

use skeletal evidence for disease to compare pre- and postcontact samples, whereas demographic reconstructions derived from skeletal data are compared before and after contact in four chapters. Four chapters also employ historic evidence for early postcontact epidemics to illustrate the dynamics of how they moved through the populations and the extent of their demographic and social impact. Two of the chapters provide extended discussions of the presence of treponematosi in precontact North America.

Part 2 contains chapters by 13 anthropologists, archeologists, demographers, and historians covering the following geographic areas: Amazon Basin and Andean region in South America, northwestern Mexico, the Caribbean, the northeastern, southeastern, and plains regions and the southwestern and northwestern coasts of North America. There are two major themes. Five of the chapters utilize historic sources to estimate precontact native American populations within specific regions. Two of these rely upon archeological as well as historic data. Seven of the chapters examine the geographic and populational patterning of specific epidemics within circumscribed geographic regions. The social responses to these devastating events are detailed in addition to estimates of the demographic consequences. The general conclusion is that each region had a unique history and the extent of depopulation cannot be extrapolated from one place to another. Uniquely, Kipple and Higgins focus on Yellow Fever's impact upon European and African populations in the Caribbean and use it and the differential adoption of sugar cultivation to explain the Africanization of the British and French islands.

I have a long-standing interest in Old and New World contact phenomena and wondered if there would be much in this volume that I had not read. I was pleasantly surprised. Many of the authors used this as an opportunity to summarize the major points of their long-term research programs, and I found these short, easy-to-read chapters very useful. Others provided excellent overviews of the literature pertinent to their areas. There are several chapters offering data and interpretations not available anywhere else. However, what I found most valuable were the discussions of how the diseases

spread through specific populations and what specific factors such as trade or settlement pattern differences determined the demographic impact of the epidemics. Because the authors are a rather diverse group derived from a number of disciplines and theoretical perspectives, this book turns out to be lively and thought-provoking reading. As one moves from one short chapter (7–14 pages) to the next, new and different ideas are encountered. Much to my surprise I enjoyed reading this book and learned far more than I had expected. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in the Columbian experience, and I think it would make an excellent vehicle for seminar discussions.

The book is well crafted with excellent illustrations, graphics, and tables. There is only one typographical error and one photograph where the white arrows on a white background are difficult to find.

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The Bakony Growth Study. By Éva Bodzsár. 210 pp. Budapest: Humanbiologia Budapestinensis. 1991.

This monograph reports on the results of cross-section examination of 6,924 children living in Bakony, the westernmost region of Hungary. In 1987–1988, 3,553 boys and 3,371 girls, between the ages of 6.5 and 14.5 years, were measured for a battery of anthropometric (the IBP list); bio-demographic (e.g., family size and number of rooms in the house); socioeconomic (parental education and occupation); and, for the girls, maturity characteristics (secondary sexual development and menarche). Thus all of the usual variables are present.

So are all of the usual findings. The value of this study is not to be found in its design or in its results. Rather, this is a study for the record of child growth in what used to be called a Second World country. In many ways Hungary, and the Bakony region in particular, are like Third World countries. Bakony was a rural agricultural area that was heavily industrialized in this century. Most of the Bakony adults work in skilled or manual trades and have only a primary school education. Housing conditions vary

from adequate to poor. A plethora of studies from such settings are available from the continents of Asia and South America. Less is known from Africa (the other part of the Third World) and the former Soviet bloc—the Second World.

The descriptive statistics of physical growth for Bakony children of school age are presented. The author also computes Heath-Carter somatotypes and is concerned with body composition changes with age and between the sexes in this monograph. Unfortunately, no comparisons are made between the Bakony sample and any others. It is up to the reader to compare Bakony height, e.g., with any of the available reference standards for height (e.g., NCHS, British). More valuable, perhaps, would have been some analysis of the Bakony sample with similar data from other former Soviet dependencies, such as Poland or Cuba. Because growth and development are sensitive indicators of the social, economic, and political environment, the eventual analysis of these data will provide a clearer appraisal of the Soviet years more than most of the current rhetoric.

Some final comments. First, the book is written in English, with a delightfully Hungarian “accent.” There are, however, a few pieces where the translation is so literal that the meaning is not clear. Second, the last analysis in the book is the relation of growth to “intellectual capacity.” The author explains that psychometric testing was too expensive to carry out; instead, the intelligence of children was rated by their school teachers into four categories. Not surprisingly, the tallest children are the “smartest.” The social bias in favor tallness (e.g., bigger is better) is well known; however, the author adds a twist that may give us pause. She also notes that the “smarter” children have more lean body mass than the children rated lower for intellectual capacity. This observation is based on the raw data and needs to be confirmed when both groups are adjusted for differences in height and fat mass. If the relationship holds, there may be some evidence of a nutritional (protein) effect on mental performance.

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What Happens to Former Athletes? By Henry J. Montoye. v + 52 pp. Indianapolis: Phi Epsilon Kappa Fraternity. 1992. \$12.00 (paper).

This 52-page, 8.5" × 11" paperback is a rare gem. Montoye and the three additional contributors listed on the title page provide a personalized exploration of the various affects and effects of different degrees (amateurs, professionals) and levels (university, nonuniversity, leisure, heavy, light) of athletics on life expectancy, causes of death, late life physical fitness and health, lifestyles, and later life achievements. Prior to these substantive chapters, Montoye presents brief and interesting reviews of what Ancients thought about associations between sport and life span, life expectancy, and life span of existent and ancient populations, concepts and measures of morphology and body build, and how these measures may covary with sports participation and confound outcome measures.

The 10 chapters are amply illustrated with materials and references and serve to debunk suggestions that athletes are more susceptible than their contemporaries to early life mortality and shortened life spans. In fact, a positive advantage of both competitive and noncompetitive athletic training on late life health and well-being emerges from these almost too brief chapters. On a personal level, former athletes report a general consensus “that athletics are generally beneficial. . . .” This is finding reflected not only in later life health, but also in terms of employment, income, and leisure-time physical activity.

This small, easy-to-read volume cannot be recommended as a stand-alone text for any full course in human biology, anthropology, or sports, but as an ancillary text in sports medicine, exercise physiology, human variation, or physical education, it will serve as a valuable addition to curricula. Both university and high school student athletes, along with the general student body, should find this volume interesting and palatable reading. Several minor editorial slights, lack of legends for a graph reproduced from another source (Fig. 8.2), and that “mesomorphs tend to be less inhibited and less included (sic) to fantasy” (p. 10) rather than inclined, do not detract from the overall presentation. In total, this is a delightful and readable text, although