

REVIEWS

The Microscopical Diagnosis of Human Malaria. I. A Morphological Study of the Erythrocytic Parasites in Thick Blood Film (second ed.) by John W. W. Field, A. A. Sandosham and Yap Loy Fong. Studies from the Institute for Medical Research, Federation of Malaya, No. 30, 1963, 236 p. \$12.00.

A few years ago we were assured that malaria would shortly be eradicated as a disease of major importance. But like the very much alive Mark Twain who stated that the reports of his death were greatly exaggerated, malaria, despite great gains in control, has obstinately refused to become merely a medical curiosity. Thus, the second edition of this book, a revision of the first edition which appeared in 1948, is timely. The book bears the authority of its eminent authors who have contributed greatly to the study of Malariology.

It contains much more information than its modest title implies. The first sections give an excellent account of the four species of *Plasmodium* parasites of man and their relationship to the disease they cause. Parasitic cycles are clearly but succinctly related to the symptoms in the human host.

The major portion of the book deals with the preparation of blood films and proper

application of conventional staining techniques. Probably every malariologist and parasitologist has despaired at the useless messes which are supposed to be blood films that are sent to him for diagnosis. It would serve every practicing physician in the tropics to read this section of the book. Detailed descriptions of the human malaria parasites, as they appear in the thick films, are given. Excellent plates, 27 in monochrome and 12 in color, supplement the written descriptions.

Finally, there is a short account of the malarial parasites of monkeys and apes. The recent discovery that some plasmodia of Malayan monkeys can, at least under experimental conditions, infect man has stimulated a renewed interest in simian malarias. The synopsis given in this book provides a useful guide for those who wish to become acquainted with the subject.

R. S. Desowitz

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Glossaria Interpretum — Hematology. Elsevier
Amsterdam/Lond./New York, 1964. 90s.

This small volume has achieved very well what it sets out to do, namely to provide a Glossary of commonly used hematological terms in English/American, French, Spanish, Italian, German and Russian.

In spite of its small size, the choice of words has been both appropriate and comprehensive, which only reflects the trouble and care taken by the author in the selection of words.

In a work of this nature however, few would appreciate its value, except for the specialist

worker in the field, all of whom would agree that the need for such a book is long overdue. Judging from the wide interest in hematology in Europe, the large number of international conferences and the vast amount of literature on the subject, this book will be most useful to the professional medical interpreter and translators of medical literature.

S. B. Kwa