

study on fitness as a function of I.Q., which put paid to the simple widely-quoted concept of an inverse relationship between fitness and intelligence, and a comprehensive review of the population dynamics of Tay-Sachs disease. The last section of the book contains papers which try to look into the future. It starts off with Medawar asking whether medical advances may be expected to lead to genetic deterioration. In his view the simple answer is "No". On the contrary they provide more scope for taking advantage of existing genetic variability in other directions. Crow reviews data on rates of evolution and the effects of demographic changes in the potential for selection in human populations, as measured by his well-known index. He also shows how slow are genetic changes for specific simply determined abnormalities following their cure. Hardin's now classical paper on the tragedy of the commons is also included in this section. This presents in an elegant and forceful way, in connection with the problem of population increase, the conflict created by behaviour which benefits the individual but not necessarily society as a whole. The last two papers by Osborne and Muller represent essentially a plea for the application of eugenic principles to man. Muller was, of course, well known for his stand on these issues and for his advocacy of artificial insemination using sperm from highly selected donors.

Publishing collections of papers is now a fairly popular enterprise and is undoubtedly a simpler way to produce a book than writing it all oneself. With the advent of rapid and convenient copying devices one might have thought that annotated lists of references could serve pretty much the same purpose. Nevertheless, this is an interesting and valuable collection of papers which are usefully gathered together under one cover. The decision will presumably rest with teacher and student as to whether they prefer their papers served up in this admittedly convenient format, rather than extracted from the various original journals.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

- TEXTBOOK OF HUMAN GENETICS. Max Levitan and Ashley Montagu. Oxford U.P., 1972. Pp. 922. £5.00.
- PSYCHOLOGY AND VISUAL AESTHETICS. R. W. Pickford. Hutchinson Educational, 1972. Pp. 270. £4.50.
- THE ASSESSMENT OF POPULATION AFFINITIES IN MAN. J. S. Weiner and J. Huizinga. Oxford U.P., 1972. Pp. 224. £6.00.
- ANAIIS DA ESCOLA SUPERIOR DE MEDICINA VETERINARIA, Vol. XI. Pp. 172. Lisboa, 1969.
- THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS OF MARTONVASAR. Sandor Rajki. Agricultural Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 1971. Pp. 329.
- HEREDITY AND DEVELOPMENT, 2nd edn. J. A. Moore. Oxford U.P., 1972. Pp. 292. £1.40.
- NATURAL SELECTION IN HUMAN POPULATIONS. Carl Jay Bajema. John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York. Pp. 406. Full bound, £4.75; Paperback, £2.25.
- THE BIOLOGY OF AFFLUENCE. George Smith and John C. Smith. Oliver and Boyd. Pp. xii + 126.
- THE SCIENCE OF GENETICS. George W. Burns. MacMillan Co., New York. Pp. 470. £4.85.
- HEREDITY AND DEVELOPMENT, 2nd edn. J. A. Moore. Oxford University Press. Pp. 292.
- READINGS IN HEREDITY AND DEVELOPMENT. J. A. Moore. Oxford University Press. Pp. 329.