

*BOOK REVIEWS***EVOLUTION, CREATIVE INTELLIGENCE AND
INTERGROUP COMPETITION***editor: Alan McGregor*

The Cliveden Press, Washington, D.C.

Recent research in psychology, medicine and genetics has demonstrated the importance of heredity in determining the potential limits of behavioral reactions by living organisms, including man. As Professor Mark Graubard of the University of Minnesota argues, the genetic potential for creativity differs widely from one individual to another.

Taking this argument as his base of reference, Professor Umberto Melotti of the University of Pavia shows that given the proposition that all living organisms have the capacity to overreproduce themselves, it follows that two separate breeding populations possessing disparate gene pools, but depending on similar resources, will find themselves in competition with each other for procreational success and subspecific survival if they penetrate the same habitat. It is thus a matter of concrete importance for the proper understanding of human conflict and international relations to realise the evolutionary implications of intergroup competition and intergroup selection.

Alan McGregor suggests that if intergroup competition has evolutionary significance, then certain aspects of group behavior, notably those which promote intragroup cooperation and intergroup competitiveness, may well have deep evolutionary roots. To the extent that either innate or learned patterns of group behavior promote or hinder the intergenerational survival of distinctive breeding populations, the course of evolution could be profoundly affected.

David de Laubenfels of Syracuse University takes the discussion beyond theoretical fields by examining the prehistory of various human subspecies during the Upper Paleolithic and subsequent cultural eras, applying the principles of group evolution to actual hominid prehistory. This leads the debate into contemporary times, and Professor Martin of Lakehead University discusses the implications for human evolution in

the event of an end to the present world population explosion and its replacement by a state of zero population growth — with a concomitant decline in the impact of natural selection on the direction of human evolution.

This is a fascinating text which will grasp and hold the attention of all who are concerned with the study of human evolution and human behavior, population genetics, sociobiology, and political science. The authors present clearly reasoned arguments concerning the past, present and possible future direction of human social evolution, and pose tantalizing concepts which hold the attention of every imaginative scholar who is in any way involved in the interrelationship between human groups, societies and states.

THE LIMITS OF DESTALINIZATION IN THE SOVIET UNION

Albert P. van Goudoever

St. Martin's Press, New York

After Stalin's death in 1953 a process of destalinisation was initiated in the Soviet Union. A significant part of this policy consisted in the reduction of terror, and gradually those victims of Stalin who had survived the camps began to reappear in society. Many of those who had been killed were rehabilitated posthumously, an event of political if not personal significance. This study deals with the forms, aspects and significance of the phenomenon of rehabilitation in the Soviet Union between 1953 and 1980.

On the other hand, the study describes the political manipulation of the selection of victims qualified for rehabilitation and reinstatement in the communist party. It also reviews the formal and juridical procedures. On the other hand, the manner in which the commemoration of the communist non-survivors was handled in propaganda and historiography is covered as well. The posthumous approach to party-internal oppositions, as in the case of Bukharin, Trotsky and others, is also examined.

In examples and case-studies of rehabilitations, including those of Majskij, Solzhenitsyn, Petrovskij, Bubnov and Bljucher, this study provides a fascinating picture.

The author places the phenomenon of rehabilitation within the framework of the policy of destalinisation under Khrushchev, followed by a process of restalinisation under Brezh-