

Book Reviews

ROBERT BARTLETT HAAS, *Muybridge. Man in motion*, Berkeley, Los Angeles, and London, University of California Press, 1976, 4to, pp. xi, 207, illus., £12.00.

The English-born photographer, Eadweard Muybridge (1830–1904) was the first to capture instantaneous motion on film and to project it on a screen, and the first successfully to develop a method of analysing movement into continuous series of still photographs. He thus became one of the pioneers of film. Using athletes, girls, and children, himself, as well as horses and other animals as subjects, his revelations of human and animal movement were revolutionary. Thus he verified the long contested suggestion that at one point a galloping horse's feet are all clear of the ground. His extensive labours revealed the potential of the moving picture, and they are described here in an excellent book.

The author has worked on his topic for twenty years and has traced the details of Muybridge's colourful and remarkable career. There is also his elegant photographic studies of American scenery and the Medoc Indian war, and all is discussed in a readable and fully documented and illustrated book, which is a credit to the publisher as well as to the author.

It can be thoroughly recommended as a contribution to the history of biology as well as to the history of photography.

DEREK J. ODDY and DEREK S. MILLER (editors), *The making of the modern British diet*, London, Croom Helm, 1976, 8vo, pp. 235, £6.95.

The editors have gathered together eighteen scholarly essays, which deal with the role of food during the industrialization and urbanization of Britain. They are divided into three groups: 'The supply of food'; 'Factors influencing consumption'; 'A nutritional evaluation'. The first considers specific foodstuffs which reflect food trends: biscuits, bread, meat, sugar, milk, cocoa and chocolate, and tea. In the second, living standards, consumer preferences, the presentation of food and the way in which it is made available to the customer are discussed; these feature agricultural labourers' standards, drink, regional food habits, the corner shop, J. Lyons and canning. The third is of considerable interest, especially to the medical historian, for there are papers on 'Developments leading to present-day nutritional knowledge', 'Some basic principles of nutrition', 'Nutritional surveys', and 'A nutritional analysis of historical evidence: the working-class diet, 1880–1914'. The last of these suggests the use of modern nutritional knowledge combined with computer techniques in making a quantitative evaluation of historical evidence. It will be interesting to see the further results of this new methodology.

This book is an important contribution to the history of nutrition, and also to modern techniques in historiography. It deserves to be widely consulted.

G. REICHEL-DOLMATOFF, *The shaman and the jaguar. A study of narcotic drugs among the Indians of Columbia*, Philadelphia, Temple University Press, 1975, 8vo, pp. xxi, 280, illus., \$15.00.

In the north-west Amazon region the natives make liberal use of hallucinogenic drugs in an effort to acquire powers of good or evil. In a detailed investigation of their religious experience, in which the transformation of the shaman into a jaguar is