

sociology and anthropology. In Britain there are now few universities without a department of psychology, and few with departments of anthropology or sociology. So perhaps readers in Great Britain will be less touchy about threatened vested interests, but more aware of sins of omission.

Prof. Linton discusses the interrelation of the individual, society and culture, clearly, fairly, with masterly compression, in ninety-nine pages. The present reviewer wishes that reference to the work of psychologists had been less allusive, perhaps even less complimentary. But Prof. Linton writes, "most . . . of the information which we have on personality in non-European societies has been collected by anthropologists who had only a nodding acquaintance with psychology". Characteristically he includes himself in this category.

The author tackles the difficulty presented by the lack of a consistent terminology shared by all three sciences, basing his definitions upon those meanings about which there seems to be general agreement, and ignoring minority usages. As a result, he discusses very successfully the relation of the individual to culture and to society. He deprecates the practice of speaking of societies as if they have needs of their own, as distinct from those of the individuals composing them. His careful definitions of culture may build a bridge across the present gulf between psychologically minded sociologists and 'culturalogists'.

There is an excellent study of personality and of attempts to find 'basic personality types' for a society. The author cites many more concrete examples than is usual in a book of this type. Its prevailing mood is enthusiasm, and its sentences are not written with the sole aim of rendering them critic-proof. The dedication is "To the students whose questions may induce their professors to read this book". The effects upon both will be excellent.

T. H. PEAR

PALÆOBOTANY

An Introduction to Paleobotany

By Prof. Chester A. Arnold. (McGraw-Hill Publications in the Botanical Sciences.) Pp. xi+433. (New York and London: McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1947.) 27s. 6d.

THE author of this book is one who has made valuable additions to our knowledge of American fossil plants, especially those of the Devonian period. Here he has produced a very comprehensive treatment of the whole subject, and deals with the history of the plant world from the earliest periods in which we find evidence of the existence of plant-life down to the present day. He discusses the bearing of the evidence furnished by fossil plants on past climates, distribution of floras over the earth's surface and Wegener's theory: there is an excellent chapter on fossilization. Something more might have been added on the methods used in palæobotanical investigations, for they furnish a very clear idea of the physical nature of fossil plants. His deliberate selection of American examples makes the book of greater value to the American student than to those who are not acquainted with details of American geography and geology.

There are many illustrations which have not hitherto appeared in text-books, and for the European

palæobotanist it gives an excellent idea of American palæobotanical material. The illustrations are scarcely adequate for the amount of text, or for a book which claims to be an introduction. The treatment of the groups is rather uneven: in the chapter on the ancient Lycopods there are no figures illustrating the structure of a 'cone', a Stigmairian base or a reconstruction of a complete arborescent Lycopod, although the considerable mass of evidence available would justify one. The Calamites, though less important constituents of carboniferous vegetation, have in comparison adequate illustration. In the later chapters there are twenty-one illustrations of dicotyledonous leaves, which seem more than necessary. The space utilized for two-thirds of them might have been more effectively used in the illustration of other chapters.

The book more nearly approaches a text-book than an introduction to the subject. The very large number of types, many merely introduced by name or with brief descriptions, will make the book rather heavy going for anyone who has not a fairly wide knowledge of the subject already. It is a useful addition to the library of those engaged in palæobotanical research; but it is doubtful whether a university undergraduate would find it of much assistance except for occasional reference.

JOHN WALTON

LOGICAL REALISM

A Preface to Logic

By Morris R. Cohen. Pp. xix+202. (London: George Routledge and Sons, Ltd., 1946.) 8s. 6d. net.

The Revival of Realism: Critical Studies in Contemporary Philosophy

By James Feibleman. Pp. vii+333. (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1946.) 22s. net.

THESE two books both advocate logical realism, as opposed to the conceptualism or nominalism which has been fashionable in Western thought since the fourteenth century. Undoubtedly universals are concepts, but concepts are not generic images, as Prof. Cohen points out; nor are universals merely concepts if they play their parts successfully. Undoubtedly names are special kinds of universals, but to say that universals are merely names is to make knowledge illusory.

The greater part of Prof. Feibleman's book is devoted to criticism of recent thinkers. C. S. Pierce, as a realist, is approved; so is Whitehead, with reservations. Dewey, Lovejoy and Russell are dealt with more severely; especially Russell, for deserting his first love and for his prolonged, though half-hearted, flirtation with nominalism. There is an interesting section on history and the views of Toynbee. Prof. Feibleman's methods are Procrustean. If a thinker is not a proper (Aristotelian?) realist, he is either an idealist, the exaggerated Platonic kind of realist, or a nominalist; and nominalists are either materialists or subjective idealists. This is hard on thinkers who do not fit the labels, like Kant. These, if not actually engaged in crime, are convicted of 'loitering with intent'.

Prof. Cohen's book, though smaller, carries more weight than the other, because he is constructive, never extreme, always balanced in judgment. He