

what extent the author had his tongue in his cheek throughout the entire book, in view of his remark on page 31: "But make no mistake; one can quite readily become an excellent physicist even if one's intellectual faculties are not highly developed."

The final chapter, "The atomic scientist and the believer," seems quite uncalled for and has no apparent connection with the rest. One wonders whether there is in France an intransigent core of fundamentalists who have to be appeased in some way.

All in all, in spite of its lively style and not infrequent flashes of insight, the book leaves an unpleasant taste.

P. W. BRIDGMAN*

Department of Physics,
Harvard University

*The author died on 20 August.

Birds, Bees, and Good Society

Communication among Social Bees.

Martin Lindauer. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1961. 143 pp. Illus. \$4.75.

The Herring Gull's World. Niko Tinbergen. Basic Books, New York, ed. 2, 1961. 255 pp. Illus. \$5.

These books are about similar subjects, and you can more than double your enjoyment by reading them one after the other, for then there is the added pleasure of contrasting both the authors and their favorite animals.

Lindauer was a student of Karl von Frisch. And this book carries further the studies summarized in von Frisch's wonderful *Bees: Their Vision, Chemical Senses, and Language*. Lindauer continues by asking specific questions about the society of the honeybees. First he asks how the work is divided among the inhabitants of the hive. He approached the question by watching individual bees, night and day, with stop watch in hand, until he had a detailed time-motion study. Bee No. 107, observed for 177 hours, spent all of 69 hours and 53 minutes just loafing. Between rests, she frequently strolled through the hive, not aimlessly it seems, but on patrol to see which chores—cell cleaning, brood tending, guarding, and the like—needed doing. In the hive, labor is organized by the workers coming across something that has to be done and then doing it, not by directives from above.

Lindauer goes on to consider communication among the bees. In the heat of summer, the bees cool the hive, as much as 35° centigrade, by sprinkling water over the brood cells. Water is fetched to the hive by the older, foraging bees. The number of trips made by the foragers is determined by how quickly the hive bees take the water load. This relationship is demonstrated on a graph in which the number of collecting flights is plotted as a function of the time taken to deliver the water load. When the delivery time is less than 40 seconds, the foragers also give an "alerting" dance, to recruit others to the work. This kind of careful measurement is the mark of von Frisch passed on to his student.

Next Lindauer asks how a swarm of bees selects a new site for a hive. It turns out that the scouts report by means of a dance which shows the direction, the distance, and the quality of a proposed site. The swarm remains, for days if necessary, in temporary quarters until the scouts reach a consensus on the best possibility, then the whole swarm moves off to the new site. These are just samples of the book's contents. Lindauer also discusses the evolution of communication in honeybees, which he studied by observing other species of bees, and some of the sensory and computational problems involved in using the sun as a reference point for the well-known food collecting dances. One fascinating discovery is that bees which have been raised in a cellar under artificial light need to practice for some days before they can navigate by the sun. They must learn how the sun moves. But after seeing the arc of the sun only in the afternoon, they can navigate in the morning on the first try.

Tinbergen's book has a broader goal. For years he watched with infinite, patient care the day-to-day life of the herring gull. His aim was to understand the significance of every movement and of every call and to see how the somewhat rudimentary society of the gullery is organized. Tinbergen's conclusions are drawn mostly from field notes; the relatively few experiments reported here were also discussed in his *Study of Instinct*. The focus of *Herring Gull's World* is not on the experimental analysis of behavior; the volume is, in the finest sense, a work of natural history. He pays particular attention to reproduction and rearing of the young, from the first arrival at the

gullery, the establishment and defense of the territories, pair formation, incubation, and the feeding and behavioral development of the chicks. The present book is a slightly revised edition of the work first published in 1953.

These books by Tinbergen and Lindauer are clearly separated by aspiration and by method. Undoubtedly Lindauer's approach is more satisfying to the experimental scientist; we know the questions, the observations, and the numerical results. On the other hand, Lindauer's questions are based on generations of observation of life in the bee hive, exactly the sort of natural history that Tinbergen provides for the herring gull. Both types of work are necessary, and the two books are perfect examples of two levels of scientific exploration. It is somewhat amusing, however, to see that Tinbergen reaches far more sweeping conclusions about behavior in general.

Perhaps in these books there are also line-by-line hints of how the authors' temperaments determine their approach. Tinbergen loves his birds, he delights in their motions and abilities, he writes of them with joy and verve—and his enthusiasm is catching. He also tells a good deal about Niko Tinbergen—every reader will want to meet the charming author. Lindauer writes with precision. He leaves untold his adventures encountered in following bees from Germany to Ceylon to South America; the excitement comes from the subject itself. Both books are well illustrated.

A comparison between the animals only re-emphasizes the astounding complexity of the bees, whose behavior puts most vertebrate societies to shame.

WILLIAM G. VAN DER KLOOT
Department of Physiology and
Biophysics, New York University
School of Medicine

New Books

Biological and Medical Sciences

British Flies. Empididae. J. E. Collin. Cambridge Univ. Press, New York, 1961. 227 pp. Illus. + plate. \$6.

The Cell and the Organism. J. A. Ramsay and V. B. Wigglesworth, Eds. Cambridge Univ. Press, London, 1961. 357 pp. Illus. \$9.50.

The Ciliated Protozoa. Characterization, classification, and guide to the literature. John O. Corliss. Pergamon, New York, 1961. 310 pp. Illus. + plate. \$12.