

### Book Reviews

holdings, and the fact that his published diary tells us about many of the purchases and items. Ray's library on the other hand is much more of a working collection, and Halley's is mixed with another property. This book will appeal to both historian and bibliographer and deserves a wide circulation.

PETER WARD FAY, *The opium war 1840–1842. Barbarians in the Celestial Empire in the early part of the nineteenth century and the war by which they forced her gates ajar*, Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1975, 8vo, pp. xxi, 406, illus., \$14.95.

A great deal of concern is expressed today on the topic of drug addiction, but not enough is known of its origin. We usually think of opium abuse beginning in China and forget that it was introduced there from India by the British for financial gain. In fact, it is said that Europe forced on China Christ and opium.

This book is the first to deal with the latter in detail, tracing the opium trade from its beginning in India where it was produced at the Ghazipur opium factory near Benares, still operating as such today. Professor Fay traces the origins and course of the war between Britain and China and the outcome of it, the most important result being the "opening of China to the West". The account of the war, arising from the increasing opium business, is an absorbing narrative, told here in detail for the first time since 1844 and supported by useful maps. The author also deals extensively with the activities of Western missionaries and is the first to place the Protestants in perspective and to pay adequate attention to the Catholics, who in the past have been overlooked. A much fairer and more accurate picture, therefore, emerges.

A great deal of manuscript material has been employed, and the author has produced a scholarly annotated work written in a lively style, calling upon a variety of sources to record an event of the greatest consequence to China and to the West. It might perhaps have been mentioned that the Opium War prevented David Livingstone from going as a missionary to China. He had instead to make do with Africa!

ESTHER FISCHER-HOMBERGER, *Die traumatische Neurose. Vom somatischen zum sozialen Leiden*, Berne, Stuttgart and Vienna, Hans Huber, 1975, pp. 264, illus., S.Fr. 22/DM.21.

A traumatic neurosis is usually sparked off by an accident. Dr. Fischer-Homberger shows how, down to the nineteenth century, with its new disease, the "railway spine", the accent had been on the physical side of the results of accidents, while with the beginnings of modern psychology it shifted to their impact on the patient's mental state. Finally, in the twentieth century, with the arrival of the motor-car and the aeroplane, and during two world wars, the question of insurance became all important, and with it how often and how far a traumatic neurosis is simulated in order to get out of the armed forces or to obtain compensation. This comprehensive account contains such gems as the mention of Edouard-Adolphe Duchesne's treatise of 1857 on the grave health risks incurred by being subjected to the noise made by railways and their whistles.