

NETWORK

NEWSLETTER OF THE BRITISH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

UNITED AT LAST

Conferences always begin slowly. A leisurely drive along the Craven Fault and down the Lune Valley got us to Lancaster in time to register and have a drink before lunch. For the only time during the week, it was positively civilised in the bar. The first couple of papers passed without incident, as did the John Barnes plenary. It had all the makings of a pleasantly relaxing occasion.

Wednesday morning, however, saw a sign unmistakable to those skilled in textual interrogation and whose brains had not been addled by the University reception of the previous night. It was *The Guardian* which revealed that 'Swanage life-boat went to the rescue of a stricken catamaran yesterday and discovered that it was crewed by six children led by a blind skipper'. The crew were sighted but some suffered from 'social disabilities'. Mr. Victor Marsh, coxswain of the rescue craft, was reported as saying 'A sighted person would have more chance of spotting faults or problems'. For those with eyes to 'see', and the conceptual apparatus to 'read', this was clearly an augury.

It was John Rex who revealed all. Without citing this parable, he identified the catamaran as sociology, the blind skipper as the demon Marx, and the crew as that generation of teachers bred in the New Universities, who had had the misfortune to read Althusser seriously and for whom Macmillan has proved such a lucrative publisher. Professor Rex offered to deliver us from our present plight, and steer us to the promised land. Tickets were soon sold out.

Celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of a professional association whilst reviewing the development of a discipline and its future prospects marked the whole proceedings of the Conference with an uncharacteristic earnestness and diligence. Colleagues from one Polytechnic had attended even though they were forced to share one set of expenses between three of them. Elsewhere, 100 members, forsaking a disco and a free 35 gallon cask of Boddingtons, sat until 11.30 through a lively AGM, seriously discussing the state of the organisation and the dangers threatening sociology. The two SSRC sessions underlined how hard we may be hit, particularly in grants for post-graduate students. John Eldridge's tough,

admirable Presidential address, *Space for Sociology*, advocated a number of aggressive strategies for the next few years. *Sociology* should do us all a favour and publish it soon, for, even had there been no other sessions, this one would have made it a successful conference. But, of course, there were numerous other solid, well-crafted papers which attested to the past, present and future vigour of the discipline. The organisers' well-executed intention of 'letting a hundred flowers bloom', however, seemed to indicate that we might pull in a hundred different directions, rather than one, despite the phenomenal take-up rate on the Rexodus.

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1981 BAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE: THE SOCIOLOGY OF INEQUALITY

The 1981 Conference will be held at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, from April 6th to 9th, on the theme of 'The Sociology of Inequality'. Suggestions for topics, workshops, speakers, entertainments and particularly offers of papers should be sent to Anne Dix at the BSA office, 10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HU, by 13 June 1980. Contributors should supply a title and a short abstract of the paper they wish to offer.

Some particular topics that have been suggested at this preliminary stage are: Inequality and Sociological Theory, Inequality in relation to Class, Sex, Race and Education, Inequality and Social Mobility; Inequality, Equality and Ideology; Social Policy and the Politics of Inequality.

This list of topics should not be considered final or exclusive. A concern with inequality characterises a wide range of sociological work and the committee would expect this to be reflected, in the conference, which, we hope, will link theoretical analysis, empirical and historical study, and political issues.

Finally, it should be noted that the committee will be operating in line with BSA policy on equality of the sexes and that papers by women on any aspect of inequality will be especially welcome.

For further information please contact: The conference Committee, c/o BSA Office, 10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HU.

Or at least that's the way it looked until the lunch-time of the last day. Then the unforeseeable happened—sociologists of all ages and persuasions appeared united as never before. An American professor succeeded where one hundred and fifty years of epistemological debate had failed. It was almost missed by your correspondent. He, unkindly baited at Thursday's Anniversary Dinner as an ageing hippy, had sneaked off to obtain tickets for a forthcoming concert by racist, sexist Eric Clapton and had forsaken the final plenary, to be addressed by bronzed Californian redneck, Jack Douglas. From twelve noon sociologists drifted back from this to the bar, all talking together, all talking at once, and all in agreement. Douglas, eminent advocate of 'Calsoc' and rumoured supporter of a famous B-movie actor in search of higher things, had apparently staked his claim as the first Milton Friedman of sociology with a short presentation which ranged from historical sociology (serf) to sociobiology (genes) through phenomenology (Husserl). (Rumours that the session was really a Thompson tourist promotion of Southern California—surf, jeans, hassle—were never fully discounted). Adverse reaction to this advocacy of an insensitive sociology finally caused Douglas to lose his cool and announce that this reception was as bad as that given by students to 'reactionary' lecturers in '68. Thank God Paul Rock was in the chair. At least he comes from an institution which knows how to be firm in such a situation. He closed the meeting. Maybe LSE will be a centre of excellence after all.

ALAN WATON, OPEN UNIVERSITY

POOH'S ADVENTURES AT LANCASTER

Once upon a time, an exceedingly long time ago, about last month, Edward Bear sat up in bed and thought to himself. First of all he thought 'I'm cold', and then he thought, 'I'm very cold', but mostly he thought, 'What am I doing here where it's so cold in bed?'

Being a bear of very little brain he wandered off to find his friend Eeyore who was Bound To Know.

The Old Grey Donkey, Eeyore, stood with his legs wide apart, in a corner of the Chemistry Colloquium Room.

'Pathetic', he said to himself, 'that's what it is, pathetic!' He sadly ambled off to the Faraday Lecture Theatre and gently pushed his downcast snout through the door where a Wise Voice was saying, '... is to invite the obvious retort "is sociology necessary at all?"'. 'It's no better here', the unhappy donkey thought to himself.

CRASH!

Eeyore slowly looked round to see what had bumped into him.

'Hello, Pooh Bear', he said. 'I wish you'd look where you're going.'

'How can I look where I'm going when I don't *know* where I'm going?', said Pooh, looking hurt.

'That', mused Eeyore philosophically to himself, 'is The Problem.'

'Anyway', said Pooh, 'why are we here, Eeyore?'

Eeyore raised his old head and gazed in the air. 'We simply must, and nobody has, and I think that they should', he replied. 'It's all very well this Eat, Drink and Be Merry' he continued, 'and Hail Fellow Well Met, but the Truth Of The Matter Is, nobody knows what the Truth Of The Matter Is, and we never had Fellows anyway.'

Pooh was puzzled and decided that it was lunchtime because he could feel an empty space that needed Defending where his tummy usually was and that was why he didn't Know and so they went off to College Bar.

'Have you got your glasses?' said the Man. 'Can't give you a drink if you haven't got a glass.'

They decided that they didn't have a glass and so they didn't have a drink.

'It's symptomatic of the failure of British Sociology over the last 30 years to relate theoretical and philosophical discourse to concrete empirical practice', exclaimed Eeyore.

'Yes', replied Pooh wondering what the appropriate epistemological position was for articulating the enormous empty space that was his tummy.

This unhappy pair were busy looking for glasses when who should they bump into but Kanga.

'Hello, Kanga', said Pooh. 'Could you tell me what I'm doing here?'

'Can't stop', said Kanga, jumping up and down impatiently. 'I've just found out that only 10 of 116 vice-chancellors and college principals and 6 of 43 chancellors are women, the women principals all heading women's colleges and 5 of the 6 women chancellors from the Royal Family and I've got to see if Roo is alright in the creche and then go to the Women's Caucus Meeting'.

'The Reason why we're here', said Eeyore, 'is to find out whether the Rumours about my friend in the next field, Aitchee, are True'.

'Oh . . . Yes. . .', replied Pooh, remembering all about the nasty Thatchalumps who had recently Let It Be Known that Aitchee's tail was going to be Cut Off and that the 100 Aker Wood was going to be Cut Down to make way for a New Market.

So Pooh and Eeyore continued to look for anybody who Knew anything about what was happening to Aitchee. They decided to go and visit Xre. Xre was a friend of Wol's so, they agreed, he must be a Very Wise Important Person indeed. Xre told them all about the Need For Scrutiny in who should be allowed to live in the 100 Aker Wood and he told them all about some people called Young Turks, but that was all a long, long time ago and he didn't tell them anything at all about what to do about Aitchee.

Pooh and Eeyore, by now, were getting very tired, when they suddenly found themselves in a Meeting. In this Meeting a Man was talking about Cuts in Aitchee.

'... and so we will continue to have a Working Party to Monitor the movements of the Thatchalumps and the threatened Cuts in Aitchee. . .'

'Oh good', said Pooh, 'I like Parties'. Eeyore, though was less happy. 'We'll see', he muttered, 'we'll see'.

Later that day Pooh and Eeyore, by now feeling Very Hungry Indeed went to the Lonsdale Refectory and got a Big Surprise.

'Look', said Pooh, 'Candles and Naphthingummies and Chocolate Mints.'

'Yes' said Eeyore sternly.

'It must be that Working Party that that Man was talking about; perhaps Aitchee will be here. There aren't any balloons, though, I like ballons'.

'I think, Pooh Bear', said Eeyore gravely, 'that you might be mistaken', and then gently added, 'but you are a bear of very little brain so you enjoy yourself while you can.'

* * * * *

'Well', said Christopher Robin at bathtime later that week, 'did you enjoy your Adventure in Lancaster?'

'Oh yes', said Pooh. 'I saw lots of my friends and made some new ones and I found out all about Young Turks and Space and we had a Working Party that was lots of Fun and I want to go again next year 'cos it's at *A Bear Is With* so it must be all about me!'

NOT BY A.A. MILNE

TOO FEW SNOOZES

I suppose what I feel most about being at the Lancaster conference is a sense of 'rush'. I seem to have been dashing around non-stop ever since I got up at 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning for the long drive up here. In fact the only times I've sat down and relaxed have been when I've eventually located where a particular session is being held, staggered in, got out my notebook and nodded off.

So why did I bother to come? To meet 'useful and interesting' people; hear 'useful and interesting' papers; listen to and give support to some of my friends who were giving papers (although since I arrived three quarters of an hour late at one group, having hiked *miles* round the campus looking for it, the level of support was a bit low); pass on messages from people in the South West to others who were expected to be at the conference; rejoice at/mourn the demise of British sociology? Probably all these were contributory factors.

I've heard some good papers and some rotten ones. I've taken part in some good discussions and some trivial ones. I enjoyed the food but I didn't like being pushed into sitting where the dinner ladies wanted me to sit rather than where I wanted to sit. I nearly died of exposure the first night; despite putting car rug and donkey jacket on my bed, I was frozen. I enjoyed listening to John Barnes' talk on the role of the BSA, its development and 'the way forward', I didn't go to the alternative cabaret because the Women's Caucus was scheduled at that time.

So what themes can I pick out? Concerns with funding; intellectual integrity; what's the SSRC up to; where are our jobs going. I was beginning to feel hunted as at almost each session I attended there were oblique (or overt), hostile allusions to ethnomethodology—so hunted, in fact, that I didn't own up to having been brought up to 'speak Goldsmith'.

The Presidential address was informative: informative in so far as it showed how little recognition had been taken by main stream sociology of feminist theory and practice. The subsequent AGM was dominated by the verbosity of certain male members. Meanwhile, all non-members and

slackers had set off hot-foot for the party so that by the time the righteous arrived there was little left to drink and nothing to drink it from. Is collective concern only appropriate and 'interesting' to sociologists when it is manifest or not in other people's practice? And this despite all the clap-trap about reflexivity. But no, silly me, good manners are, of course, but manifestations of bourgeois ideology (or false consciousness or something). Slept better as the porter had heard my prayers and produced some extra blankets.

Funny people seemed to be at this conference—especially a group called the Young Turks. I didn't actually see any of these although I was on the look out as I went to Turkey last autumn for a short holiday and had a lovely time. Maybe these Lancashire Young Turks should have worn the fez or carried round pictures of Attaturk for easy identification. And other people seemed to be in a continuous state of messing about with their luggage. Unpacking seemed to be a favourite activity at the conference. Who did any packing? (Too many 'seemed' in this paragraph—an alert reader can understand why I wasn't a phenomenal success in S.E. London.)

I wish there had been some unallocated time so that study groups, caucus meetings, sneaky trips to Lancaster and little snoozes needn't have been in competition with other scheduled events. And I wish the AGM had not been held so late at night. The anniversary dinner I enjoyed and the disco was not bad although I woke up with a lousy headache on Friday morning, dreading the long drive back home: it's awfully difficult to summarise the conference as I discovered when I was trying to explain to Simon/Peter (THE PRESS) what I thought about it all. (Hope I'm not splashed on the front page of next week's THES). I suppose 'there are as many models as there are actors' which seems a nifty way of avoiding any kind of summarising activity. I won't say much about Prof Douglas's plenary session. If you were there you knew what it was like, and if you weren't it's probably best that you never find out. So I'd better finish by saying I'll probably be at Aberystwyth next year as I like Aberystwyth—if the place is still there. 'Strike a light for Wales Cymraeg'.

GILL BLUNDEN UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

BSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1980-8

President *John Eldridge*

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THE CONFERENCE CRECHE

The 1980 Conference creche was once again a great success. Approximately nine children attended, ranging from just over one to nine years in age. Four trained adults, two men and two women, supervised activities which kept the children busy, happy and eager to return after the lunch break. From the parents' point of view an additional advantage of this creche was its proximity to conference activities. Many thanks are due to the organisers who provided such pleasant and competent playleaders, and to Lancaster University for the use of its facilities.

PAT ALLAT, NEWCASTLE POLYTECHNIC

OVERHEARD AT THE CONFERENCE

'Shall we take the day off and go to the lakes?' (often)
'I never thought sociologists were professional anyway—hardly any of them wear suits.' (after John Barnes' plenary)
'But I've got all my *other* meal tickets.' (hopeful ticketless conference goer)

'Who are we supposed to receive?' (university reception)
'Do you think there's any chance they'll make the SSRC redundant along with the rest of us?'

'It's all very well talking about space for sociology, but this party could do with some space for sociologists.' (party)
'Has anyone seen Macrae?'

'It's the first time I've ever been served by a waitress who said "Oh, I've given you too much, I'll have to take some back".' (anniversary dinner)

'When are they closing *this* university down?'

'Why is my paper at 9am?' (everyone giving paper at 9am)

NEW EDITOR OF NETWORK

The new Editor of Network will be chosen shortly, and members will be notified about her/his name and address. In the meantime, enquiries and correspondence should be sent to The Editor, *Network*, BSA, 10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HU, and *not* to the retiring Editor's address.

NEWS AND NOTES

INDUSTRIAL SOCIOLOGY

The Sociology of the Labour Market—one-day conference
31 May commencing at 10.30am at the University of
Aston, Room 122, Gosta Green, Birmingham.

Speakers: R. Loveridge, *Differences between Internal
Labour Markets*

O. Triesman, *A Theory of Disequilibrium in the Inner City
Labour Market*

G. Norris, *Unemployment and Redundancy* (provisional
title).

11 June at 4.30pm in Room S.421, LSE (St Clement's
Building):

Bob Blackburn, (Cambridge), *Workers' Orientations and
Class Constraints*

Details of meetings available from the Convenor, **Stephen
Wood**, Dept of Industrial Relations, London School of
Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE.

SOCIOLOGY OF LABOUR

Trade Unions in the 'Third World'—one-day conference
Late September (exact date to be finalised), University of
Bradford. Anyone interested in presenting a paper should
contact the Convenor by mid-June. Final details of the
meeting will be available from the Convenor, **Roberto
Espindola**, School of Studies in Social Analysis, University
of Bradford, Bradford, W. Yorks BD7 1DP.

SEXUAL DIVISIONS AND SOCIETY

The next meeting will be held in mid June at the University
of Bristol. The theme will be Women and Health. Anyone
wishing to contribute a paper should contact one of the
Convenors. Full details about this meeting may be obtained
from the joint convenors appointed at the meeting in
Lancaster—**Sue Scott** and **Sylvia Walby**, Dept of Sociology,
University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster (Tel. No. 0524
65201).

LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION

28 May at 3.00pm. Terence Brake, ILEA Centre for
Learning Resources, *Ethnography and Social Psychology in
Information Research*.

Further details, including venue, available from **Christine
Oldman**, Dept of Social Policy and Administration, Uni-
versity of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT (Tel. No. 0532 31751)
who has joined **Ralph Adam** and **Judith Bowen** as joint
convenor.

POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

7 June 1980 at Manchester Polytechnic.

Papers to include *Political Thought of Max Weber* and
*Pressure Group Strategies: the case of the National Federa-
tion of the Self-Employed*. Details from **Roger King**, Dept
of Behavioural Sciences, Huddersfield Polytechnic, Queens-
gate, Huddersfield.

ASA ANNUAL MEETING

27-31 August 1980 at the New York Hilton Hotel.
Further details obtainable from the ASA, 1722
N. Street N.W., Washington DC 20036, USA.

HUMAN REPRODUCTION

The Politics of Reproduction—two-day conference.

14-15 June 1980 at High Wycombe.

The cost of the conference will be £7.50 waged; £2.50
unwaged. Further details obtainable from **Hilary Graham**,
School of Applied Social Studies, University of Bradford,
Bradford BD7 1DP.

THEORY

Explanation and Understanding—two-day conference
19-20 September 1980 at the University of Sussex

It is hoped to examine realist, rationalist and hermeneutic
conceptions of explanation.

Speakers will include **Deryck Beylveveld**, **Roy Bhaskar**, **Tom
Bottomore**, **Russell Keats** and **Janet Wolff**.

For further details please contact **William Outhwaite**,
School of European Studies, University of Sussex, Arts
Building, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9QN.

SOCIOLOGY AND ECONOMICS

BSA Theory Group Conference, January 1981

The BSA Theory Group will be holding a conference
entitled **Sociology and Economics** from 5-6 January at the
University of Birmingham. Anyone who would like to
present a paper, or who requires further details, should
contact either of the Organisers: **Mary Farmer**, School of
Social Sciences, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, or
David Perman, Department of Sociology, University of
Birmingham, Birmingham.

MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY

London Meetings—held at 6pm in Room S.421, St.
Clements Bldg., London School of Economics, Houghton
Street, London WC2.

21 May **David Ingleby**, University of Cambridge: *Critical
Psychiatry*

25 June **Mike Wadsworth**, MRC Unit, University of
Bristol: *Sociological Aspects of Longitudinal
Follow-up Studies*

23 July **Alan Beattie**, Institute of Education, London:
*The Use and Abuse of Models in Health
Education*

29 Oct **Ray Fitzpatrick**, Bedford College Middlesex
Hospital, London: *Aspects of a Study of
Headache Sufferers*

There may be unavoidable changes to this programme. If
necessary, check for particular sessions by phoning **Barbara
Harrison**, 01-928 8989 x 2380; **Jenny Popay** or **John
Dennis**, 01-407 7600 x 2995.

ANNUAL MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY CONFERENCE,
University of Warwick (note the change of venue), 19-21
September 1980.

For further details about the conference please contact
Anne Murcott, Dept of Sociology, University College,
P.O. Box 78, Cardiff.

SCOTTISH JOURNAL OF SOCIOLOGY

We apologise for the omission of the following from the list
of journals offered to BSA members at a special rate:

Scottish Journal of Sociology

Special Rate to BSA members £3.00

Cheques should be made payable to **Scottish Journal of
Sociology**, and orders sent to: **R. Parsler**, Dept of
Sociology, University of Stirling, Stirling.

GRADUATE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY TEACHING

At a conference arranged by the SSRC at Warwick last
December papers presented included 'Future SSRC Policy
on the Graduate Teaching of Research Methods' by
M. Stacey and 'Research Training in Sociology' by
T. Coxon. These may be obtained from the BSA office at a
cost of 50p per copy (including postage).

BRITAIN IN THE 'EIGHTIES

Association for the Teaching of the Social Sciences

Annual Conference

12-14 September at the University of East Anglia, Norwich. Speakers will include: John Rex, Director of the Research Unit on Ethnic Relations, University of Aston; Peter Townsend, Professor of Sociology, University of Essex; Bryan Heading, Dean of the School of Economic and Social Studies, University of East Anglia; Terry Schofield, Chief Examiner, 'O' level Sociology, Associated Examining Board; and Tom Whiteside, Chief Examiner, 'A' level Sociology, Associated Examining Board.

In addition to the speakers there will be a number of study groups: examining 'A' level Sociology; 'O' level Sociology; JMB 'A' level Sociology; proposed NEC/OU "Flexi-study" and proposed AEB 'O' level Social Science. Conference fee: residents: £26 (ATSS members), £28 (non-members), Non-residents £16.

Booking forms available from BSA office or direct from Joan Garrod, 7 Cedar Drive, Loddon, Norfolk NR14 6LE. Closing date for the receipt of bookings: 14 June.

RACE, CLASS AND THE STATE

Theory, experiences and strategies

3-day conference, 14-16 July 1980

Brighton Polytechnic

Contributors include: Tariq Ali, *Socialist Challenge*; M. Barker, Bristol Poly; M. Billig, Birmingham Univ; H. Bulhan, Boston Univ; S. Feuchtwang, City Univ; J. Gabriel, Birmingham Univ; J. Mellor, North London Poly; Race and Politics Group, CCCS, Birmingham Univ. J. Rex, Aston Univ; C. Robinson, California Univ; A. Sivanandan, Institute of Race Relations; S. Tomlinson, Lancaster Univ; J. Walvin, York Univ. Conference fee and full board £39; Conference fee only £15. For further details and booking form, contact Mike Cole or Bob Skelton, Dept of Community Studies, Brighton Polytechnic, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9PH.

BRITISH EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL CONFERENCE,

2nd-4th September 1980

The BERA annual conference visits Wales this year for the first time. The venue is the School of Home Economics of University College, Cardiff, situated at Llandaff.

The provisional programme is summarised below. There are only 150 places, to be allocated to the first 150 people who return the booking form with the deposit. On receipt of the form and a cheque, a fuller version of the programme, with abstracts of all the papers, will be supplied to you. The deposit is £10 for BERA members, and £15 for non-members (which includes part of their higher conference fee). The total cost of the conference will be about £35 for the 3 days. The deposit will be returned if you apply after the 150 places are all taken.

Attractions: Six parallel sessions run throughout the conference: several researchers from the Far West Lab, are participating in the symposium on classroom interaction. The 'school effectiveness' symposium will include a discussion of *Fifteen Thousand Hours* with Peter Mortimore present.

The symposium on case study includes Harold Silver among its contributors. Adult education is a major theme running throughout the conference. Demonstrations of micro-processors are included in that symposium.

Booking Forms obtainable from: Sara Delamont, Sociology Department, University College Cardiff.

ATSS Race/Ethnicity Advisory Panel

The ATSS has recently set up an Advisory Panel on race and ethnicity, and one of its concerns will be to produce teaching material. If anyone would like further details of the Panel's intended work, please contact Peter Neville, at Hounslow Borough College.

SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The 1981 Conference, on the theme of 'Society, Schools and Teaching', will be held at Westhill College, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29, from January 5th to 7th. A number of overseas speakers will be taking part, including Dorothy Smith, Dan Lortie, Paul Olsen and Robert Stebbins. Only a limited number of places will be available, and demand is likely to be heavy. Early application is therefore advocated. Details are available from: Len Barton, Westhill College, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29.

FATHERHOOD RESEARCH

The next Fatherhood research meeting will take place on 6 June at the Thomas Coram Research Unit. Open to all who are planning or doing research on any aspect of fathers or fatherhood. For further information, please contact Nigel Beail or Jacqueline McGuire, Thomas Coram Research Unit, University of London Institute of Education, 41 Brunswick Square, London WC1, 01-278 2424 x 243.

BRITISH SOCIETY OF GERONTOLOGY

Annual Conference

25-27 September 1980, University of Aberdeen.

Preliminary programme includes workshops and seminars on: Psychological approaches to the care of the elderly

25-27 September 1980, University of Aberdeen.

Preliminary programme includes workshops and seminars on: Psychological approaches to the care of the elderly; Civil liberties for the elderly; Retirement and retirement planning; Studies of health and illness in old age; The phenomenology of ageing; Mid-life precursors of old age; A critique of 'community' care; Social class differences among the elderly.

For further information and booking forms, write to Dr. Rex Taylor, MRC Medical Sociology Unit, Institute of Medical Sociology, Westburn Road, Aberdeen AB9 2ZE.

Northern Association of Politics and Sociology (NAPS)

NAPS meets regularly once a term as a forum for political and social scientists in the north to discuss academic and teaching concerns and anyone interested in attending meetings should contact R. King, Dept of Behavioural Sciences, Huddersfield Polytechnic, Queensgate, Huddersfield. Limited copies of papers from previous meetings available.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Annual Meeting

1-5 September 1980 at the University of Salford.

The programme for Section N—Sociology includes Local sociology research; Problems of medical care in inner cities; Social causes of inner city decline; Crime and vandalism in the inner city (jointly with Section J—Psychology) and visits to BBC Radio Manchester; Jodrell Bank and Manchester Docks and Ship Canal. Further details may be obtained from Mr. C.E. Fyans, Local Secretary (BAAO), University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT, Tel. 061-736 5843 x. 7200.

OPPRESSION

Report of the Student Conference held at the University of Lancaster from 5 to 7 January 1980.

Following a suggestion made to a number of sociology students by John Wakeford, the idea of holding a student conference at Lancaster University began to take shape. The initial students involved organised a circular to all undergraduate sociology students in the university asking for ideas and suggestions. The intention of the conference was to create an opportunity for students to exchange views in an informal atmosphere separate from the confines of both examinations and course work assessments. A theme was chosen that would allow students who are taking a variety of courses to attend the conference and not feel that their own areas of interest were not catered for. 'Oppression', with its infinite variety of meanings, provided such a theme. The main topics covered in the workshops and seminars centred on 'women's studies', 'race' and 'institutions of social control', and reflected some of the areas of interest of our invited guest speakers, John McVicar and Professor Robert Moore.

Of the 146 who registered for the conference, 95 were 'A' level students from local colleges of Further Education and 51 were from Polytechnics and Universities from all over the UK. A substantial proportion of the 'A' level students attended only for the Sunday session in order to hear the talk by Robert Moore. This experience provided them with a valuable introduction not only to some substantive areas within sociology but also to the atmosphere of a campus university.

Professor Moore's talk achieved the impossible; by providing an instructive and informative talk to postgraduate students in sociology whilst still whetting the appetite of 1st year 'A' level students.

John McVicar's talk at the final session of the conference provided an entertaining and well researched view of the judiciary, the police and the prison service. It was refreshing to hear a sociologist who really 'knows' what he is talking about.

As well as the main sessions and the seminars and workshops, spontaneous informal discussions after each session flourished, so did speculation as to how the 17 students from Portsmouth Polytechnic were going to sleep in the one room they had booked (answers on a post card please). On the first evening of the conference a wine reception was held and on the final evening there was a disco specially provided for those hard of hearing.

All the participants agreed that the conference was a social and intellectual success and it was suggested that it should become an annual event. The fact that all the members of the organising committee were 3rd year undergraduates precludes their involvement in running future student conferences. Some mechanism, within the structure of the BSA, could possibly institute some form of annual student conference. One possible idea could be to hold a student conference at the same venue as the full BSA conference later in the year? All universities and polytechnics would probably benefit, and certainly local 'A' level students would benefit if one day conferences were held to introduce the idea of higher education sociology to prospective undergraduates. If our experience was anything to go by, and if they were accompanied by some social event, such 'Sunday' conferences would be very successful indeed.

From the beginning the conference was directed by students with no interference from tutors. It would, however, have been impossible without the assistance of Anne Dix and the BSA; also Brenda Wright and the secretarial staff of the Sociology Department at Lancaster, who met all the secretarial needs of the conference organisers; not forgetting the conference committee — Elizabeth Clark, Gerry Cross, Carol Hay, John Needham, Edwin Thwaites and Carol Westhead. Robert Moore and

John McVicar deserve special acknowledgement for giving up free time to involve themselves socially with students and provide encouragement to the large number of 'A' level students at the conference.

The BSA office welcomes enquiries from students who would like to organise a one-day or weekend conference at their university or polytechnic. Please contact Anne Dix at the BSA office (10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HU. Tel. no.: 01-242 3388 ext. 202) who will be glad to help and supply further information.

CHANGES IN BRADFORD POSTGRADUATE COURSES

The M.Sc. in Industrial Societies at Bradford University is a course which is open to both full-time and part-time students. In view of the large increase in postgraduate fees its popularity as a part-time course is bound to be enhanced. Already 6 of the 12 attending in 1979-80 are part-time. Full-time students can complete in an academic year and can finish writing up their dissertation in the summer. For part-time students the four sections of the course (Sociology of Industrial Societies; Sociological Analysis; Methods of Social Research; Industrial Sociology) are taught so that two courses are completed in year one and the remaining two courses in year two. It is possible to attend the course on a day release basis. Students choose to write a dissertation in an area covered by one of the courses, and they sit examinations in the other three.

Among the changes currently being considered are broadening the options available to the students, so that Industrial Sociology and Sociology of Industrial Societies become optional, and students could choose other courses in their place. Changes are also being considered in the Diploma/M.Sc. in Race Relations and Community Studies which is offered at Bradford University. This course is also open to both full-time and part-time students. Part-timers can attend the course on a day release basis over a period of two years. The taught part of the course is the Diploma. Students may apply who have relevant experience in fields dealing with minorities and their previous academic experience is considered on an individual basis. The Diploma is examined by written work submitted in three fields (Theory; Social Structure of Contemporary Britain; Special Area). Those who perform satisfactorily in the Diploma may proceed to register for a M.Sc. which is examined by dissertation, but students must pass well in the Diploma to achieve this.

The staff at Bradford University are currently considering increasing the number of courses on offer (possibly on a modular basis), thus increasing the range of options open to students on the Diploma.

Further details from John Laredo, Chairperson of Postgraduate School of Social Analysis, University of Bradford, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD7 1DP, or from the Course Directors at the same address.

M.Sc. Course Director: Gary Littlejohn

Diploma/M.Sc. Course Director: Charles Husband.

JOHN MADGE ESSAY PRIZE

This prize is offered annually by the Trustees of the John Madge Memorial Fund. Its value is £25 and it is open to students reading for first degrees in sociology, planning and geography in universities and polytechnics. It will be awarded for the best piece of original work submitted during an undergraduate course — e.g. independent dissertation offered as part of an honours course — in the field of sociological aspects of planning.

Students submitting for the prize may send their work directly to the Secretary of the John Madge Trust, c/o the Regional Studies Association, 62 Chandos Place, London WC2 4HH, to arrive not later than 1 July 1980.

GOVERNMENT CUTS

The BSA Executive Committee met informally with members of the SSRC Sociology and Social Administration Committee and Secretariat on 11 January last. The following account of the discussion on Government Cuts is taken from the approved minutes of the meeting.

Alan Little, Chairperson of the Sociology and Social Administration Committee, reported that the following decisions have been made by Council:

(a) There will be a total of 1500 studentships available for 1980/81. Of this number approximately 480 will be used to extend current second year studentships for a third year. The desirability of third year extensions was raised, though not pursued but this point may be followed up in future deliberations.

(b) Subjects have been divided into three groups. Some subjects will receive more studentships, i.e. management and education have been increased by twenty-eight and ten respectively. The allocation for some subjects will remain largely as at present, i.e. economics, planning and geography, and the remaining subjects will take a tenth of post-cut cuts. However, five additional studentships have been given to Social Administration, and this is viewed as consistent with the argument for expansion in management and education.

The result is that Sociology and Social Administration have received a total of 108 'new starts' for 1980/81 as compared with 132 for 1979/80.

The nature of the criteria made by Council reflects a distinction between applied subjects and basic disciplines.

The Postgraduate Training Board was sent a strong letter by the SSRC Sociology and Social Administration Committee and individual members made verbal representation resulting in the allocation of one further studentship.

(c) There will be no matching allocation to linked studentships.

(d) There will be a pool next year but no allocation; only return quotas. It is proposed that applicants to the pool should in future have work experience as well as a 2.1 degree or above, or hold at least a 2.1 degree and a master's degree.

(e) Third year conversions: favourable consideration likely to be given to a larger number of vocational courses as against PhDs.

For the BSA: Support was expressed for the Committee's opposition to the change in policy on Applied and Basic disciplines. In noting the points made it was pointed out that Council's policy of encouraging management studies will lead to a general lowering of standards.

For the SSRC: A member of the Postgraduate Training Sub-Committee (consisting of B. Roberts, C. Harris and S. Sinclair) reported on the proposals to be submitted to the full meeting of the Sociology and Social Administration Committee. In making these proposals the Sub-Committee was bearing in mind that:

1. This is the last year of the triennial review and it is not considered feasible to make drastic changes in the allocation of awards with insufficient and out of date information available. Arrangements are being made for a further conference in July at which criteria can be drawn up and upon which the Committee can base its allocations in future years.

2. The proposals are subject to the April budget announcements.

3. In making its case, the Sub-Committee has given fairly strong support to linked awards rather than taught general masters degree courses.

The Sub-Committee's formal proposals are:

- a) No awards for general taught masters courses (although about 6 awards would be used for specialist masters);
- b) Linked award scheme should be protected at or above existing level (about 24 awards);

c) There will be a total remaining allocation of 51 studentships. These should be concentrated in the 15 'top marks' departments as listed in the last triennial review. Departments who received one award this year will therefore get none next year.

For the BSA: The proposal to concentrate the awards was not favourably received. Strong support was given to an alternative proposal that departments with quota status which received one or more awards this year should each receive at least one award. The Sub-Committee proposal was not only demoralising for the staffs in a large number of departments, in fact the majority of departments, but could affect their standing within the institution. If the alternative proposal made by the BSA was not accepted by the Postgraduate Training Sub-Committee, it was proposed that when considering the applications for linked awards preference should be given to departments not in receipt of a quota studentship. If one of the selected departments receives a linked award it should forfeit one quota studentship.

There was no case for the argument that departments with one award could not and did not provide the quality of supervision, the training in methods and a healthy academic milieu, and evidence existed that the size of SSRC quota awards allocation was not a guarantee of any of these desirable elements.

For the SSRC: A member of the Postgraduate Training Sub-Committee agreed that when presenting the formal proposals to the Sociology and Social Administration Committee the views of the BSA would also be reported to the full committee. There were pressures being brought to bear on the Sub-Committee, and two in particular:

1. A high dispersal rate could be seen as sociology scattering its resources instead of concentrating them. The PTB is against maximum dispersal.
2. The support given by the PTB to linked awards is favourable.

Next year the Sociology and Social Administration Committee's options are open but its decisions must be based on academic grounds.

For the BSA: The point was again made that the reason why sums applied for within the Sociology and Social Administration Committee are lower than in other Committees is because the problems posed and the work involved in preparing applications for large sums involving interdisciplinary approval is not worth while when applicants can go to Leverhulme and elsewhere.

DESIGNATED RESEARCH CENTRES

The following press release was issued on 10 April by John Wakeford and John Eldridge on behalf of the BSA:

As an Association we do not have a formulated policy about Designated Research Centres. However, we make the following comments on the creation of the first five centres:

1. Any general evaluation of the desirability of using Council funds for DRCs must depend upon an overall appraisal of Council's budgeting strategy. The Council should make clear its rationale and the resource implications of this policy.
2. Recognising the very limited funds available for postgraduate studentships in Sociology and other disciplines, we would like to be assured that the use of Council's resources is not to be at the expense of postgraduate funding.
3. Members of the BSA have expressed concern about the mechanisms by which the initiative of DRCs has been implemented: the inadequate circulation of information about the initiative to potential applicants; the very short time allowed for applications to be formulated and submitted; and the criteria by which applications were evaluated.
4. Given the overall financial constraints that now exist in Higher Education, we want open discussion on council policy so far as resource allocation is concerned.

JOINT PUBLICATION

It is not unusual to hear bitter complaints by younger members of the profession about unfair treatment from colleagues concerning credit for reports of research which are published. The situation seems to have worsened since many young sociologists are making a career based on short-term research appointments, where frequent opportunities for misunderstandings in this area occur. It is difficult to believe, hearing some horror stories, that complaints are not justified; on the other hand some projects which lead to publication now result from collaborative teamwork of a very complex kind.

To avoid disappointments, exploitation and recrimination, it seems that some kind of guidelines should be available and no doubt other Departments apart from this one have formulated a provisional set. The 'outline' below has been adopted here for a trial year and is offered for comment by members generally. Two issues mentioned when the 'outline' was discussed here are also added.

Ethics of joint publication—outline for a guideline .

General

The principles outlined in Chapter X of Diener and Crandall's (1978) American study 'Ethics in Social and Behavioural Research' are generally regarded as acceptable, with two minor amendments. (1) Data analysis of some kinds may be a 'significant scientific contribution' which joint authors might agree in advance was equivalent to writing substantial parts of a report. (2) It is also likely that the nature of PhD work in this country and within this discipline make it far less likely that any agreement about joint publication could be regarded as appropriate.

Each arrangement for joint authorship contains a unique combination of contributions and guidelines must be tempered by individual circumstances. It is recommended that whenever joint publication may be contemplated, a written agreement about the division of labour and authorship attribution should be made. If either contributor wishes to take the advice of the Department at this stage or at any later stage, the document or the difficulty should be presented to the Departmental Research Committee for discussion.

Some specific instances of collaboration are considered below but the variety of research activities overlap and may blur distinctions. Equality of status may be nominal, considerations of seniority, tenure, etc. may affect negotiations. It is recommended that people should err on the side of caution and ask for advice if there is the slightest possibility that either party to an agreement may be at a disadvantage.

Colleagues of equal status

A written agreement at the outset should indicate who should have precedence. If any kind of attribution other than joint authorship is anticipated, the exact form should be mentioned. It should be noted that the use of 'with' rather than 'and' indicates a lesser contribution by the second author and will preclude citation. The main author should decide if any other acknowledgements are to be made, by footnote, etc. but a decision to acknowledge a second contributor in this way is *not* joint authorship. The agreement should also mention expectations about the form of contributions, which would usually include shared drafting of reports. If deadlines are not implicit, as in contract work, then they should be stated. Failure to meet deadlines or fulfil expectations might debar from joint authorship in circumstances outlined by Diener and Crandall. It is recommended that such action might also be referred to the Research Committee if there is any possibility that the debarred party might be disadvantaged.

Research students

All students should be encouraged to publish reports, since the dissemination of knowledge is a primary goal of scientific research. *PhD students* do particularly individual work and generally joint authorship with a supervisor would be regarded as undesirable, indicating less than the proper contribution by the student to the thesis. Exceptions can be envisaged—where, for example, the work in a research project makes it difficult to disentangle the thesis work from the whole report. It is thought desirable to try to avoid this situation. It may not be possible to adopt quite so firm a view of joint authorship with *students working for other degrees*. Some may be incorporated into projects where much of their work has been preplanned; or they may have little interest in publication for its own sake and the quality of the work may not merit publication without further analysis or revision. Collaboration should not be discussed before the award of the degree, however, and the student should be encouraged to attempt publication alone, with supervisory assistance. If the student is unwilling to publish (and some PhD students might also fall into this category) or unable or unwilling to tackle revision or further analysis, collaboration might be suggested. It might be thought that this would be a stage at which Departmental advice could be taken, to avoid any possibility of exploitation.

Issues raised when this 'guideline' was discussed:

1. That joint authorship with students might result in supervision being given to students with whom publication was contemplated, whilst others were neglected. This was regarded as a question of professional responsibility for post-graduate students and outside the scope of this paper. The recommendation that collaboration should not be considered until the degree has been awarded and that all students should be encouraged to attempt sole authorship seems to deal with the problem.
2. That considerable assistance on the part of a post-graduate supervisor might warrant joint authorship of a paper published during a studentship. This might be of benefit to the student. This does seem to be most likely to concern PhD students, however, and in that case the originality of the thesis may be threatened and the recommendation about collaboration only after award of a degree would be disregarded. The proposal that agreements should be discussed by the Department would seem to allow consideration of special cases.

MARGARET NORRIS, CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE, DEPT. OF SOCIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF SURREY.

SSRC RESEARCH INITIATIVES BOARD REPORT ON CHILDREN IN CARE

The report of an SSRC Exploratory Panel on Children in Care is now available. In it the Panel identifies four major areas where it wishes to encourage research: the effects of social and economic trends on care practices and policies; the decision-making processes involved in the care system; the evaluation of alternative forms of care; the perceptions of care by children and others involved in their care.

Copies of the Report *Children in Need of Care* are available from: Mr. F. Loughran, The Children in Care Development Officer, Department of Social Administration, 8 Priory Road, Bristol, BS8 1TF, or from: SSRC, 1 Temple Avenue, London, EC4Y 0BD.

It might be of interest to members to know that the Exploratory Panel gave less than two months' notice to *Network* of the closing date for outline research proposals to be submitted to it (the date was March 31st) and we suggest that anyone who would have submitted proposals had sufficient notice been given, write to the Panel expressing concern about the late availability of information.

NEW STUDIES IN SOCIOLOGY

This series, prepared under the auspices of the British Sociological Association, has now been revised to present larger, more substantial works. The overall purpose of the series remains the same: to provide scholarly yet argumentative treatments of key problems in sociology. The books are neither textbooks nor research monographs. Rather they present an original viewpoint upon subjects where an orthodoxy does not exist, whether because of undue neglect or because recent research has overturned previous orthodoxies. The series is designed to provide empirically informed theory about society, relating a diversity of empirical areas to central problems of sociological theory.

As editor, I am keen to hear from anyone with a manuscript or with just an idea for one. Contracts can be signed (and an advance handed over!) on approval of a couple of chapters and an outline of the whole. Suggestions are welcome for any area of sociology.

MICHAEL MANN, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

NEW FEMINIST JOURNAL

Feminist Issues, a new journal of feminist social and political theory, will begin publication in June 1980. It will be the English-language edition of the French journal, *Questions Feministes*, and will appear three times a year.

Simone de Beauvoir is the editor-in-chief of the French journal, and the editorial board is made up of the following French sociologists, anthropologists and writers: Noelle Bisserset, Christine Delphy, Colette Guillaumin, Claude Hennequin, Emmanuele de Lesseps, Nicole-Claude Mathieu, Monique Plaza and Monique Wittig.

Feminist Issues is edited by Mary Jo Lakeland and Susan Ellis Wolf, the directors of The Feminist Forum in Berkeley, California. It will include not only articles translated from the French edition, but also articles by English-speaking feminists and scholars, which will also then appear in the French journal.

US subscription rates are as follows: one year for individuals, \$15.00; libraries and institutions, \$25.00; two years for individuals, \$28.00; libraries and institutions, \$47.00. Canadian and foreign subscriptions add \$2.00 surface mail, and \$7.00 airmail. Single copies are \$5.00 to individuals, and \$9.00 to libraries and institutions.

Subscribers may order the journal by sending a cheque in US currency payable to *Feminist Issues* at the following address: Transaction, Inc., Rutgers--The State University, New Brunswick, N.J. 08903, USA.

SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW

Issue on SSRC Sociology and Social Administration Committee Workshop about problems and practices in the handling of qualitative data, was published in November 1979 and is available from The Secretary, *Sociological Review*, University of Keele, Keele, Staffs, ST5 5BG.

CORRECTION

The Macmillan Press has written to us pointing out that contrary to the information published in the review of Jason Ditton's book *Controlology* in the January *Network*, the book is published in paperback as well as hardback. The cost of the paperback is £3.95 (SBN 0 333 25966 1). We apologise for the error.

Analysing Journal Articles

At the Annual Conference, it became clear that there are several people analysing, in a variety of ways, the content of past issues of British Sociology journals. A group of us thought it would be interesting to get together to see if there were any general points that we could gain from one another. If there are any people who would like to be involved in a one-day meeting in London on this topic, would they send a note of dates they could attend such a meeting in September to: Cathie Marsh, Social and Political Sciences Committee, Free School Lane, Cambridge.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I feel compelled to make some personal observations on the fiasco at the closing plenary session of the BSA Conference.

I don't think the conference committee can be held responsible for this by their invitation to Professor Jack Douglas, whose embarrassingly inept 'address' occasioned the debacle. Rather, I feel that responsibility for this painful affair must be apportioned equally between Douglas on the one side and the audience on the other.

Douglas must share the blame for his own discomfiture by his failure to familiarise himself with the intellectual and political 'setting' in which he found himself: he just hadn't done his homework. This is not a recommendation that speakers should pander to the political prejudices of their audiences. I should have thought a lively and provocative *polemic* on behalf of Hayek's political philosophy and E. Wilson's Sociobiology would have been taken *seriously* as an occasion for a vigorous controversy if presented in an informed and sophisticated manner. What Jack Douglas gave us, however, which was so painfully misplaced, was a rambling exposure of the ignorance and naivete of so many American sociologists. A sociologist of 'everyday life' ought to expect to be given a rough time when playing blind man's buff in the middle of someone else's game!

Having said this, there was still no excuse for the insolence of the audience in responding in so juvenile a manner. I refer to the gasps and mutters rather than the offensive and rhetorical questions. I myself found what Douglas was saying pretty incredible, but mostly I felt painfully sorry for him in his predicament. The hectoring was, in fact, unnecessary since the two most incisive questions posed by Michael Weinstein and Hilary Rose jointly sufficed to annihilate everything Douglas had said to provoke it.

Nevertheless, whilst sharing the astonishment of the audience at the lack of 'reflexive' awareness of the ideological aspect of the concepts of Sociobiology and Hayekian individualism, there must surely be some crumbs of consolation in the realisation of just how much of a consensus there is among British sociologists on basic 'domain assumptions'—despite the fragmentations bemoaned during the conference by Abrams, Burns, Rex and others. When confronted by evidence of the inane and myopic world of Californian sociology (and its effortless slippage from pseudo-radicalism to complacent accord with the New Right), it was reassuring to see how much British sociologists actually agree that sociology is, or should be, concerned with the analysis of *social structures which change*. Moreover, most of us actually work within assumptions which do have the status of 'knowledge' that isn't apparently widely accepted as 'common sense'. For example, that what we observe in our everyday lives is not 'human nature' within 'natural settings', but something historically specific, and that the ideas and concepts produced within this society are not entirely 'innocent'. Whether or not we can easily agree on a positive conception of social structure or 'ideology', shouldn't blind us to the fact that one can recognise when the *possibility* of conceptualising these things is being dissolved.

Finally, it is amusing that we were able to *observe directly* something that one would, in other contexts, have to provide chapter-and-verse proof for claiming, namely: (1) that there is a close affinity between three otherwise distinct world-views—American micro-sociology, the political philosophy of Hayek, Nozick & Co, and the vulgar Darwinism of Wilson, Dawkins and the sociobiologists. (2) That all three are 'ideological' in the strict sense of being systems which render transparent the structure of 'bourgeois society', glossing competitive individualism etc., as 'Nature'. Douglas unwittingly demonstrated both for us.

MIKE PETERS LEEDS POLYTECHNIC

REVIEW SECTION

The Political Economy of Health

Lesley Doyal with Imogen Pennell, Pluto Press, London, 1979. 360pp. £4.95 p/b.

This book examines the social origins of health and illness and the production of health care under capitalism. The authors criticise orthodox medical sociology which, they claim, 'does not define the nature of medical knowledge as problematic and pays little attention to wider issues concerning the nature of medical practice in contemporary capitalist societies' (p. 16). The argument of the book falls broadly into three parts. It focusses on the manner in which class structure, imperialism and patriarchy produce ill health, and on the way in which health care systems sustain and reproduce these social divisions.

In locating the causes of ill health in the capitalist mode of production the authors point to the role played by the imperatives of accumulation in creating a dangerous, unhealthy and stressful workplace. This is backed up by a wealth of empirical data on the incidence and aetiology of disease. Outside employment ill health is produced by unsatisfactory public health measures, pollution, inadequate housing and a badly designed built environment, and the prohibitive cost of a healthy way of life.

Although most sociologists will be familiar with some of these issues and arguments, the value of the book here lies in its coherent treatment and systematic documentation of the area, and in its historical focus which charts the changes and continuities over the last two centuries of capitalism.

The most exciting section is the one concerned with imperialism, underdevelopment and ill health. It argues convincingly against the popular view that sickness in underdeveloped countries is the consequence of a 'disease-ridden' natural environment, 'primitive' life-styles and traditional customs, including medical practices. Instead, the discussion focuses on the substantial changes in disease patterns in the Third World which resulted from colonial rule—among others, the economic and geographic uprooting of the indigenous population and the social dislocation brought about by changes in the control, distribution and use of land. With the shift to neo-colonialism arrived additional health problems, generally those which are associated with developed capitalist societies, but exacerbated by the urban systems characteristic of underdevelopment, the great scarcity of health care resources and personnel, coupled with the inappropriateness of imported Western high-technology, hospital-based, and doctor-controlled medicine.

The section on medicine and patriarchy is weaker than the other two. Although the book is by no means intended to be a theoretical work, it is a pity that some discussion of the relationship between patriarchy and capitalism was not included. Thus the reader could get the impression that, for instance, the tortures prescribed to women patients under the guise of 'heroic' medicine are directly attributable to the operation of capitalism in the nineteenth century. On the positive side, the authors establish links between medical ideology, which constitutes women patients as wives and mothers, and medical practice, which controls women's bodies.

Other important themes run through these discussions. They include an analysis of health care provision and the part played by the drug and medical supplies industries. There is also an interesting discussion of the contradiction

between preventive health care and the type of acute interventionist medicine available under capitalism, organised in accordance with the internal hierarchies and preferences of the medical profession.

This is a welcome book. As a general introductory text in medical sociology it ought to find its way on to undergraduate reading lists. And, I would argue, it should figure in general sociology courses, where there is a tendency either to omit any reference to health and illness, or to touch upon these issues tangentially through epidemiological statistics on morbidity and mortality rates.

EVA GAMARNIKOW, INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

Half the Sky: An Introduction to Women's Studies

The Bristol Women's Studies Group (ed.); Virago, London, 1979. 306pp. £3.95 p/b.

This book is written from a number of perspectives—sociological, psychological, historical and literary. It is a collective production by nine women who have been involved for some years in teaching on a variety of women's studies courses. Their collective experience and knowledge has been used successfully to provide an introductory text covering a wide range of ideas and material. It includes suggestions for further reading for those who wish to study in more depth and gives guidance on setting up courses similar to the ones they have been teaching.

Each of the chapters stands by itself so that, for instance, the chapter on education could be used not only by those on women's studies courses, but by those studying or teaching about education. This is one of the book's strengths. It was perhaps not possible or thought appropriate to include an explicit discussion of the relation of women to social stratification. There is material on class differences, but since one of the crucial areas of theoretical debate and political action is that of gender and class, and the inadequacies of mainstream sociology in this respect are increasingly well documented, separate treatment of these would have been welcome.

There is an excellent introduction which confronts the problematic of women's studies, the fact of women's inequality and historical and contemporary feminist perspectives. These themes are taken up again in the conclusion and the theoretical and substantive dilemmas and contradictions are posed. In the contemporary situation in Britain the issues discussed have an increased relevance. The adult education sphere, in which some of the courses which gave rise to this book are taught, is being severely cut back. In institutions of higher and further education where women's studies had gained only a fragile toehold through the determined and collective efforts of groups like the authors of this book, economies are likely, if not to obliterate such courses, to severely affect their growth.

However, whatever the set-backs, the ideas presented in the book and the richness of the sources indicate a level of increased and increasing awareness which will stand. All of us are indebted to the authors for providing such a clearly written basic text.

SHEILA ALLEN, UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD

White Hero Black Beast (Racism, Sexism and the Mask of Masculinity)

Paul Hoch, Pluto Press, London, 1979. 191pp. £8.95 h/b,
£3.95 p/b.

I expect that many teachers have had the experience of taking a course, supposedly on the sociology of gender, and finding the discussion shifting to one on *women* in society. Part of the difficulty lies in the relative scarcity of published material on men and masculinity and it was, therefore, with some anticipation that I opened this book. Unfortunately, I closed it with a sense of disappointment and frustration at an opportunity missed.

The book starts off encouragingly enough. Hoch reminds us that it is not enough to blame biology or socialisation and that an approach which is sensitive to both the historical and the psychological dimensions is required. He points interestingly to some of the contradictions built into contemporary notions of masculinity — 'the white hero and the black beast' — and the ways in which these affect equally contradictory notions of femininity. However, things begin to go wrong around Chapter Three where we are presented with a highly speculative, if often imaginative, examination of sexism, racism, scapegoating and moral panics set against a background of a seemingly almost eternal struggle between the hero and the beast, from Theseus and the Minotaur to *Star Wars*. What follows is, for the most part, a torrent of anthropological, etymological and psychological speculation often presented in a (macho?) take-it-or-leave-it tone with a strong dash of 'it is no accident that'-type Marxist-functionalism. Witnesses include Engels, Freud, Bachofen, Ortega y Gasset, Norman O. Brown and G. Rattray Taylor. I was, for my part, quite taken with the distinction between the puritan and the playboy, using these as ideal-typical representations of different styles of elite masculinity, but was less happy with the attempt to present a Sorokinesque account of the historical oscillation between these two poles.

Clearly, this project was prompted by the growth of feminism. Unfortunately, however, the references to these writings seem to stop just a little way beyond Millett, Firestone and Greer and, as a consequence, Hoch misses out on some of the more detailed examinations of the economic, political and ideological dimensions, particularly in relation to the family, that may have assisted him in his attempt to place patterns of masculinity and masculine behaviour in their historical context. He writes of the need to integrate Freud and Marx but does not refer to Juliet Mitchell, to Chodorow or to the post-Lacanian. Instead we have a discussion of homologies between psychoanalysis and marxism — oral, anal and genital against savagery, barbarism and civilisation — rather than a fully integrated model. A second problem is that Hoch is perhaps a little over-influenced by the standards of masculinity examined in his earlier, and provocative study of professional sport, *Rip Off the Big Game* (Anchor 1972). In spite of his stated desire to examine different ways of being masculine, too often Hoch's men are little more than two fists and an erection drifting from locker room to barroom to bedroom without stopping at any of those other places where male dominance is exercised, the dining-room, the bank and the library. Modern masculine culture can remain masculine and still make room for Dustin Hoffman as well as Clint Eastwood, for Mr. Polly as well as the heroes of Miller and Mailer.

White Hero Black Beast has enough in the way of apt quotations, useful references and scattered insights to start a lively discussion. But as a whole the book lies in a limbo between polemic and analysis, lacking a sense of the personal and a feel for language that would make it work as an example of the former and lacking a cool, critical reflectiveness that would make it effective as the latter.

D. H. J. MORGAN, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Women, Work and Family: Dimensions of Change in American Society

Edited by Frank L. Mott, Lexington Books, Farnborough,
1979. 153pp. £10.50 h/b.

The material presented is somewhat dated and the analysis is simplistic while the topics concerned are intriguing and the task is worthwhile.

Data used were collected from the National Longitudinal Surveys on women in the labour market which were conducted during 1968 to 1973 through the Centre for Human Resources Research of the Ohio State University and the US Bureau of the Census. The authors are Centre staff members. They have used economic theory and various forms of regression analysis to address the following areas related to women and work: college attendance, motherhood, occupational preference, earnings, marital breakdown and migration.

For the most part, the level of analysis and interpretation is superficial, providing simplistic answers to simple (fundamental) questions. As is common with aggregate analysis, we see only the surface of a group which may well be artificially bound by a limited number of characteristics which may be contradictory if their relationships were fully known. There is little reference to career patterning, which is of first importance when investigating work behaviour. There are, however, a few brief references to subjects' life cycles. This is an especially disappointing omission given the richness of the longitudinal data. The aggregate base is so diverse as to produce confusing and meaningless results.

The most intriguing chapter to me was Frank Mott and Sylvia Moore's 'The Causes and Consequences of Marital Breakdown'. My interest is not founded so much upon its excellence as in its subject matter. One is informed that women are likely to have started work prior to a marital breakdown (divorce or separation); women without children, especially blacks, are more likely to remain in or enter the labour market, they are more likely to use welfare services, to take job training, and experience a sharp decline in income: obvious 'findings'. Yet we do not know where in the occupational career of the wife and husband such disruptions occur. Is it during lean or fat times? Is it during a time of adjustment to promotion or a demotion for husband and/or wife? If there had been greater depth to the analysis, these and related issues would be addressed. The present analysis reaches only the surface.

Patricia Brito and Carol Jusenius' article entitled 'Sex Segregation in the Labour Market: An Analysis of Young College Women's Occupational Preferences' reports that while subjects' occupational preferences were for the most part limited to stereotypes of 'women's work', it also shows that college students in general have a very poor sense of the reality of the job market. During the five years of the study there has been little movement away from the stereotypical women's occupations of teacher, nurse and secretary/clerk (in 1968: for whites = 66%, for blacks = 76% and in 1973: for whites 63%, for blacks = 59%). One muses over what change, if any, there would be today.

This analysis does provide some 'important new evidence that occasionally supports and sometimes is inconsistent with popular ideas and notions'. But it would be good to get beneath the surface and away from the widely spread aggregate net in order to have a clearer vision. The National Longitudinal Surveys continue. Maybe there will be more detail and a diversity in methodology in the future; at least the current findings will be updated.

M. MONROE WRIGHT, MANCHESTER, MARYLAND
USA

Minorities, Gender and Work

Elizabeth McTaggart Almquist, Lexington Books, Massachusetts, USA, 1979. 213pp. £11.50 h/b.

Mention research on US minorities and one instantly thinks of Black Americans and probably more specifically of Black American men. In recent years, however, there has been an upsurge of research in the United States on minority groups other than Black Americans. In *Minorities, Gender and Work* Elizabeth Almquist aims to summarise the available literature on ethnic minority groups in America and to identify the predominant patterns hence making the various findings available to a wider audience. She identifies eight different minority groups (Native Americans, Black Americans, Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Cuban-Americans) bringing together an impressive amount of information concerning the historical background and the economic and social position of each group.

Four main theories of minority group status are described ranging from the conservative (e.g. Duncan, Featherman and Duncan, *Socioeconomic Background and Achievement*, 1972) to the radical (Harry Braverman, *Labour and Monopoly Capital*, 1974), with perhaps more emphasis on the conservative than the radical. One factor these theories have in common, however, is that they do not address themselves to the work status of minority women. By presenting material relating to the role of paid employment in the lives of minority women, Almquist hopes to stimulate some new dialogue on the topic.

Almost half of the book is spent describing the occupations and labour force participation of the eight minority groups. Much of the preliminary information is drawn from published material from the 1970 census although many other sources are used. Certain of the groups, the Japanese men in particular, appear to be faring well in the American economic system. However the two oldest minority groups, the American Indians and Black Americans, remain at the bottom of the economic heap.

The final chapters summarise the occupational data relating to the eight minority groups bringing in information on the effect of anti-discrimination legislation and the economic cost of belonging to a particular minority group. Comparative information is provided for each of the eight groups and also for each group of minority women. The economic consequences of being a minority group woman are also discussed.

One commendable aspect of Almquist's book is that it identifies an important dilemma faced by minority women. Should minority women think of themselves as women first or primarily as minority group members? There is evidence in the book to suggest that Black American women at least suffer more in the labour market from sexual discrimination than from racial discrimination.

Almquist succeeds in her attempt to summarise the literature on ethnic minority groups in America. However the book contains little theoretical analysis of the information described. Almquist also has a tendency to make categorical statements for which she provides no supporting evidence despite her impressive bibliography. Her interpretation of correlation coefficients tends to be a little idiosyncratic, to say the least.

Nevertheless the isolation of the eight minority groups and the identification of the problems faced by women within the eight groups, as compared with minority men, Anglo men and Anglo women, was an ambitious task. Elizabeth Almquist appears to have collected enough information to write a book on each of the eight minority groups, and to present it all so succinctly in one fairly short book is an achievement in itself. The book's shortage of theoretical analysis will probably prove to be more than compensated by the discussion and research which I am sure it will stimulate hopefully in this country as well as in the United States.

CHRISTEEN GEORGE, LONDON

Poverty in the United Kingdom

Peter Townsend, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 1979. 1216pp. £15.00 h/b, £7.95 p/b.

This is an encyclopedic volume which ranges from the poverty experienced by some handicapped children to that endured by many old people; from the environmental poverty of inner-city areas to poverty at work and in the housing market. Without doubt it will become the authoritative reference on the amount of poverty in the United Kingdom in the late 'sixties and early 'seventies.

Most of the evidence comes from a national survey undertaken during 1968/9 in each of the fifty-one parliamentary constituencies, together with a supplementary survey in the poor areas of four constituencies—Salford, Glasgow, Belfast and Neath. This provides a total sample size of over three thousand householders and ten thousand individuals, from which the research team was able to obtain a response rate of 82%.

The major theme of the work is a demonstration of the persistence of poverty in the UK despite many changes which, 'Upon analysis . . . turn out to be technical or cultural rather than structural' (p. 18). To understand poverty, one must understand the class relations in which poverty is embedded; the persistence of cycles of privilege where, for example, the mean value of assets held by the richest 5% of the sample was nine hundred times greater than the value held by the poorest 5% (see p. 358).

The class analysis used is Weberian in origin. Townsend argues that income and consumption are better viewed as resources and life style. The former refers to the total material support available to a household and includes cash income; capital assets; monetary advantages from work, such as the provision of a car; the social wage and private income in kind, such as gifts and even the value of home produced vegetables. By style of living Townsend means that which is customary to the individual, it implies a participation cost, or the cost to an individual of membership in society.

Despite a chapter on theories of poverty, I found the analysis of poverty still underdeveloped. Townsend reaches the predictable conclusion that an effective assault on poverty would include, 'the wealth of the rich must be substantially reduced by different policies and a statutory definition of maximum permissible wealth in relation to the mean agreed' (p. 926). Many will applaud this end, the Brandt Commission also sees as its first priority, 'a large scale transfer of resources to developing countries'. How does one implement redistribution? The complexity of Townsend's notion of resources illustrates the limitations to any 'tax the rich' policy. The distinction made by Hirsch between a material and a positional economy compounds the difficulty of redistribution. The positional economy includes such intangibles as status, job satisfaction, a pleasant environment—all factors which the poor lack and which are not amenable to redistribution.

In sum, one respects the humanity in Townsend's work, appreciates the factual map of the extent of poverty but gains little substance from which to see the elimination of poverty. Two small points; most of the statistical treatment is descriptive; might the techniques of path analysis not have strengthened the analysis? The contribution education might play, if any, to ameliorate the life chances of the poor receives only scant attention.

P. E. D. ROBINSON, UNIVERSITY OF KEELE

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Breaking the Magic Spell

Jack Zipes. Heinemann, London, 1979. 201pp. £8.50 h/b, £3.95 p/b.

I found this book hard to review in so few words. The book is a collection of six essays which warrant reviews of their own. The fact that the book is made up of essays, some previously published elsewhere, presents a problem. Zipes acknowledges in the preface that some overlap does occur, and certainly on reading the book straight through I found much repetition of basic premises. Reading the essays separately might solve the problem, although Zipes could have written a longer introduction, outlining his main ideas to save on later repetitiveness.

Zipes is concerned to trace the development of folk and fairy tales linking this development to changes in the social, political and economic make-up of society. He makes the important distinction between folk tales and fairy tales pointing out that they were in fact products of different eras and modes of production. Folk tales, he says were part of the pre-capitalist feudal culture, and were often stories about the oppressed peasants in that society. They were passed on by word of mouth, were usually specific to that particular culture, although themes are similar in other cultures, and were often stories designed to bring hope of a better life.

The advent of the fairy story in fact came with the advent of two major changes in society, the development of capitalism and linked to that, the development of printing technology. The folk tales were often now changed and mass produced to meet the needs of the new literate middle classes. Using examples particularly from French culture Zipes points out clearly the ways in which the content changed. Whereas folk tales had a bias towards freeing the peasant from feudalism, the fairy tales were often designed to show the rationality of the bourgeois way of life. Zipes' look at the class nature of and to a lesser extent the sex bias in these tales is convincingly done. However one point that he makes in the essay on romantic fairy tales in Germany left me confused.

Zipes is citing the work of Nitschke where he implies that changes in 'behavioural attitudes' (e.g. towards the social function of women) were often more important for historical transitions than changes in work and the mode of production. Having earlier said that he is keen to go beyond the traditional Marxist theories of base and super-structure Nitschke gives some separate life to these changes in attitude etc. In his keenness not to adhere to what he sees as mechanistic Marxism Zipes appears to agree with this, leaving wide open the question of how and why these changes in attitude suddenly occurred.

To his credit Zipes sees folk and fairy tales as having both a potential liberating and confining effect. He rejects the idea that bourgeois society consciously manipulates through fairy tales, but rightly insists that connections exist between the dominant mode of thought and the content of fairy stories. In his essay on Bettelheim Zipes rightly criticises Bettelheim's mixture of Freudian and literary theory which suggests that fairy tales can be seen as liberating children from experiences that would damage them if they did not understand them through fairy tales. Zipes sees fairy tales as having an important part to play in developing children's imagination, but points out that they can have a 'reactionary' effect as well.

In what I found to be one of the most interesting parts of the book, Zipes shows how modern capitalism has taken over and made money out of original fairy stories. He cites Disney, magazines, tee shirts and even pornographic movies which have all utilised the fairy story. I found his analysis of modern equivalents fascinating, e.g. Star Wars or 'Rocky' a film about a young boxer. He points out that the fairy story themes, young lad makes good, sweet young virgin needs a handsome prince etc. are still alive and well today. He again points out the dual nature of fairy stories and cites

Disney's 'Snow White' as an example. He says the message of the film which was made in America in 1936, mid depression, is one of hard work and the need for unity. He points out that we do need to see this in relation to the unrest in American society at the time.

Despite feeling that the book could have expanded into two volumes I found it fascinating. I liked and agreed with the materialist way in which Zipes approaches the subject, and feel it is an important book for anyone concerned with the history of literature for children. The book is beautifully produced, and contains at the front pictures and several fairy stories. One final small point but one that is worth a mention, is that Zipes uses he and she, or his and her throughout the book. A welcome change!

ANNE STRONG, SHEFFIELD CITY POLY

Respectable Rebels: Middle Class Campaigns in Britain in the 1970s

Roger King and Neill Nugent (eds.). Hodder and Stoughton, London 1979. 200pp. £10.95 h/b, £5.95 p/b.

Whatever happened to 'the middle class revolt'? The revolt against the State, that is, not against Thatcherism. Does anyone remember those halcyon days of Blimps and private armies? There is some twist of human memory that makes the most recent history seem the most stale and distant. This book is a collection of essays about various middle-class campaigns of the 1970s. Unlike many other such collections this one hangs well together; in part because the editors are also contributors; in part because there is a lucid introduction and a conclusion that genuinely brings together themes from the text. Middle class unionism, moral crusades and an array of political and economic groups such as Ratepayers Associations, organisations for the self-employed and the National Association for Freedom are all placed in the context of the changes in the political and economic climate of the '70s that led the middle classes to feel betrayed, not only by the Labour governments but also by the Heath variety of Conservatism.

A commendable feature of this book is its concentration on the divergences of interest within the middle classes. In a useful introduction King manages to introduce the difficult questions of whether there is a middle class and whether its members share common interests without the wilful obfuscation that such topics usually demand. Vital in this respect is the divergence between those of the middle classes who campaigned against the encroachments of collectivism, socialism and the State and those who embraced the State and formed the new publicly employed salariat. Occupational diversity, with some middle class unionists seeing their interests favoured by the Employment Protection Act and others joining the National Federation of the Self-Employed to oppose it, prevents genuine and lasting coherence.

Respectable Rebels will be of most use to those interested in political sociology; its recurrent theme is the breakdown of traditional political loyalties. The sociologist interested in social movements will find this a frustrating book. Time and again opportunities to introduce comparative material and to utilise theoretical insights available in the movement literature are passed over. For example, in the conclusion there is an almost throw-away comparison of the NAFF and the NARAG in terms of centralisation and organisational maintenance. This is not a new question. There is a voluminous literature on the relationship between organisational structure and maintenance and goal attainment; the authors of the work under review ignore it.

The failure to go far beyond the collection of information from newspaper sources and one or two interviews, is similarly frustrating. Nugent's chapter on the NAFF offers a case in point. The statements of the centre of the organisation are taken as being *the* ideology of the organisation and it is then supposed that people join NAFF because they support that ideology. No information is presented about the members' own accounts of why they joined NAFF or what they hoped to achieve and one of the vital questions in an understanding of such organisations—to what extent do members actually share the same aims and aspirations?—is largely ignored. There is only one way to find this sort of information: ask the people involved, and this has not been done. One should not criticise a book for not doing something it does not claim to do (although one may regret it). This collection provides a convenient source of information about middle class campaigns of the 1970s. The material is used to illustrate the problems of talking about a middle class and to reflect on the erosion of traditional ties between the middle classes and the Conservatives (which would make a second volume which looks at the changing fortunes of organisations such as the NAFF under the Thatcher government an interesting proposition). Given the sort of material that is presented and the nature of the questions the authors pose, the book will be most attractive to those interested in British politics. Although it contains little theoretical or comparative material for the sociologist of social movements and related formations, the substantive material may still be of interest.

STEVE BRUCE, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, BELFAST

Green and Pleasant Land? Social change in rural England

Howard Newby, Hutchinson, London, 1979. 301pp. £8.95

In an earlier book, the author of the one under review tells how thoroughly and enthusiastically he steeped himself in background material before venturing into the field. This book shows that the thoroughness and enthusiasm have not yet flagged. It is a compendium of recent changes in just about everything which affects the conditions under which rural dwellers live; its range and detail are formidable. There are five substantial sections: the land, farming, farm work, the village and the countryside of planners and environmentalists.

A large amount of descriptive material is presented in a way which, on the whole, holds the reader's interest, despite the absence of a coherent thread to hold it together. Inevitably some topics get less comprehensive treatment than others. For example, rural industry is dealt with only cursorily, while factory farming and the issue of the value of farm land are discussed in some detail, yet, in total, it is hardly less important to the rural (as opposed to farming) population as either of the latter. The lowland bias results in similar imbalance. As they are stated at the outset, though, this does not necessarily detract from the book, even if some of the references to marginal, upland pastoral farmers are a little amusing viewed from beef and Volvo country. Less fortunate are attempts to compensate for the bias, such as the survey of British agriculture. This reads like a not-too-inspired geography textbook.

These, however, are minor quibbles. The major criticism is that the book is not about social change, as the subtitle promises, but merely about change. By adopting a landscape, and above all agricultural perspective, people are made subsidiary to the main subject matter, which is the context of social change. Here and there there are some perceptive observations about social implications of certain developments, such as those on the political nature of the environment lobby, but the questions they should give rise to are never explored.

Surely a book written for the intelligent lay-public by someone who identifies himself as a sociologist should communicate what the sociologist has to offer his fellows. To add little more than a few (admittedly) 'jargon' words (cleavage, relative deprivation) to a text which might have been written by anyone with an abiding interest in the countryside, is merely to give substance to old prejudices. Moreover, it will confirm prejudices among some sociologists that rural sociology is not really sociology at all, but something picturesque and pastoral like the countryside, or at best a branch of agriculture. The evidence that the author has 'gone native' and uncritically espoused agricultural values, as in his dismissal of part-time farmers, serves only to reinforce this view.

In total, the book is 'a patchwork quilt' of people, places and activities' (though in the reverse order of importance), which even the author admits to finding it difficult to sort out. He insists that 'it is possible to identify . . . the important social changes which have occurred in rural England in the last three decades', but unfortunately he does not do it. On the evidence presented, it is just not possible to conclude that 'extensive social polarisation has occurred since the war' (only since the war?), and that rural life is gradually being absorbed 'into the mainstream of English society as a whole'. Indeed there is an apparent inconsistency between this latter conclusion and the author's insistence that the major force affecting change is agriculture. These conclusions are still hypotheses. Had they been employed as such, then the subject of the book would have been *social* change. As it is, an opportunity to write a very powerful and original book, which is what the intelligent non-sociologist deserves, has been missed.

BERYL NICHOLSON, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

The Transition from Capitalism to Socialism

John D. Stephens, MacMillan, London, 1979. 231pp.
£12.50 h/b, £4.95 p/b.

Stephens sets out to advance the debate on changes in capitalism by re-examining Marxist discussions on the transition to socialism by an empirical investigation of selected changes in advanced capitalist societies. He argues that capitalist societies are transitional and that there is nothing from the experience of past transitions nor from Marx's analysis which precludes the possibility of the peaceful and gradual emergence of socialism. On transformations within capitalism he agrees with Marx's analysis of the significance of labour organisations and the increased concentration and centralisation of capital, but disagrees with his arguments on the contradictions of capitalism and the polarisation of social classes.

On the latter problem, Stephens has an interesting discussion on the problem of analysing class formation in contemporary capitalism, but for his central thesis the main relevance of social class formation is in relationship to control over property. He states that 'Democratic control of production, then, is socialism. The transition to socialism can be conceived of as shifts of control of property from owners to democratically elected bodies in the workplace as well as the state.' (p. 26).

Stephens's main argument is that the growth of the welfare state and changes in control towards socialism are the result of the influence of strong labour organisations and the actions of social democratic governments. To support this he firstly uses data from seventeen developed Western capitalist democracies on income distribution, welfare spending, union membership, bargaining systems, social mobility and length of socialist rule; using regression and correlation analyses he claims some evidence for his thesis.

But, apart from unexamined problems with the accuracy of his data, Stephens himself gives sufficient reasons for discounting any of the findings: variables are not sufficiently controlled, the direction of causality between two variables is 'rarely unambiguous', and 'all of the regressions presented here should be taken with a grain of salt since some of the assumptions of regression analysis have been violated' (p.99). This section is by far the weakest part of his study.

The principal support for his thesis, then, comes from an historical and structural analysis of Sweden, the USA, Britain and France. There are some interesting comparisons made and some of his suggestions for explaining the variations between these countries warrant serious consideration. His chapter on Sweden is interesting and informative, since he argues that in the last decade the Social Democratic Party introduced measures and adopted policies which could take Sweden 'beyond the welfare state' towards democratic socialism within a generation. His argument rests on the significance of pension fund involvement in investment and the extent of democratic control over those funds, the labour legislation of the mid 1970s, which potentially gives trade unionists extensive control over their workplaces, and the adoption by the Social Democratic Party and trade unions of the policy of instituting an employee investment fund which would transfer ownership and control of capital to employees. He makes an informed contribution to the debate over the nature of and general significance of the Swedish experience.

Unfortunately, however, Stephens leaves too many loose ends and problems for his argument on the possibility and desirability of peaceful and gradual transitions to socialism to be convincing. He too briefly dismisses Marx's theses on the contradictions of capitalism; his discussion of the nature of capitalism, socialism and democracy is too brief; his concept of transition is very weakly developed and his index of welfare spending (non-military public expenditure) is far too crude to be used satisfactorily to examine variations between countries. Stephens does present an analysis which is at variance with other contemporary Marxist work and it is therefore all the more disappointing that he is not able to defend his thesis more strongly; as they stand, his hopes for the peaceful emergence of socialism seem very optimistic, even naive.

ALAN SILLITOE, NORTH STAFFS POLYTECHNIC

Intermediate Treatment and Social Work

Ray Jones and Andrew Kerslake, Heinemann Educational Books, London, 1979. 122pp. £2.25 p/b.

Intermediate Treatment seems to remain the troubled infant of social services provision. Jones and Kerslake attempt to rectify some of the problems by setting out guidelines and practical routines that should be consulted by practitioners when starting an I.T. scheme. The authors insist that I.T. be conceived as a range of community-based services for adolescents and children '... who are deprived or who are more "at risk" of getting into trouble than their contemporaries' (p. 9). Their model of I.T. seems firmly rooted in the early philosophy of the 1969 Children and Young Persons Act, yet I.T. has evolved along with the disturbing increase in juvenile custodial sentences. Consequently should we wish for some appreciation of I.T. within the context of recent socio-legal and political trends can we turn to this book? Well, no. The authors state at the outset that their approach is informed by social psychology, criminology and social work theory. We thereby receive an account somewhat distanced from the contemporary debate over law and order, deviancy, just deserts and so forth.

The authors have produced an imaginative, enthusiastic and illustrative guide to the daily practice of I.T. Their advice on groupwork and practical tasks are sensible and devoid of most known jargons. The message is that I.T. is serious, it is not 'holidays for hooligans', rather it is constructive, attitude-forming and possibly fun too. The practitioner is not an outdoor crank treating deprivation via canoes and pot-holes; he simply transmits his skills through care, commitment and sincerity. It would be doing the authors a disservice to suggest that their book is not written with the same intent and vigour. Yet it is irksome to find another text for social workers that gazes largely on client and community. The focus rests upon the perennial 'troubles' of adolescence, the reader is offered a view of the kids still hanging around those familiar street corners, suffering high-anxiety over peer opinion, but nimbly deploying the odd Matza technique, while nonetheless remaining sensitive to official labels. No sense of tough working class hardnuts a la Willis or Parker here; the feeling is one of kids in need.

Deprivation and delinquency appear to collapse within the category of problem-home and locale, together with a few caveats about the limitations of such a view. Thus 'class' for example is only mentioned in chapter one in relation to '... the ideology of middle class educated youth ...' (p. 2), who, we are told, enlisted in social work in the sixties to practise their progressive views. Yet in the final chapter we are informed that something has gone badly awry, for the increase in custodial routines is not '... heard-hearted magistrates overruling soft-hearted social workers, as the evidence suggests it is social workers who are recommending "removal" and "punishment-centred" sentences ...' (p. 98). The evidence for this assertion is not critically received and like the wider issue of class, deviance and remedial routines, it is left largely unexamined. The book is after all practice-orientated and concerned to demonstrate not only the financial advantages but ideas on how to win interest and approval for I.T. from other members of the social services hierarchy.

Jones and Kerslake insist that I.T. remains a community service for a variety of kids rather than some peg on a narrow juvenile sentencing tariff, doubtless a creditable and erstwhile proposal in accord with the social democratic pedigree of the 1969 Act. However, the possibility of a wide and well supported provision of this type would surely depend upon the impact I.T. has upon the juvenile justice system. Jones and Kerslake offer I.T. as a substitute for the custody habit, but to achieve this I.T. might well have to first show some political acceptability. Thus according to Pitts (*Howard Journal* Vol. 18, No. 1) we are witnessing the emergence of a tough intensive and controlling form of I.T. and ironically one that may not reduce the Borstal and D.C. population. Instead I.T. may siphon off kids from community homes and thereby retain the range of custodial options, yet make savings on expensive residential care. Jones and Kerslake are concerned with issues of everyday practice and developing an approach within the philosophy of the 1969 Act and getting this across to practitioners. The problem is that while immersed in these essentials of practice, I.T. may be adopted through the mixed 'attractions' of low capital cost together with a firm controlling remedial ethos, rather than the welfare model offered by the authors. If Pitts is right I.T. practitioners ought to keep one eye on practice and the other on this infant service in case it is taken into 'care' by a less agreeable authority.

ANDREW PITHOUSE, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, CARDIFF

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The Reproduction of Mothering

Nancy Chodorow, *University of California Press, London 1978. 219pp. £2.95 p/b.*

Nancy Chodorow conceives of the theory put forward in this book as arising primarily from the Feminist Movement, and, in particular, from discussion within a mother and daughter group. She raises 'mothering' to the status of a fundamental basis for sexual divisions, and presents a systematic critique of biological and role-training explanations. She argues that the contemporary reproduction of mothering occurs through 'social, structurally induced psychological processes'—women, as mothers, produce daughters with a mothering capacity and a desire to mother which is built into and develops out of the mother/daughter relationship. They also produce sons whose nurturant capacities and needs are repressed, thus rendering them ideally suited for the 'world of work'.

Chodorow argues that psychoanalysis (or at least her reading of it in terms of Object Relations theory) provides an analysis and critique of the reproduction of gender, and can also explain how the bourgeois family form produces women as mothers. She is highly critical of the classical Freudian account, with its stress on innate drives (although she doesn't present her attack clearly until Chapter 9), and presents Object Relations theory as a basis for the sociological use of psychoanalysis, because of its stress on the child's social and relational experience from infancy in determining psychological growth and personality formation. In taking this position she is following theorists such as the Balints, Fairburn and Guntrip, but she takes the theory further, in arguing that the real subject of psychoanalysis is 'a socially historically specific mother-child relationship of a particular intensity and exclusivity, and a particular infantile development that this relationship produces'.

In this way, Chodorow sets the scene for the main section of the book, an account of the development and resolution of the Oedipus Complex, in which she argues that the asymmetrical nuclear family form (which she takes as given in modern capitalist society) gives rise to an Oedipal crisis in early childhood, because society demands the production of gendered, heterosexual, monogamous individuals. In this discussion, she draws on clinical evidence offered by analysts with rather different orientations from her own, and tends to present it as theory-neutral. In Chodorow's telling of 'the psychoanalytic story', mothers maintain their daughters in a non-individuated state for longer than they do sons, through behaviour which grows out of their perception of their daughter as one with and interchangeable with themselves. One result of this is that mothers and daughters maintain elements of this primary relationship, i.e. they feel alike in fundamental ways. The process continues in adolescence, when elements of the Oedipal situation are repeated in a bisexual wavering between mother/girls and father/boys. Chodorow argues that while girls usually make a sexual resolution in favour of men, (and she doesn't account for why they might not, nor, and she herself sees this as problematic, can she account for any effect of differences in the sexual orientation of the mother) they retain an internally structured emotional triangle. She argues that particular relationships with men are unlikely to provide women with the satisfaction of relational needs that their mothering by women and the social organisation of gender have produced. Women, she argues, try to complete this emotional triangle, and one way to do this is through relationships with other women, but, because of problems of contact and taboos surrounding lesbianism, the more usual solution, she suggests, is to have a child and thus to reproduce the primary relationship.

Although Chodorow is arguing for a historically specific analysis of mothering, she fails, I think, to identify the

mechanisms through which the relationship between family form and mode of production is reproduced, and she assumes a direct and simple relationship between women's position as reproducers and their position as producers, and fails to show how mediation occurs between social structure and individual personality. She also tends to conflate male dominance in the family and relations of domination/subordination in the social structure, and argues herself into a position in which the Oedipus Complex becomes the only determining factor.

Chodorow offers a clear exposition of several strands of psychoanalytic theory, but she takes no account of the influence of Lacan, which I find regrettable, as it could have formed a bridge between her work and more recent developments toward a theory of the subject. This lack is also obvious in her dismissal of language as insignificant in the mother/child relationship, which is, I suspect, because she sees language in terms of speech acts rather than as a system of signification.

Reproduction of Mothering is an interesting and potentially important attempt to bring together two tendencies in Feminist theory, characterised by theorisation of sexual divisions in the relations of production, and in the relations of reproduction. I remain unconvinced, however, of the centrality of the Oedipus Complex in this process, but I would hope that by highlighting women's mothering as significant in the relationship between their position in the family and in the social structure, Chodorow has set the scene for further work by feminists.

SUE SCOTT, UNIVERSITY OF LANCASTER

The Social Worker and the Courts

David Wright, *Heinemann, London, 1979. 98pp. £1.75 p/b.*

The sociologist setting out to study current juvenile justice may wish to include this in their reading list in order to learn about the judicial and administrative procedures involved. But the book states in its first paragraph: 'The primary purpose of this short manual is to offer practical guidance to the local authority social worker in relation to his [sic] work in the courts, and particularly the Juvenile Court'. Now social workers have excruciatingly hazardous tasks. But reading the manual one receives the impression that the writer would have preferred not even to have mentioned any of them. Two of the main hazards are that the social worker may have to carry out proceedings which exacerbate the clients' problems, and that, in so doing must often play conflicting roles. To deal with the first hazard Wright advises fitting in with current arrangements; to deal with the second he advises tact. This is a very different manual from the political manifestoes contained in *Radical Social Work* (R. Bailey and M. Brake, eds.).

Having skirted most of the difficulties facing social workers, the author tells them in the final paragraph of the book that, 'There is no obvious solution to many of the problems confronting the social worker and Justices today, "but disrespect, complaints and criticism can only worsen the situation'. This vague and ominous statement is likely to be disturbing for the novice.

Wright himself permits only one complaint or criticism in the book: 'the dice are loaded against the respondent in care proceedings. His [sic] ignorance of the proceedings and lack of adequate representation are bound to put him [sic] at a disadvantage. Independent representation for the child at all stages of proceedings is long overdue' (p. 29). (Some of these proceedings, it may be noted, may send children into local authority care institutions which, promiscuously receiving both sinners and the sinned against, are more efficient than, for example, borstals at producing habitual prisoners later in life.)

But Wright's overall outlook is one of accommodation to all instituted authority, for example: 'The general view of the police is to root out crime and bring the criminal to justice. Many people, including some social workers, see them as punitive in outlook . . . However, within the court setting and in the work leading to court proceedings, the police have much in common with the social worker: a greater realisation of this may lead them to a more effective relationship with each other . . . they are often forced into the position of being punitive in outlook, viewing this as being a realistic attitude in dealing with crime' (pp. 20-21).

Wright has little respect for criminological evidence. For example: 'Custodial sentences can in some cases prove beneficial to the young offender (and also to adults)' (p. 23). The weighty literature indicating the contrary is not mentioned. Wright states that 'it is probably safe to assume that the [probation] order has a proven effectiveness with a wide range of offenders' (p. 85). This assumption, coming after the publication of the Home Office IMPACT studies, is staggering.

This book provides little assessment of different ways of helping clients, such as family placement versus institutional 'care'. It is patronising in tone. It does not fulfil what it states as its primary purpose. It provides no example of how things work out in practice. It provides no bibliography. It has merit only as a rough and ready source for current Statutes and administrative procedures. May it soon be replaced. Local authority social workers deserve something better.

MAURICE GLICKMAN, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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Social Interaction and Consciousness

P. D. Ashworth. John Wiley & Sons, Chichester, 1979. 227pp. £11.00.

In this book Ashworth attempts to wed the symbolic interactionist approach to the findings of experimental psychology. To this end the book opens with a two chapter exposition of what Ashworth takes to be the main features of symbolic interaction and experimental findings which buttress the approach. He then moves on to a chapter on 'Language Use and Thinking' (his best chapter), two chapters on perceiving, and a chapter each on emotions, motives and attitudes. Throughout, his approach is to present and review material from experimental psychology and to link this to the interactionist approach.

The main virtue of the book is what it attempts, and certainly the material which Ashworth presents as conjunctive with symbolic interactionism is thought provoking. However, the book does not quite succeed in its attempt to take 'various conceptual "packages" (e.g. "perceiving") and uses(s) them to "lift" or isolate certain phenomena out of the total social-psychological context in a life situation in order to understand that social psychological context better' (p. 6). This is for a number of reasons, not the least important being the difficulty of tackling such a difficult task in a book of relatively modest length. One of the problems, again probably related to length, is that complex matters are often discussed in a very terse and compact manner (e.g. his treatment of Behaviourism on pp. 37-44). Further, the discussion is often unnecessarily complex for a book 'intended for readers new to social psychology' (p. 6). While in many places Ashworth is admirably clear in his exposition of the evidence, in others his arguments require a good knowledge of the literature he is discussing—something that such readers will presumably not possess. I also found that the presentation lacked coherence in places

due to the extensive review of studies which 'refined' or modified earlier studies, for in this process the line of argument would become tangled and confused. A final 'failing' of the book is that it makes insufficient reference to sociological studies which are relevant to his topics. This is most noticeable in the chapter on attitudes. However, given the wealth of material covered this is perhaps a rather carping criticism.

Despite the problems listed above Ashworth's book provides a useful text for those teaching social psychology in departments of sociology. While it may appear to promise more than it delivers it does have a number of useful and interesting points to make.

DAVID FIELD, UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

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Books received

Requests to review these will be considered by the new Editor upon appointment in June. You may send requests to the present Editor, Faculty of Educational Studies, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA, prior to the appointment of the new Editor, but no decisions will be given until June.

- Arato, A. and Breines, P., *The Young Lukacs and the origins of Western Marxism*, Pluto Press, 1980, £4.95.
Brown, C., *Understanding Society*, John Murray, 1979, £2.25.
Clegg, S. and Dunkerley, D., *Organisation, Class and Control*, Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1980, £14.50 (hb); £7.95 (pb).
Cronin, J. E., *Industrial Conflict in Modern Britain*, Croom-Helm, 1979, £10.95 (hb); £4.95 (pb).
Farrell, M., *Northern Ireland: The Orange State*, Pluto Press, 1980, £5.95.
Goode, W. J., *The Celebration of Heroes*, University of California Press, 1979, £4.75.
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Jackson, M. P. and Hanby, V. J. B., *Work Creation: International Experiences*, Saxon House, 1979, £8.50.
Love, C., Smith, D. and Turnbull, A. M., *Women in the Making*, South Bank Sociology Occasional Paper 2.
McCann, E., *War: and an Irish Town*, Pluto Press, 1980, £1.95.
Petrie, C., *The Nowhere Boys*, Gower Publishing 1980, £8.50.
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Sigmund, E., *Rage against the dying*, Pluto Press, 1980, £1.95.
Slater, P., *Origin and Significance of the Frankfurt School*, Routledge and Kegan Paul, (pb edition) 1980, £2.95.

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