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Ecology and Natural History

BIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, J. E. Meade and E. S. Parkes, Eds., 226 pp., Plenum Press, New York, 1965.

If you are a library browser you will probably find it hard to pass by this symposium proceeding for several reasons. The title is quite intriguing. The co-editors are a political economist and a reproduction physiologist—which make an interesting combination. In addition, the back cover of the book has an announcement of a Russian-English biological dictionary which contains 25,000 entries—and this is something to think about.

The book itself though is something else again. Unfortunately, the title of the book promises more than it delivers. The contents of the volume are those of any typical symposium. Some of the articles are quite interesting, others quite dull. The volume is divided into four general sections: population trends, social mobility and education, genetic aspects of medicine, and aspects of fertility control. For the researcher, the information may be of value. But, for the browser (or the high school biology teacher) the book will not live up to expectations. In summary, the book is interesting enough, but the cover is by far the most interesting part.

Thomas G. Overmire
CUEBS
 Washington, D. C.

ANIMAL COMMUNICATION, Hubert and Mable Frings, 218 pp., \$2.50, Blaisdell Scientific Paperback, Ginn and Company, New York, 1964.

This little book should make a good background for the student interested in doing further work in the field of animal communication. It is packed with interesting facts illustrating the ways in which animals use sounds, signals, and other means of attracting or repelling other individuals. The style is clear and simple enough so that most parts are easily understood without extensive references to other works.

Frank N. Young
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NABT

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