

### Book Reviews

'Plasmochin', made as 'pamaquin'. These effective substitutes for quinine, especially mepacrine, controlled malaria in the Allied Forces.

In addition there were two outstanding developments in the prophylaxis and treatment of malaria. The first was the application of D.D.T. and of new insect repellents in dealing with the mosquito vectors of the disease. The second was the preparation of a series of biguanide compounds as anti-malarial agents of completely new type. One of these compounds, 'Paludrine' (or 'Proguanil'), proved most efficient, since it is a true causal prophylactic in malignant tertian malaria and a partial prophylactic in benign tertian. It was not available for field use until nearly the end of hostilities.

Certain of the previous volumes of this *History* have dealt with malaria and these achievements in prevention and treatment. This volume, written by a number of experts, collates the experience of malaria among the American troops in the various theatres of war in which they served. There is some overlapping in the narratives, but they record the anti-malarial war work from different points of view. A most valuable volume in this important series.

ARTHUR S. MAGNALTY

*The Development of Medical Societies and Medical Periodicals in India, 1780 to 1920*, by A. NEELAMEGHAN, Calcutta, Oxford Book Co., 1963, pp. 120, Rs. 12.00, \$4.00, 24s.

This booklet of 120 pages deals with the early history of medical journalism and medical societies in India, over a period which has not yet been fully chronicled.

Sir William Jones, a Judge of the High Court at Calcutta who did much for science and medicine in India, laid stress on the importance of investigating the Indian art of medicine.

In 1783, along with Sir Charles Wilkins, he founded the Asiatic Society, which gave a lead to so much pioneer scientific and medical work. At about the same time, William Carey emphasized the importance of botany and agriculture, and eventually founded the Agri-Horticultural Society of India in 1820. Important contributions to science and medicine were made by various medical officers of the East India Company, notably by Peter Wade, whose enthusiasm led to the founding of the Medical and Physical Society of Calcutta in 1823. The *Indian Medical Record*, first published in 1890, still survived in 1920. This periodical enjoys a reputation for longevity equalled only by the *Indian Medical Gazette*, founded in 1866.

There is an interesting chapter on 'Problems of Early Medical Journalism in India', and a classified list of all the societies and periodicals of the period 1780 to 1920. The book should form a valuable guide to anyone who desires to explore the vast medical background of Medicine in India, but the printing leaves much to be desired, and fades out entirely on the lower part of pages 34, 35, 46 and 47.

Nevertheless the author is to be congratulated on this useful little work which fills a gap in the story of Indian Medicine.

DOUGLAS GUTHRIE

*The Regency Crisis and the Whigs, 1788-9*, by JOHN W. DERRY, London, Cambridge University Press, 1963, pp. 244, 30s.

It is perhaps not generally appreciated how greatly psychiatric theories and therapeutics are determined by the impact of mental illness on society rather than by medical considerations. Even the major classification into psychosis and neurosis