

*Book Reviews*

**HEALTH SERVICE PROSPECTS — Edited by I. Douglas Wilson and Gordon McLachlan. Publ. by The Lancet and the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust Lond. 1973. p.p.346; \$6.**

THIS IS an international survey covering eleven countries from China and Japan in the East to Cuba and USA in the West. The conditions in each of these countries are described by a national of the country, who writes from long and expert first-hand knowledge and observation. The book brings out clearly the great differences that exist in the organisation and ideology of the health services in these countries. At one end is the predominantly free-enterprise approach of the United States and at the other is the emphasis on State Health Service represented by the United Kingdom. The developing countries are marshalling their limited resources against environmental hazards at the same time trying to keep pace with the expensive technology of modern medicine. The more developed countries without the closely knit family ties have to contend with the care and maintenance of aging populations. However rich, these countries cannot meet the soaring cost of the maintenance of health and treatment of illnesses, and the trend is towards more efficient management and economical use of resources.

This is a book that should be in the hands of not only medical and health administrators but also of politicians, sociologists, planners and doctors.

**ADVANCES IN MOLECULAR GENETICS — Edited by W. Hayes British Medical Bull. Vol. 29**

**No. 3. 1973 Publ. by The British Council, 65 Davies Street, London, W1Y 2AA.**

THIS IS a symposium designed to illustrate the most important steps forward in knowledge and techniques in this rapidly expanding field of molecular genetics. The fifteen papers cover various aspects of chromosomes, particularly that of replication, the nature and behaviour of RNA, and phage, cytoplasmic, viral and behavioural genetics. This will be of interest, not only to those working directly in the field of molecular genetics, but also the biochemists, microbiologists and cancer research workers.

**CHEMOTHERAPY OF MALARIA AND RESISTANCE to ANTIMALARIALS — WHO Tech. Rpt. Series No. 529 pp. 120. Geneva.**

THE PROVISION OF effective chemoprophylaxis and treatment of malaria is still a major problem in tropical countries. The present report is concerned specifically with (1) the important role that 4-aminoquinolines may still play in the prevention and treatment of malaria, (2) improved techniques for evaluating the response of malaria parasites to drugs, (3) a critical appraisal of the present geographical distribution of resistance to the 4-aminoquinolines, (4) a review of promising new anti-malarial drugs currently under evaluation and (5) the need for continuing effort in the field of malaria chemotherapy.

This report contains the collective views of a WHO international scientific group of experts on the chemotherapy of malaria and resistance to antimalarials which met in October, 1972.