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W.C. Osman Hill: Evolutionary Biology of the Primates. Academic Press, London 1972. X + 233 pp., 105 fig.; E 3.90.

This small textbook originated from a course of lectures for senior students, given at the University of Turin by the author of the well-known, huge and still unfinished treatise on the anatomy and taxonomy of primates. Drawing on the vast amount of detailed information, collected in the latter volumes, Hill has selected for the present purpose some of the more interesting examples of general evolutionary trends with their specialized divergencies and describes the outstanding features characterizing the various major groups of primates. After a short introduction on 'primate precursors' and the 'transition to primates' the anatomy and evolution of the brain receives its due attention in several chapters and these are followed by others on the skull, teeth, digestive and respiratory tracts as well as, in the longest (25 p.) single chapter, on the anatomy and physiology of reproduction. The last third of the text is devoted to brief accounts of the 'early history of primates', 'the effect of isolation in Madagascar', the Lorisoids, Tarsius, the New World monkeys and the simian primates of the Old World, including everywhere some reference to fossil forms. In general, more space has been given to the prosimians than to the other primates and the hominoids in particular have not been dealt with as fully as their special interest would have justified.

As an authoritative, condensed introduction to many aspects of primate biology this book will be found very useful, especially with its detailed subject index and long list of references. The latter, however, vary widely in significance and do not include all the sources used for the redrawn figures. Most of the over hundred illustrations are instructive and clearly reproduced. A. H. Schultz, Zürich

Phyllis Dolhinow (ed.): Primate Patterns. Holt, Rinehart & Winston, New York 1972. VIII + 425 pp.

First of all it has to be said that in this new book, the term patterns does not refer to the configuration of dermatoglyphics, nor of molar crowns or any of countless other morphological conditions, but exclusively to behavior. Dolhinow as editor and chief contributor has selected from recent literature some outstanding field studies and analytical papers on primate behavior and framed these with an introductory review of the nonhuman primates as well as a final summarizing report on our present knowledge of different forms of social behavior in the apes and Old World monkeys.

The brief initial survey of recent primates gives a conservative and rather elementary account of the entire order, with regard to some of the main reasons for its classification, and discusses the changing trends in the modern investigation of primate behavior. The chapters reprinted from previous and wellknown publications are the following:

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Van Lawick-Goodall: 'Report on expressive movements and communication in chimpanzees'; Schaller: 'Behavior of the mountain gorilla'; Hall and De Vore: 'Baboon social behavior'; Dolhinow: 'The North Indian langur' (revision of 1965 edition); Washburn, Jay and Lancaster:

'Field studies of Old World monkeys and apes'; Hall: 'Social learning in monkeys'; Washburn and Hamburg: 'Aggressive behavior in Old World monkeys and apes'; Dolhinow and Bishop : 'Development of motor skills and social relationships among primates through play' (abbreviated version of 1970 edition); and Washburn and Harding : 'Evolution of primate behavior'. A new chapter by J. Shirek-Ellefson, 'Social communication in some Old World monkeys and gibbons', is an excellent review of principally those visual patterns of behavior which occur within social groups where they 'function to mediate the interpersonal relationships that are the basis of group living'. The final 40 pages, contributed by the editor, form an instructive, scholarly essay on what now appears as a mosaic of different patterns in the variable social behavior of Old World monkeys and apes in relation to the environmental conditions of their specific habitats.

The extensive, 18-page bibliography as well as an author index and a subject index make this up-to-date and well-printed volume even more useful.

A. H. Schultz, Zurich