

on any aspect of the scientific study of the pregnancy, the fetus and the neonate of man or of experimental animals . . .". Full-length papers, short communications and invited reviews are accepted. In the inaugural issue the editors mention that "progress in animal development has not yet received the attention given to cell physiology or molecular biology" and they encourage a modern approach to this "previously largely descriptive discipline". It is encouraging to see that methods described in the papers they have published up to now generally satisfy this criterion. Editorial policies are strict and, interestingly, at the end of the first year of publication the panel of reviewers was



actually named, and the number of papers received (76) and the proportion accepted for publication (46 per cent) was given. The journal, which is also well produced, is behind schedule (the issues of December 1980 and February 1981 were sent together in July). If the reason for this delay is the lack of suitable manuscripts, one would like to encourage scientists in the field to patronize JDP in view of its high standard so far.

The other two journals covered here, *Endocrinology and Metabolism* (EM) and *Gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology* (GLP) are not really new but are the result of a further reorganization of the old and venerable *American Journal of Physiology*. In 1977 the first subdivision of the journal was launched in five sections, one of which — *Endocrinology, Metabolism and Gastrointestinal Physiology* — contained both of these topics.

After this further fission, the editor of GLP was able to declare that this is "the appearance of the only journal devoted exclusively" to these topics. The editorial board was strengthened by the addition of several well-known Europeans, and GLP shows every sign of being successful. The rejuvenation stimulated by the subdivision is also shown in the promise made by EM that replies to submitted manuscripts will be made within five weeks and papers will be published with delays of not more than five months. Certainly, it is apparent that both of these journals have maintained the high standards of the parent publication.

There are advantages to this process of subdivision as long as the sections continue to be produced in a single monthly issue. This will ensure the integrity of physiology as a basic discipline and counterbalance the all-too-common tendency towards over-specialization. [1]

David Yudilevich is Professor and Head of the Department of Physiology at Queen Elizabeth College, University of London.

. . . and in Psychology . . .

Albert Yonas

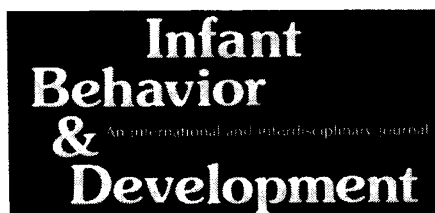
Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology. Editor I. Sigel. 3/yr. (Ablex, Norwood, New Jersey.) \$20 (personal); \$49 (institutional). *Infant Behavior & Development*. Editor L.P. Lipsitt. 4/yr. (Ablex, Norwood, New Jersey.) \$22.50 (personal); \$59 (institutional). *International Journal of Behavioral Development*. Editor F.J. Mönks. 4/yr. (North-Holland.) Dfl.155, \$62 (personal); Dfl.180, \$72 (institutional).

THE volume of research in developmental psychology has expanded enormously in the past 15 years. Although it is unlikely that the field as a whole will sustain this growth, one part of it that will probably continue to do so is the application of behavioural science research to social problem-solving. One expression of that expansion is the appearance of the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology* (JADP).

The journal's stated goal is to encourage "the synergistic relationship between applied and basic research"; however, the creation of this new journal actually may have the opposite effect. It seems something of a paradox to expect a journal specializing in applied work to help bridge the gap between applied and basic research. Nevertheless, the journal does provide a home for intervention studies that might not be published elsewhere.

Although JADP accepts reports that define social policy issues, the number of this type of paper found in the first volume was negligible. The papers that were published in the first year were quite similar in topic to those found in the traditional child developmental journals, such as *Child Development*, the *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology* and *Developmental Psychology*, and their quality was uneven. Although the subscription rate is reasonable, it appears unlikely that JADP will become a primary source of information for either researchers or practitioners in this field.

One can be more sanguine about the prospects of the other Ablex journal



reviewed here, *Infant Behavior & Development* (IBD). Infancy has always been central to both nativist and empiricist accounts of mental development, but until the last decade such theories were, for the most part, unconstrained by reliable and detailed data on the behaviour of actual human infants. This situation is rapidly changing; the past ten years have seen an

explosion in the number of psychological studies of human infants.

IBD is the only English-language journal devoted exclusively to infancy, and it clearly fills a need. A growing lag in publication time of accepted manuscripts (in spite of the journal's 70 per cent rejection rate) necessitated additional pages in the last issue of Vol. 3.

The articles that have been published are generally of high quality. The editors insist that data reported should be replicable and that findings should have some theoretical implications. Although research on non-human infants is accepted, authors of such articles have apparently found other journals better suited to their needs. Theoretical and review articles are also accepted, and book reviews by the editor appear in each issue. IBD is not expensive and should attract an increasing number of subscribers; individuals will find it particularly good value.

Notably more expensive than the other two journals covered here (but better produced) is the *International Journal of Behavioral Development* (IJBD), the official journal of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development. In further contrast, the journal has a broader geographical appeal than either JADP or IBD which are both largely intended for North American authors and subscribers.

While the contents of the first four volumes of IJBD represent a wide spectrum of countries, only papers written in "impeccable" English are considered for publication. Although the journal primarily contains reports of original research across the life span, it also accepts comparative studies of development, as well as literature and book reviews. The journal has attracted many high quality papers, but the methodological rigour of the studies is variable (perhaps reflecting the journal's international character), and the editors have allowed a fair latitude in theoretical speculation.

While the journal does not focus on any single new sub-discipline or cross-discipline, it does serve to encourage international communication. There are surprisingly few studies of development from a comparative or cross-cultural perspective to be found in the journal; rather, the content reflects the same concern with cognitive development that is presently found in established developmental psychology journals. Given such competition, it is at present unclear whether IJBD will attract sufficient high-quality research to become a standard resource for developmental psychologists.

Albert Yonas is a Professor of Child Psychology in the Institute of Child Development, University of Minnesota.