

tive physiology, the value of a review decreases sharply if the delay between writing and publication is more than 6 months.

This series may well become a standard source of reviews for teachers, researchers, and students in the field. Its success will depend on whether the initial high quality can be maintained and on whether the publishers can markedly reduce the delay in publication. Such volumes have only a transient usefulness, and they would be more widely purchased if a less expensive format and binding were used.

C. LADD PROSSER

*Department of Physiology and  
Biophysics, University of Illinois,  
Urbana*

## Health Care and Government

**Socialized Medicine in England and Wales.** The National Health Service, 1948–1961. Almont Lindsey. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1962. xiii + 561 pp. \$8.50.

This 474-page book, which, in addition, has extensive footnotes and a long bibliography, is an attempt by an American historian, Almont Lindsey, to review the 13 years' experience of England and Wales with their National Health Service. Scotland was omitted because of certain technical differences in the organization of its service.

The author quotes extensively from publications, but he writes fluently and incorporates the quotations smoothly into his text so that the book reads easily and retains its scholarly documentation.

From the outset Lindsey seems to favor the idea of the National Health Service, and he is frankly impatient with some of the attitudes of the British Medical Association at the time of the inception of the service. His approach is not as impartial as Harry Eckstein's (*The English Health Service: Its Origins, Structure, and Achievements*. Harvard University Press, 1958), yet his occasional expression of personal opinion enlivens the prose and stimulates the interest of the reader. The author could have given somewhat more attention to the organization of the British Medical Association. Indeed, a detailed study of the organization of professional health so-

cieties in Britain and in the United States of America would be very illuminating. It is not clear, for example, from this book, what the British Medical Association's relationship is to the medical profession as a whole even though considerable attention is devoted to the Association. In addition, it is apparent that the Health Service is being given credit for advances in medical care which have also occurred in other medical care settings.

The author makes the important point that health care in England and Wales is considered to be a right of all people regardless of their ability to pay. One can conclude from his data that, while this principle is accepted, the definition of health needs by the health authorities was neglected. In the interest of objectivity, the author might well have explored this matter further. In fact, the medical profession in England and Scotland has been pioneering in the study of health needs, in itself a most difficult subject that has been neglected until recently, especially in this country. One could not, of course, expect the author, a historian, to discourse on the subject of why, in the instance of three patients with presumably identical headaches, one patient will go about his business, the second will take aspirin, and the third will stop work and visit his doctor. Yet these factors, impossible at the present time to quantitate, are important in the fiscal problems that have beset the National Health Service, and it is well that Great Britain saw fit to plunge into this unknown sea to obtain information that will be of help to other countries in planning medical care programs. It is unfortunate that adequate research into these matters could not have been carried out prior to starting the National Health Service. However, the author shows clearly that many years of thinking and planning preceded the establishment of the National Health Service but that, in spite of this, the demands of the people for health service legislation could not await all of the answers.

Although the author does not stress the point, he makes it clear that the hospitals of Britain were socialized and that the profession was socialized, if at all, to a lesser extent. Moreover, in the book adequate attention is given to the dental, pharmaceutical, and other aspects of the health care program.

Finally, the clear picture that the

reader is given of the English scene preceding the development of the National Health Service points up the differences between Britain and this country. Thus, students of health care in this country will find the book valuable, since Britain is well ahead of us in these areas: for example, the Ministry of Health was established in Britain in 1911.

That a historian should devote his talents to a study of health care is salutary and reflects a growing awareness that history had much to do with health and that health has much to do with history. It reflects also an important trend of nonmedical scholars becoming more and more interested in the problems of the health professions. The biochemist followed such a course some years ago, and look at what they have contributed to medical science.

The book's long and thorough documentation makes it valuable to the serious scholar in this field. The final chapter is an excellent summary of the many points made, and, although the author's enthusiasm for the program in England and Wales stands out especially in this part of the book, the busy physician will find it well worth his time to read this chapter.

GEORGE A. WOLF, JR.

*Tufts University and  
Tufts-New England Medical Center*

## Political and Economic Change

**The Underprivileged Nations.** Pierre Moussa. Translated from the French by Alan Braley. Sidgwick and Jackson, London, 1962. xxi + 198 pp. Illus. 30s.

This is a translation of Moussa's non-technical and policy-oriented but quite information-laden *Les Nations prolétaires* (1959).

Noting the instability of the prices of raw commodities exported by non-industrial nations, the author advocates agreements to stabilize prices (perhaps at levels about 25 percent higher than those now current); he apparently rejects the alternative of expending evenly over time the funds gotten from exports, and he neglects the adverse repercussions of stabilizing prices (chapters 1 and 2). Agrarian reform, together with its objectives and possible effects, is touched upon (chapter 4), and replacement of middlemen by ag-

ricultural cooperatives is proposed (chapter 5); whether native governments can do what, it is inferred, they need to do to launch an effective cooperative movement is by no means certain. The essentiality of birth control is recognized (chapter 6), though not, perhaps, the need for immediate and effective action if "peasants" are to be freed from the "incubus" of the stork as well as from that of "land-owners and grasping middlemen"; "birth control" is inaccurately described as "expensive," even though the high return on investment in voluntary sterilization and other control measures has been well demonstrated.

Major though not exclusive emphasis is placed upon investment, of which about \$30 billion is needed annually, given a capital-output ratio of 4, population growth of 2 to 3 percent per year, and an increase of 4 to 5 percent per year in per capita income (chapter 7). The underdeveloped countries can supply some \$10 billion (chapters 7 and 8); hence presumably the developed world, now supplying about \$6 billion public and \$2 billion private funds, might furnish much of the balance (chapters 9 and 10).

Moussa suggests that *total* investment in French Tropical Africa continues to approximate 3.2 times French public investment in this region (page 91), even as total income approximates 3.2 times primary income. The role of private investment seems to be underestimated (chapter 10), though profit-sharing formulas are discussed (chapter 3), and the adverse effects of recent expropriation are noted. Moussa notes that public and private investment are complementary, but he neglects another aspect: because public and private investment also compete for available savings, adequate investment criteria are needed.

Technological and intellectual aid, along with psychological and political conditions, are discussed. While aid is described as a "world problem," greater emphasis is put upon the "political stakes" for which East and West supposedly are competing. Sources of waste in foreign aid programs are neglected; and no cold assessment is made of the supposed "political stakes" that underdeveloped countries now play to such good advantage.

JOSEPH J. SPENGLER

*Department of Economics,  
Duke University,  
Durham, North Carolina*

26 OCTOBER 1962

## Sinhalese, Tamil, and Veddah

### The Physical Anthropology of Ceylon.

Ceylon National Museum's Ethnographic Series Publication No. 2. Howard W. Stoudt. P. E. P. Deraniyagala, Ed. The Museum, Colombo, Ceylon, 1961. 180 pp. Rs. 7.50.

The appearance and disappearance of exotic peoples who inhabit large areas is frequently best studied in smaller refuge areas where both immigrations and the subsequent circumstances of their evolution are more starkly delineated. Ceylon, like Madagascar and Greenland, is such an insular laboratory, and it has been judiciously utilized to explore the human biology and population history of its inhabitants. The basic anthropometric data on which this volume is based were collected by J. R. de la Haule Marett, prior to World War II, in which he lost his life. Fortunately the value of the study was appreciated, and the data were sent to E. A. Hooton. After Hooton's death, W. W. Howells and E. E. Hunt made the data available to H. W. Stoudt. P. E. P. Deraniyagala, W. M. Krogman, and C. S. Coon provided substantial assistance in seeing this study brought to a successful conclusion a quarter century after its inception.

At the time of the first European conquests, Ceylon was occupied by three racial groups: Sinhalese, Tamil, and Veddah. Veddoid peoples have long enjoyed popularity in anthropological literature, in part because of their similarity to Australian aborigines and their morphological antiquity. Now, for the first time, an adequate series of Veddahs is described, and evidence is presented that this original group is disappearing as a result of intermixing with Sinhalese and Tamils. Reduction of the death rate by elimination of malaria, coupled with a high birth rate, is producing a high rate of population growth for the island as a whole. This study of morphological variation provides an indispensable benchmark for future assessments of the population.

There is an especially sophisticated discussion of problems of morphological differentiation, with attention to genetics, physical environment, cultural environment, diet, and nutrition. A section on breeding habits, with tabular analyses of biological and geographical relationships of the subjects'

parents and of the frequency of mating between the various village and caste groups, firmly establishes, in quantitative fashion, the Mendelian nature of the groups measured.

Among the findings are a tendency toward Mongoloid characteristics at higher altitudes, the absence of an expected size increase in recent Tamil immigrants, larger body size in areas that have soils of limestone origin, stature increase resulting from heterosis, and greater geographic variation within castes than between castes in the same area. Human biologists and ethnologists will find a wealth of good data and interpretation on the several groups of this expanding island population.

W. S. LAUGHLIN

*Department of Anthropology,  
University of Wisconsin*

## Standard Text Revised

**Introduction to Physical Geology.** Chester R. Longwell and Richard F. Flint. Wiley, New York, ed. 2, 1962. 504 pp. Illus. \$7.95.

The greatest changes in this second edition of one of the most successful textbooks on physical geology are in the overall size and format, in the number of illustrations (increased by about 50 percent), and in the price (also up about 50 percent). Of these changes, the increased illustrations will be the most welcome, because this book now ranks as one of the best illustrated texts in the field.

The order in which the material is treated is standard. The authors have added material in places and thus have enlarged the book over the original edition (1955), but the organization remains the same. This has tended to make the book more detailed without making it more technical, and some geologists will regret the failure of the authors to really integrate modern chemistry and physics into physical geology. This criticism, however, can be applied to all of the books in this field. What seems to be needed is the weaving through the text of some fundamental principles, such as viscosity and the concepts of equilibrium and stability. The authors have attempted this, but more thorough revision is needed. Terms are defined in the text, and a glossary is omitted. Unfortu-