

Book Reviews

MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH

Delivering the Services

C.D. WILLIAMS AND D.B. JELLIFFE

Oxford University Press, Lon. 1972. Pp. 164

£2.20 net.

WRITTEN BY TWO AUTHORS with extensive working experience in "developing" countries, this book aims at providing a practical guide to establishing effective health care (both curative and preventive) for mothers and children. It projects the philosophy of comprehensive medical care encompassing the hospital and clinic on the one hand and the family and community on the other.

It examines the health hazards to which mothers and children are particularly vulnerable, discusses common childhood diseases, the influence of cultural patterns, measurement of health in "underdeveloped" communities and the health hazards of overpopulation. It traces the development of maternal and child health services and outlines the scope of these services. It provides detailed suggestions on the organisation of services to suit local conditions with special reference to paediatric wards, health centres, maternal and child health clinics and also gives a detailed commentary on the training of personnel.

The book contains a good selected bibliography on different aspects of maternal and child health care.

Indira Pathmanathan

VECTOR CONTROL IN INTERNATIONAL HEALTH. Coordinated and edited by J.V. Smith and R. Pal and published by the World Health Organisation, Switzerland.

pp. 144. £3.20. US \$8.00

IT IS A VERY useful practical guide to all those who are responsible for the control of vectors and pests at ports and airports, for the prevention of the transportation of potentially harmful arthropods and rodents from one area to another. This field is a major but very often neglected one in vector control. Special emphasis has been given to biology and control of major insect vectors like *Aedes*, *Culex*, *Anopheles*, fleas, lice and rodents, like domestic rats and mice. Basic principles for control of vectors and pests at ground installations in ports and airports and aboard ships and aircrafts are discussed.

General keys to the identification of medically important arthropods are appended. Keys to the larvae and adults are also provided for the identification of most of the medically important mosquitoes. Keys to genus *Armigeres*, however, have not been included. Good diagrams and charts which are included to supplement the keys are of great value for accurate identification of major vectors and arthropods of medical importance.

Tables of pesticide data for insect and rodent control are appended with useful instructions.

Vijayamma Thomas

MASS HEALTH EXAMINATIONS. Pub. Hlth. Papers No. 45 World Health Orgn. Geneva. 1971. US\$2.00 pp.99.

Obtainable thro' WHO Rep. P.O. Box 2250, Kuala Lumpur.

THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS at the World Health Assembly are an annual event, though they are not part of the formal proceedings. The delegates to the assembly, as well as the representatives of associate member states and of other organisations, attend informally and not as delegates of their governments or as officials of their organisations.

The 1971 discussions were devoted to *Mass Health Examinations as a Public Health Tool*. Because of the practical importance of this subject and the growing interest in screening for the early detection of disease, it was felt that the views expressed should be made available to a wider audience. In addition to the reports of the eight discussion groups, this volume in the *Public Health Papers* series includes the background paper that served as a basis for the discussions, the chairman's address, and the joint report prepared in the light of the comments of the participants.

The background paper, by Dr. J. M. G. Wilson, presents a general review of the subject based on the comments received by WHO from governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations in response to the outline document also included in the volume. The address, by Professor Herman E. Hilleboe, chairman of the technical discussions, places mass health examination methods in the wider context of health planning, the delivery of health services, and the evaluation of health programmes. In the reports of the individual groups, the problems raised in the two intro-

ductory papers are examined in greater detail, while the final report attempts a synthesis of all the views put forward in the course of the discussions.

HISTOLOGICAL TYPING OF ORAL AND OROPHARYNGEAL TUMOURS

by P.N. Wahi, B. Cchen, U.K., Luthra and H. Torloni. W.H.O. Geneva 27pp. US\$4.00. Obtainable thro' WHO Rep. P.O. Box 2250, Kuala Lumpur.

THE WHO INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE CENTRE for the Histological Definition and Classification of Oral and Oropharyngeal Tumours was established in 1963 at the Department of Pathology, Sarojini Naidu Medical College, Agra, India.

It has worked in close collaboration with pathologists in 11 countries to produce this latest volume in the series of tumour classifications being published by WHO. By developing uniform classifications and nomenclatures for the microscopic definition of tumours, WHO is seeking to facilitate international communication and comparability of data in oncology.

An introductory text outlines the histological considerations pertaining to the oral and oropharyngeal tissues and discusses the grading and spread of carcinomas in this region of the body. The classification itself is divided into seven major categories. Accompanying explanatory notes embody some useful diagnostic criteria, especially in regard to tumours of squamous epithelium and tumour-like conditions.

The book includes 40 colour plates reproducing photomicrographs of the main tumours and related lesions covered by the classification. A set of 52 colour transparencies is also available.