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Lentochnye gelminty — gimenolepididy —
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vykh ptits. (Tapeworms — Hymenolepidi-
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**J. Grober, H. Horn, F. Oberdoerster: Gesundheitstaschenbuch für die warmen Länder
(Tropenärztlicher Ratgeber für Reise und Beruf). VEB Verlag Volk u. Gesundheit, Berlin,
351 pp. Price 18.80 M.**

The present lively political, business, tourist, scientific, cultural, sport and other contacts of countries of the moderate zone with the Tropics and Subtropics make it necessary to inform the public about some specific problems related to the influence of warm climate on man, including some endemic diseases. The Grober-Horn-Oberdoerster Manual published in the German Democratic Republic intended for workers travelling to the Tropics and Subtropics, is therefore to be welcomed. It is a worthy addition to the manuals published all over the world for the above-mentioned purpose. It contains concrete information valuable to laymen as well as physicians who do not specialize in tropical medicine. It is a new edition of the manual.

The book is of pocket size and divided into the following main chapters. Hygiene of tropical countries dealing with the suitable selection of workers for activity in the warm climate, with the suitable daily habits, social life as well as hygiene, supply of water etc. The subsequent chapter briefly discusses disinfection. The chapter on arthropods outlines the characteristics of individual groups with instructions for their eradication and preventive measures against attacks on man. The most extensive chapter is devoted to tropical diseases, both the infectious and parasitic (invasive) diseases, as well as afflictions induced by biophysical factors (sunstroke, heat apoplexy), malnutrition and deficiency of some dietary elements.

Of utmost importance is the chapter dealing with problems of correct diagnosis of acute diseases, with preliminary treatment and first aid in accidents. Although diagnostic stumbling blocks of various tropical diseases are well known,

I consider this chapter to be very useful to those who work in locations distant from possibilities of medical care.

A supplement to main chapters of the book offers much helpful information: advice to suitable clothes, equipment of first aid box, insurance, a table of non-metric measures and weights, explanations of professional vocabulary etc. The section dealing with insurance and legal measures provided by the G.D.R. and showing the care of the Socialist state for its citizens, is of great importance.

It stands to reason that in a manual of this scope inaccuracies could not be avoided. This applies to some map appendices. For example the chart depicting the malaria distribution can hardly represent "Gebiete in denen Malaria endemisch vorkommt" as part of Bulgaria, part of USSR, including part of Yakutia, and some other errors. Certain corrections are also necessary in other charts depicting the distribution of Chagas disease, leishmaniasis, leprosy (India should be added as an important region). The authors have taken no account of the theory of natural focality of diseases elaborated by E. N. Pavlovsky and his co-workers.

However, these inaccuracies do not diminish the qualities of the manual. Its value consists primarily in reliable advice to all who travel to the Tropics, who are assigned for work there, are often thrown upon their own resources or a small working team. It also offers a quick information to all who do not specialize in various fields of tropical medicine and wish to be promptly informed about some problems.

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