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FROM IMAGES TO SURFACES: A Computational Study of the Human Early Visual System - William Eric Leifur Grimson. One of the functions of the human visual system is to reconstruct a three-dimensional representation of the world from its two-dimensional projection onto our eyes. The study described here constitutes a computational theory of this process: creating rep-resentations of surface shape from their images. MIT Pr, 1981, 274 p., illus., \$25.

THE HANDBOOK OF ARTIFICIAL IN-**TELLIGENCE, Vol. 1** — Avron Barr and Edward A. Feigenbaum, Eds. Artificial intelligence is the part of computer science concerned with designing systems that exhibit the characteristics we associate with intelligence in human behavior, such as understanding language, learning, reasoning, solving problems. The handbook is an encyclopedia of the major developments of the field's first 25 years — programs, programming techniques and the computa-tional concepts used to describe them. This book is the first of three volumes of the handbook. W. Kaufmann, 1981, 409 p., \$30.

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SCIENCE AND THE PARANORMAL: Probing the Existence of the Supernatural — George O. Abell and Barry Singer, Eds. The term paranormal is applied to anomalous data that supposedly transcend the limits of existing science and are due to unknown and hidden causes. The contributors to this volume, scientists and science writers, are qualified to deal with the controversial claims made about the paranormal. The authors have tried to explain the mainstream scientific viewpoint on each paranormal topic thoroughly and simply. They

look at each topic through the "lens of science" and invite the general reader to share "that microscope with them, to follow the details of their reasoning. Scribner, 1981, 414 p., illus., \$17.95.

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SCIENCE OBSERVED: Essays Out of My Mind — Jeremy Bernstein. Most of the essays in this collection are attempts to explain some of the things that have struck the author in recent years as best exemplifying the many aspects of scientific creativity. Basic, 1982, 376 p., \$16.95.

THE SEX CONTRACT: The Evolution of Human Behavior — Helen E. Fisher. Anthropologists do not know how human sexual and social behavior evolved. All we have are clues, says the introduction, from our closest relativeskeys and apes - and from studying ourselves, human beings around the world today and our remains from yesteryear. This book gives a view of the important roles played by all — women, men and children — in the course of human evolution. Morrow, 1982, 253 p., illus., \$13.50.

WILD ANIMALS OF THE WORLD—Maggie O'Hanlon and Doreen Edmond. Introduces the reader, by both picture and description, to a selection of the many and varied mammals of the world, considered in relation to their natural habitats. Blandford Pr (Sterling), 1982, 168 p., color illus. \$10.39, paper, \$6.95.

207 MARCH 20, 1982