

BOOK REVIEWS

Leprosy, New Hope and Continuing Challenge and The Changing Pattern. S. G. Browne. London, The Leprosy Mission, 1966, 2s. 5d. and 1s. 1d.

The Leprosy Mission (formerly the Mission to Lepers) has recently made these two booklets available, for popular education and understanding. Each of them was prepared by Stanley G. Browne, Medical Consultant of the Mission, who is also Medical Secretary of LEPRO (formerly British Leprosy Relief Association) and Secretary-Treasurer of the International Leprosy Association. The larger of the two (*Leprosy, New Hope and Continuing Challenge*) carries an introduction by Robert G. Cochrane, currently President of the International Leprosy Association. It is in essence a short but remarkably well illustrated text book on leprosy, for popular consumption, including chapters on its history, its nature as a disease, its causative agent, its probable nodes of transmission, its treatment, and its prevention, with emphasis on opportunities for improved treatment and care through research, and notation of the organizations concerned with the treatment of leprosy patients. It indicates the great spiritual satisfaction to be obtained through personal participation in the antileprosy campaign.

The smaller of the two booklets has a foreword by Walter Fancutt, Editorial Secretary of the Leprosy Mission, pointing out Dr. Browne's special qualifications not only for the investigation and care of leprosy, but also for both technical and popular presentation of its problems. This booklet points up the changes that have occurred in the treatment of leprosy as a result of modern organization of control facilities and research by competent investigators. It outlines in clear detail the fields in which the leprosy missions and other organizations can further the gratifying progress now in course.

The two books are available at a modest charge from The Leprosy Mission (7 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C. 1).—E. R. LONG

Report of Madras Conference. Printed by Leprosy in India, Supplement to Vol. 37, No. 3, 1965.

This volume of 325 pages carries the reports made and papers presented at the conferences of the Indian Association of Leprologists (VIth Conference) and the All-India Leprosy Workers (IXth Conference) held in Madras 27-31 January 1965 (see *Internat. J. Leprosy* 33 (1965) 109, and 34 (1966) 218-219). The Introduction outlines the program succinctly and points up the important place held in the world by these recurring conferences in the establishment of principles and guide lines for scientific research on leprosy and for medical and public health practice in its control. The conferences were attended by distinguished leprologists from all over the world, as well as by leprologists in India and representatives of societies devoted to the campaign against leprosy.

At the inaugural sessions representatives of government and numerous noted authorities in scientific fields addressed the assemblage. Scientific sessions at the Conference of the Indian Association of Leprologists included 20 papers in seven general fields (see *Internat. J. Leprosy* 34 (1966) 218). The papers presented at the All-India Leprosy Worker's Conference included 12 reports in three major fields (see *Internat. J. Leprosy* 34 (1966) 218). All of these papers, in each session, were presented by experts, in their respective specialities, from India and abroad. By and large they represented an accumulation of experience, the details of which have been presented in scattered reports in various scientific journals over the past several years. Among the reports, however, and to some extent in all of them, was significant presentation of new material or material not yet sufficiently emphasized elsewhere.

This assemblage of papers and reports as a whole forms a notable document, making available in logical sequence authoritative presentations on subjects of wide interest and vital importance.—E. R. LONG

Research Activities. Special Issue for the 10th Anniversary, July 1965, of the National Institute for Leprosy Research, Tokyo, Japan. Edited and published by Yoshio Yoshie, Director, National Institute for Leprosy Research. Printed by Chubi Printing Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Japan, 1965. Pp. 191. Paper bound.

This compact volume, devoted to reports from the various laboratories comprising the National Institute for Leprosy Research, Tokyo, carries a foreword by the Director, Yoshio Yoshie, reviewing the history of this institute briefly, and calling renewed attention to its wide-spread research activities. The Institute represents the integration of leprosy research by the Japanese Science Council, the Japanese Leprosy Association, and the National Leprosaria of Japan. It was established, adjacent to the National Leprosarium Tama-Zenshoen, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Health and Welfare in 1955. In the ten following years the Institute has reported its accomplishments each year, in Japanese, in the Annals of the Institute. Now (as of July 1965) the Institute publishes summaries in English of the research it has carried out in the following laboratories: bacteriology, tissue culture, pathology, animal care, serology, biochemistry, pharmaceutical sciences, epidemiology and clinical science. The individual reports are signed by chiefs and subchiefs of these laboratories. The list includes many distinguished leaders in Japanese leprosy research today.

The volume, which is illustrated by half-tone reproductions of the histology of leprosy lesions, and is well fortified by diagrams and tabular material, warrants careful study. Much of the material presented has been published previously, but in scattered journal publications. It is brought together here, in readily accessible form, conveniently organized for quick reference to individual segments of the numerous research projects in the total program, with detailed supplemental accounts of current investigations. The volume as a whole testifies to a remarkable diversity of research activity, concentrated on today's principal leprosy problems, and carried out by an industrious staff.—E. R. LONG

Vascular Changes in Leprous Lesions, Consequences and Treatment. S. N. Chatterjee. Calcutta, Loyal Art Press Private Ltd., 1966. Pp. 125.

In this small volume, which is dedicated to Dr. E. Muir, Dr. Chatterjee reprints five articles published in the *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEPROSY* between 1954 and 1964¹.

The author's thesis is that methods of early treatment, directed toward improvement in blood circulation to affected parts in leprosy, will reverse unfavorable physiologic and pathologic trends, and save function and structure before damage becomes irreversible. The assemblage of these articles under one cover furnishes a handy medium for recapitulation of the author's experience. The booklet carries the numerous illustrations of the original articles. Dr. Dharmendra has written a foreword stressing the timeliness of the publication.—E. R. LONG

¹Chatterjee, S. N. The mechanism of the neural signs and symptoms of leprosy. *Internat. J. Leprosy* **23** (1955) 1-18.

———. Mechanism of blister formation in leprosy patients. *Ibid.* **27** (1959) 305-320.

———. Muscular wasting in leprosy and its peculiarities. *Ibid.* **31** (1963) 280-320.

———. Mechanism of muscular wasting in leprosy. *Ibid.* **31** (1963) 303-316.

———. Physiologic principles in the treatment of leprosy. *Ibid.* **32** (1964) 384-409.

Village of the Outcasts. Robert M. Wulff. New York, Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1967. Pp. 227. US\$ 4.95.

This is the personalized story of a young American in Thailand, whose life was governed by a deeply ingrained desire for service to the handicapped. Robert Wulff took various assignments in the Orient before settling down in a Thai leprosy colony under the tutelage of Dr. R. S. Buker, Advisor to Protestant Missions in Thailand, Vietnam and Laos, whose well known work and publications have led to recent debate on the merits and demerits of the leprosy

village as a means of combating the disease and preventing its spread. Much of Wulff's story is built on his day-to-day experiences as recorded in his diaries. It is a vivid one of hard work in primitive places and ultimate success, which one is likely to feel could have come about only through dedication, industry and Wulff's remarkable mechanical skills and know-how. His zeal secured the personal interest of Hubert H. Humphrey, of his own state, Minnesota. Humphrey, as Vice President of the United States, steered him into the Peace Corps. Back in Thailand Wulff built several villages for the handicapped, many of them ex-leprosy patients, proving that such com-

munities could become self-supporting and economically prosperous. The story is a fascinating one. The reader may or may not be convinced that such communities are an unequivocal answer to the problem, but he will be convinced that they can be successful under the devotion and drive of a man like Wulff. Appended to this autobiographical record by Wulff is a detailed exposition by Buker of his thesis of the value of the leprosy village, which is essentially an expression of views set forth in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (193 (1965) 643). The book carries a foreword by Vice President Humphrey.—E. R. LONG