

of the Galápagos between World War II, during which it served as a military base for the United States, to the present. Following and cited in the text are sixty-three pages of notes, a veritable gold mine of references to classic and obscure published material that demonstrate both how thoroughly Larson researched the topic and how persistently this small archipelago has pervaded scientific, governmental, religious, and public thought.

This book is more than a historical account of scientific exploration in Galápagos; it is also a dramatic story of the history of Galápagos in human thought. By incorporating thoughts and findings of nearly every famous, infamous, and forgettable player in Galápagos exploration in roughly chronological order and in the context of prevailing social or scientific mores, Larson provides an extraordinary glimpse into human nature. Regarding the evolution of human thought in conceptualizing organic evolution, Larson demonstrates that spiritual concerns or other constraints prevent some individuals from progressing intellectually, others eagerly abandon all tradition to embrace new concepts, and still others find middle ground. As noted poignantly, no less than ironically, by Larson, creation science, not evolution, is taught in Galápagos schools, and this once-pristine archipelago is now bustling with humans and the predictable problems that accompany us. The history of Galápagos, both in terms of its ultimate fate and its influence on human thought, is not finished. The sequel to *Evolution's Workshop* may be equally intriguing.

CAROLE BALDWIN

Nico Stehr; Hans von Storch (Editors). *Eduard Brückner: The Sources and Consequences of Climate Change and Climate Variability in Historical Times*. Translations by **Barbara Stehr** and **Gordon Gamlin**. x + 338 pp., illus., figs., tables, bibl., index. Dordrecht/Boston/London: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2000. \$167, £96, NLG 275.

Eduard Brückner (1862–1927), professor of geography at Bern, Halle, and Vienna, editor of *Meteorologische Zeitschrift*, and founder of *Zeitschrift für Gletscherkunde, für Eiszeitforschung und Geschichte des Klimas*, focused his research on climatological and glaciological themes, broadly construed, with forays into hydrology and oceanography. He is most widely known for his observation that cool, damp conditions seemed to alternate with warm, dry conditions in approximately thirty-five year cycles, subse-

quently called “Brückner cycles.” This was apparently a rediscovery of a similar weather cycle long noted in the Netherlands and first remarked upon by Sir Francis Bacon. Brückner popularized his ideas by attempting to correlate these (real or imagined) fluctuations with sunspots, economic conditions, migrations, lake levels, and other cyclical phenomena worldwide.

This book includes eleven articles or chapters in English translation that are broadly representative of Brückner’s writings on climate variations with one article each on hydrology and oceanography. These include “Ground Water and Typhus” (1887–1888); “Fluctuations of Water Levels in the Caspian Sea, the Black Sea, and the Baltic Sea Relative to Weather” (1888); “How Constant Is Today’s Climate?” (1889); three chapters from *Climate Change Since 1700* (1890); “The Current Status of the Inquiry into Climate Changes” (Ch. 1), “Periodization of Climatic Variations” (Ch. 8), and “The Significance of Climatic Variations in Theory and Practice” (Ch. 9); “On the Influence of the Snow Cover on the Climate of the Alps” (1893); “Influence of Climate Variability on Harvest and Grain Prices in Europe” (1895); “Weather Prophets” (1896); “An Inquiry about the 35-Year Periods of Climatic Variations” (1902); “On Climate Variability” (1909); “Climate Variability and Mass Migration” (1912); and “The Settlement of the United States as Controlled by Climate and Climatic Oscillations” (1915). Brückner’s interests in glaciers, glacial ages, geomorphology, polar research, and cartography are not represented here.

The editors, Nico Stehr and Hans von Storch, provide a brief introduction, including an outline of Brückner’s influence on his contemporaries, notably Julius Hann, and a plea that current researchers in the human dimensions of global change take Brückner seriously because of what they believe is an “analogy to the present state of affairs” (p. 18), particularly the political and economic consequences of climate variations on human time scales (decades to centuries). The book concludes with a thirteen-page bibliography of over 200 of Brückner’s publications. Scattered typographical and other errors do not seriously detract from the utility of the book or the graceful translations by Barbara Stehr and Gordon Gamlin. This tantalizing peek into a neglected body of literature on climate variations in historical times should serve to keep Brückner’s legacy alive within the English-speaking global change community and may entice scholars to reappraise his influence.

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