

the 1987 International Geographical Union conference in Postojna. Ivory tower karst is rare in Yugoslavia.

The fact that the work reported is mostly done in southern Europe does not prevent its results being applicable elsewhere—the conclusions, the techniques, the data made available for incorporation in wider studies. Some typical subjects covered in the last nine years, including those of widest interest, are listed below:

dating of speleothems and hence of cave development stages	1980
equipment for water level measurement in caves	1980
legal protection of caves	1980
correlation of karst and tectonic features	1981
karst spring data 4th century B.C. to 1479 A.D.	1981
organisms as indicators of groundwater connections	1982
relation between thermal and cold waters in the same aquifers	1982
statistical interpretation of karst forms	1983
Pleistocene birds as food remains in caves	1983
modern development of cave tourism	1983
application of geophysical methods in karst areas	1984
caves in Columbia	1984 and 1986
speleothem deterioration by frost and from ground surface modification	1985
sewage contamination through cave roofs	1985
simulation of cave profile changes in speleogenesis	1985
cause of cave painting deterioration	1986
karst changes deduced from historic engravings and photographs	1986
climatic influence on karst process intensity	1986
acid rain on karst	1986
a precipitation/runoff model for karstic regions	1987
Fourier analysis of underground meanders (developed from Bristol work by Hanna and High)	1987
Martel in Yugoslavia	1988

The dangers of being unaware of a major foreign publication like this are obvious. A classic case of what can happen occurred when W. M. Davis reinvented the concept of speleogenesis by phreatic water, which had been published by Grund in Germany some twenty years earlier and widely discussed in the European literature. These days we are aided by *Current titles in speleology* and *Speleological abstracts*, but *Naš Krš* has evaded even one of them.

MAY, Fabienne. *Les sépultures préhistoriques*. Paris, Editions du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. 1986. x, 264 pp. A4. ISBN 2 222 03730 1. Price FF 350 [£37.50 post free from Museum Bookshop, Great Russell Street, London W.C. 1].  
(reviewed by L. V. Grinsell)

This book would seem to be the first comprehensive study of burial in the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods (the French using the term 'protohistorique' for Neolithic to Iron Age). The text is in three parts: I, history of discovery of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic burials; II, types of receptacle and forms and postures of burial; and III, miscellaneous aspects including determination of sex and age and the use of ochre.

One gets the impression that the research for this volume has been done with unduly limited library facilities. The list of periodicals consulted does not include *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, let alone *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Spelaeological Society*. The bibliography lacks finish: for example Baudoin, Binford, Bouyssonie, Chauvet, Franchet, Leroy and several others are quoted without initials.

To come to local problems, the account of 'Cheddar Man' (pp. 88-9 and bibliography p. 228) is based on publications to 1914 with the addition of C<sup>14</sup> dates from Kenneth Oakley, and there is no mention of 'Problems of "The Cheddar Man"' by Dr E. K. Tratman (*Proc. U.B.S.S.* 14 (1), 7-23, 1975).

The great strength of the book is however that it enables the Mendip and other British material to be studied in the wider context of the most important evidence from Western Europe and indeed beyond.

For this reader the highlight of the book is the detailed account (pp. 42-5) of the 'sépulture de Saint-Germain-la-Rivière (Gironde)': a sort of proto-dolmen of Magdalenian III of Breuil, which contained the flexed interment of a woman aged 20-25 covered with red ochre and accompanied by remains of reindeer. It is now in the Museum at Les Eyzies and forms the excellent cover photograph of this book.