most satisfactory way" (p. 36). This definition leaves no room to doubt that the reader is free to think of any number of optima, depending upon the “aims” he chooses to be concerned with. However, only two optima are given serious attention in the book, the economic and the power optima. The former is concerned with “individual welfare, or a certain number of gratifications that as a whole are the object of a science called economics” (p. 38), while the latter concerns collective aims (e.g., military power.)

As already mentioned, a number of relationships are examined in Part One. It is not possible to cover all of them in a review. But it may be of interest to mention a few. One relationship examined concerns how the presence of idle people changes the standard of living (consumption per adult producer) of a population.

If we add a group of non-producers to an active population the standard of living of the whole drops. . . . If on the contrary a fraction of the producers in an active population becomes idle, the standard of living does not necessarily drop. . . . In certain cases it is even in the population’s interest to stop some producers from working (pp. 65-67).

Another interesting analysis concerns how the dominating class in a feudal society affects the size of the population of a given land. “In a feudal society the dominating class fulfills (more or less well) the social function of a rationer and in certain conditions may increase, by its very inequity [sic., “inequity?”], the population living on a given land; increase but not improve” (p. 265).

Among the other topics dealt with in Part One are the following: the effect of a change of tastes among men on the size of the optimum population, how inequality of income causes the optimum population to rise, the impact of technological progress on unemployment, the equivalence of international trade and technological progress in their impacts on the size of optimum population, and how the emergence of a middle class in a society disturbs the adjustment between income inequality and overpopulation previously arrived at by the social classes of that society.

As the reader leaves Part One and enters Part Two, he will find himself on more familiar grounds. The topics covered in Part Two and the manner in which they are treated closely resemble what one finds in textbooks on population problems. Topics such as demographic aging, factors affecting mortality, fertility, and birth control, internal and international migration, selectivity in migration and its impact on the sending and receiving populations, geographical distribution of inhabitants in a country, population quality, and the like are discussed in the light of empirical data mostly from France. There is also an interesting discussion of the population problems of the developed and the developing countries and of the issues of population policy.

How Part Two is a logical successor to Part One is difficult to discern. Very little attempt at theorizing is seen in Part Two. Enlightening interpretations of the empirical regularities observed in the data are also rare. However, here and there one finds interesting results of Professor Sauvy’s personal reflections. For example, Professor Sauvy thinks the reason that France was a century ahead of other developed countries, especially Britain, with respect to fertility decline, can be found in the religious atmosphere.

Having failed to choose at the right time a religion more convenient to their ambitions, the French were left in a false position. The end of the absolute monarchy in the early eighteenth century allowed the new forces to appear. The drop in fertility in France is, briefly, the result of a ‘suppressed reformation’ (p. 364).

Professor Sauvy shows many times in this book that he is generously endowed with both originality of thought and finesse. Much of what he has written may be open to dispute. But doubtless all students of population will find this work extremely stimulating.

In closing it must be added that the use of a number of unconventional terms (e.g., “survival tables” for life tables, “dispersal” for dispersion, “provoked abortion” for induced abortion, concealed birth for underreported births, etc.) makes an unfortunate impression in an otherwise well-executed translation.

COMMUNITY STUDIES


Reviewed by ADAM CLARKE DAVIS, North Carolina State University

Woodruff is a case study of two interdependent communities each striving to maximize its position and protect itself from encroachment. The study describes the linkages and boundary-maintaining activities of various governmental units and shows how efforts to solve its problems in one unit are blocked by decisions in other units; how decisions made at one level of government create problems for other levels, etc. It offers a good illustration of the functionalist perspective. The consequences on the present of past decisions is an integral part of the presentation.

After describing the community, the characteristics of the leaders of Woodruff and its township are reviewed and vignettes of representative leaders are presented. But the authors conclude that the historical background of decisions is more important than leader profiles. This is illustrated in the in-depth analysis of decisions regarding various
municipal problems. So the reader can understand other influences on the decision-making process, the positions on community issues taken by the banks, the chamber of commerce, and the newspapers are described. Much of the remainder of the book is a detailed description of actors and activities associated with consolidation and annexation issues prevalent in the community at various times.

The amount of detail often makes reading difficult, but this case study should be of interest to students of the dynamics of decision-making in communities. Of particular value is the appended methodology section in which the authors indicate how they gathered their data, and difficulties they encountered as participant observers. The methodological considerations might have been more useful as a part of the Introduction, but the reader can always read them before the rest of the materials.

**STRATIFICATION AND SOCIAL MOBILITY**


_Reviewed by August B. Hollingshead, Yale University_

This volume is, in large part, a book about books. The Dohrenwends examined forty-four empirical studies that were concerned with “true prevalence” of psychological disorders in diverse population groups in many parts of the world. In an orderly and well-developed discussion, they compare the results of these studies in an attempt to determine the relative importance of heredity and social environment as measured by status position in the etiology of psychological disorders.

The many findings reported in the forty-four studies were so confused and contradictory that the Dohrenwends turned to data available to them from studies made in New York City for a test of their conclusions that the studies extant in the literature do not provide an answer to the environment and/or heredity controversy.

The authors test the issue through comparison of relatively advantaged and disadvantaged racial and ethnic groups resident in New York City, more particularly in the Washington Heights section. They state and test two hypotheses: (1) environmental factors are primary in the etiology of psychological disorder; (2) genetic factors are primary in the etiology of psychological disorder. The results of the Dohrenwends’ research support the social causation alternative, but they believe this conclusion may be questioned on methodological grounds.

The authors then developed a “nomological net for the construct of psychological disorder” to produce symptoms of stress were studied in a framework of persistent disorders versus situationally specific symptoms: (1) induction of reversible symptoms; (2) the problem of secondary gain and loss; (3) the effects of extreme situations. Evidence is presented to support the assumption that stresses of everyday life produce psychological symptoms rather than the other way around.

The most consistent result found throughout the forty-four previously published studies was the inverse relationship between social status and reported rate of psychological disorder, a relationship that held for overall measures of disorder and also for two major subtypes: schizophrenia and personality disorder. The results of the Dohrenwends’ own research in New York City support the social environmental alternative rather than the genetic as the cause of psychological disorders.

This book should be read by behavioral scientists interested in empirical field studies of interdependencies between social conditions under which people live and symptom formation in disorders that cover a wider spectrum than psychological disturbances.

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_Reviewed by John P. Alston, University of Georgia_

_The Affluent Worker in the Class Structure_ is a work which C. Wright Mills, with a few reservations, would approve. The third volume in a series, this book investigates the question of whether the upper blue-collar occupational class is being absorbed into the middle classes. For their sample, the authors selected atypical workers who are affluent (earning incomes comparable to many white-collars), have job security, had experienced geographic mobility, are consumption-oriented, and are employed in the more progressive industrial sectors. If the “embourgeoisement” process exists, it should be present in this mixed white- and blue-collar sample of 229 workers and their families. Thus selecting respondents who might be the vanguard of the future, the study seeks to indicate future trends rather than to pre-