

P. A. Petrishcheva (Ed.): Itogi razvitiya ucheniya o prirodnoy ochagovosti bolezney cheloveka i dalneyshie zadachi. (Review of the development of the theory on natural focality of human diseases and further tasks). Publishing House Medicina, Moscow, 272 pp., 23 Figs., 25 Tab., 1972 (In Russian)

On May 29, 1974 it will be 35 years since Academician Pavlovsky presented basic ideas of his theory on natural focality of diseases at the plenary session of the USSR Academy of Sciences. This theory, which brilliantly elucidates natural laws of organic world, has already become and invaluable contribution to world science. Since its beginning it has made rapid advances. A wealth of new information has been meanwhile accumulated enabling to extend and elaborate its particular aspects.

The reviewed book, written by a group of closest disciples and followers of Academician Pavlovsky, contains a number of papers elaborating different aspects of the problems in the studies of natural foci of diseases. The introductory part of the book, written by Prof. P. A. Petrishcheva (pp. 3—36), concerns the history of the origin and development of the theory of Academician Pavlovsky. The materials proper are divided in two extensive chapters. The first one (pp. 37—179) deals with problems of mutual relations between agents causing natural focus diseases and bloodsucking arthropods as well as vertebrates, the second one (pp. 180—264) includes scientific materials on the prevention of diseases with natural foci.

Separate papers discuss the following problems: Chapter 1. Biocenotic relationships of bloodsucking arthropods to vertebrates (P. A. Petrishcheva). Mutual relations between causative agents of natural focus diseases and vertebrates (N. I. Kalabukhov). Peculiarities of mutual relations between warm-blooded animals and

causative agents in mixed infections (T. N. Dunayeva). Argasidae as maintenance hosts of causative agents in mixed infections (P. A. Petrishcheva, A. A. Pcholkina). Ixodidae and mixed form of infections (Z. M. Zhmayeva, A. A. Pcholkina). Biological relationships of ticks and pathogens—one of the necessary indicators in the assessment of their epidemiological importance (I. M. Grokhovskaya, V. F. Ignatovich). Pathogenicity of causative agents of transmissible diseases for arthropod vectors (Yu. S. Balashov). Chapter 2: Structure, typology and subdivision of natural foci of human diseases (V. V. Kucheruk). Scientific bases for the prognosis of diseases with natural foci (N. P. Naumov). Problems of the plague prophylaxis and eradication of its natural foci in the USSR (N. I. Nikolayev, B. K. Fenyuk, A. A. Lavrovsky). Geography of diseases with natural foci (A. A. Voronov). A list of basic literature, not covering all papers cited in the text, and a one-page English summary are appended.

The papers discuss the results obtained in studies on some existing problems, general views of the relations between organic components of a natural focus, methods used for the solution of problems and show the extent to which the theory of Academician Pavlovsky has been elaborated in the USSR today. The book is an excellent source of valuable information to all who are engaged in the studies on diseases with natural foci and its appearance may be sincerely welcomed.

Dr. V. Černý, C.Sc.