

Book Reviews

proceeds with a discussion of how both popular and medical views of wet-nursing evolved within a context of urbanism, changing family demographics, and the rise of the middle-class during the first half of the nineteenth century.

The second section of *A social history of wet nursing in America* explores this curious enterprise in the post-Civil War years. The author devotes considerable effort to describing the modernization of the urban wet-nursing market and its many different sectors. Golden further discusses the backgrounds of those wet-nurses who worked in middle- and upper-class American homes as well as how this line of work affected their subsequent lives. Considerable attention is also paid to wet-nurses working at foundling hospitals and nursing homes using a rich array of hospital case records and welfare agency reports.

The book's final section discusses the many different participants in the wet-nursing marketplace from 1870 to 1910 with an emphasis on the perceptions of mothers who employed wet-nurses, wet-nurses themselves, and paediatricians. As Golden correctly notes, the emergence of paediatrics as a medical specialty during this period is "inextricably linked" to the science of infant feeding. Despite this acknowledgement, however, the author does not succeed in incorporating the many connections and discordances wet-nursing had with those physicians advocating breast feeding and the powerful introduction of a safe, convenient, and inexpensive but artificial means of infant feeding. A more nuanced examination of this complex relationship of doctors, mothers, the science of nutrition, and the public's faith in that science along with her discussion of the acceptance of human and artificial infant formulas would have strengthened this innovative study. Issues of race and ethnicity are mentioned but not explored in significant depth.

Curiously, relatively few examples from the popular media are applied to Golden's discussion of the experience mothers had with hiring wet-nurses, the experiences of wet nurses themselves, and the paediatrician's view

of these practices. To be sure, she does dredge out some early twentieth-century references to these debates in a variety of rarely cited child-care reference books, paediatric textbooks, and a smattering of popular baby-care or women's magazines, but the popular media on which she draws is far richer than *A social history of wet nursing* suggests. Indeed, there was a wide variety of American commentators on wet-nursing and the "fitness" of a woman based on her selection of infant feeding techniques ranging from Theodore Dreiser and H L Mencken to President Theodore Roosevelt.

But most importantly, Janet Golden has written a solid scholarly book on a rarely studied topic in the history of American medicine and women. In a clear prose the author succeeds in uncovering many of the complicated interactions of medicine, society, class, and work that contributed to the definition of motherhood and the practice of wet-nursing from the colonial era to the early twentieth century.

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Socrates Litsios, *The tomorrow of malaria*, Wellington, NZ, Pacific Press, 1996, pp. 181 (0-9583418-3-4).

The tomorrow of malaria by Socrates Litsios provides a short and immensely readable overview of the past, present and future of malaria. With its stimulating and provocative title, we are instantly reminded that, while malaria has been with us for thousands of years, the disease remains and will remain a critical global problem for future generations. The aims of the book are clearly laid out in the introduction. The author shows that by drawing on an historical perspective and by looking back at the successes and failures of campaigns to control and eradicate malaria in the past we will more readily understand the current and future situations. In particular, Litsios emphasizes that the rich epidemiological studies and the development of ideas on

Book Reviews

“malaria as a disease” in the pre-DDT era must not be forgotten, for, as he states, “it is of great importance to keep alive the excitement of the malaria story, an aim to which this publication is dedicated”.

The author successfully meets this aim. The design of the book itself is simple and attractive and immediately offers both the specialist and non-specialist reader a fascinating insight into the debates as well as the problems and politics that have thwarted attempts over the centuries to eradicate and control malaria. The book is divided into three parts: ‘The yesterday of malaria’, ‘The today of malaria’, and ‘The tomorrow of malaria’. In the historical part, the ancient history of the disease receives a brief mention and it is the history of its control in different parts of the world during the twentieth century, following the discoveries by Charles Louis Alphonse Laveran, Patrick Manson, Ronald Ross, Giovanni Grassi and others of the plasmodium parasites and the mosquito cycle, that dominates this section. Litsios’s fascinating accounts of the researches, ideas, disputes and frustrations of five key malariologists, Paul Russell, Louis Hackett, C Percy James, Sir Malcolm Watson and Nicholas Swellengrebel, are especially illuminating. The second section explores the DDT era of malaria control and eradication. Revealing comments are taken from official reports as well as from the unpublished diaries of a number of leading players in the main malaria conferences and debates, allowing the reader to be drawn into the realities and complexities of malaria control efforts in the 1950s and 1960s. The final part of the book offers a valuable opportunity to understand how and why global politics have shaped the present and future malaria situation. It also includes a short discussion of the various strategies and scientific tools which are currently being adopted or developed in the hope of controlling the global threat of malaria. The book ends on a note of caution. Malaria is interwoven into the fabric of life in a complex way and, as Litsios demonstrates, there will be no easy answers to solving the very critical issue of the

“tomorrow of malaria”.

The book is published at a time when we shall shortly be “celebrating” the centenary of the discovery of the mosquito transmission of malaria and the golden jubilee of the World Health Organisation’s attempts at global eradication of the disease. It is a timely reminder that, in spite of important scientific discoveries and global campaigns, human endeavours have not solved the tomorrow of malaria. This is an excellent introductory text and highly recommended for all those who are concerned with the past, present and future of malaria and its wider implications.

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Henry Friedlander, *The origins of Nazi genocide: from euthanasia to the final solution*, Chapel Hill and London, University of North Carolina Press, 1995, pp. xxiii, 421, \$34.95 (0-8078-2208-6).

Since the early 1980s, the study of medicine under National Socialism has produced a veritable explosion of new works. From several major surveys of eugenic and racialist ideas in modern German science to numerous documentations of hospitals and medical faculties during the Nazi period, countless scholars have been investigating the role of doctors and medical science in the persecution and mass murder of Jews, Gypsies, the disabled, homosexuals and other groups condemned by the regime as “asocial”.

Friedlander’s *The origins of Nazi genocide*, one of the latest contributions to this ever-growing body of literature, is structured around one central thesis, a method of organization which accounts for many of the book’s strengths as well as its limitations. He posits, in short, that the Nazi “euthanasia” programme against the mentally and physically disabled—whose lives were deemed “unworthy of life” by the regime’s biologicistic ideology—set the stage for the subsequent genocide of Jews and Gypsies. It was through these earlier killings, Friedlander shows, that state and party officials