a quotation and appears earlier in the text: "Most social scientists now believe that there are no inborn differences in intellectual potential between Negroes and the rest of the population, or that such differences, if they exist, are very small." The second is the opening paragraph of the final chapter: "It is never sensible or right for a nation to waste valuable human resources through failure to develop or utilize them. The consequences of such waste are a lower level of national strength and individual well-being."

This is a significant study which should be read especially by all persons concerned with programs for relieving the shortage of personnel in science and engineering. Clearly there is no a priori reason that every distinguishable social group should contribute to each scientific or other field to an extent that is commensurate with its population ratio. However, the 1956 figures on medical-school graduates would suggest that something should be done with respect to the Negro. Of the 6997 persons who graduated in June 1956 from 87 medical schools, 173 were Negroes, with 132 graduating from Howard and Meharry. Yet there are 16 million Negroes in this country, roughly one-tenth of the population, and a number equal to the population of Canada. A careful study of this book is an indispensable prerequisite for intelligent action in righting such imbalances.

HERMAN BRANSON

Department of Physics,
Howard University

Books Reviewed in

The Scientific Monthly, October

Virginia at Mid-Century, J. Gottmann (Holt). Reviewed by M. C. Prunty, Jr.

Carl Friedrich Gauss: Titan of Science, G. W. Dunnington (Exposition Press). Reviewed by E. A. Cameron.

Free Skin Grafting in Patients with Extensive Defects, B. A. Petrov (State Publishing House of Medical Literature, Moscow). Reviewed by S. A. Corson.

Microbiology, F. C. Kelly and K. E. Hite (Appleton-Century-Crofts). Reviewed by H. M. Rose.

The Principles of Mechanics, H. Hertz, translated by D. E. Jones and J. T. Walley (Dover). Reviewed by J. Turner.

Birthplace of the Winds, T. Bank II (Crowell). Reviewed by F. de Laguna.

Guided Missiles in War and Peace, N. A. Parson, Jr. (Harvard University Press). Reviewed by S. F. Singer.

The Piltdown Forgery, J. S. Weiner (Oxford University Press). Reviewed by W. L. Straus, Jr.

Indians of the Northwest Coast, P. Drucker (McGraw-Hill); *The Coast Salish of British Columbia*, H. G. Barnett (University of Oregon Press). Reviewed by R. F. Spencer.

The Antarctic Challenged, E. R. G. R. Evans (De Graff). Reviewed by L. M. Gould.

Oeuvres de Lavoisier. Correspondance, R. Fric, Ed. (Albin Michel). Reviewed by E. Rosen.

New Books

Ceramics for the Archaeologist. Publ. 609. Anna O. Shepard. Carnegie Institution of Washington, Washington, D.C., 1956. 414 pp. Cloth, \$7.75; paper, \$6.75.

Handbuch der Physik. vol. 1, *Mathematical Methods*. 364 pp. DM. 72. vol. XLVII, *Geophysics*. 659 pp. DM. 118. S. Flugge, Ed. Springer, Berlin, 1956.

Behavior Theory and Conditioning. Kenneth W. Spence. Yale University Press, New Haven; Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford University Press, London, 1956. 262 pp. \$4.50.

Technique of Organic Chemistry. vol. II, *Catalytic, Photochemical, and Electrolytic Reactions*. Arnold Weissberger, Ed. Interscience, New York, ed. 2, 1956. 543 pp. \$11.50.

An Introduction to Modern Organic Analysis. Sidney Siggia and Hans J. Stolten. Interscience, New York, 1956. 250 pp. \$4.50.

Experimental Physical Chemistry. Farrington Daniels, Joseph H. Mathews, John W. Williams, Paul Bender, Robert Alberty. McGraw-Hill, New York, ed. 5, 1956. 482 pp. \$6.50.

Science in Progress. Ninth Series. George A. Baitsell, Ed. Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn.; Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford University Press, London, 1956. 343 pp. \$6.50.

Grinnell Workbook in Biology. Biology Staff, Grinnell College. Norman H. Russell, Jr., Ed. Burgess, Minneapolis, 1956. 56 pp. \$1.75.