

NOTES

RESEARCH IN DISEASES OF THE TROPICS

The first issue of the *BRITISH MEDICAL BULLETIN* in 1972 (Vol. 28, no. 1), published by the *BRITISH COUNCIL*, 97 & 99 Park Street, London W1Y 4HQ, England, is entirely devoted to research in diseases of the tropics and includes 16 excellent papers written by a team of 20 outstanding British specialists.

A study on the changing patterns of diseases in the tropics by C. E. GORDON SMITH, the Scientific Editor, opens the symposium. Growth of towns and cities, population movements, agricultural and engineering developments are analysed in regard to the possible eclosion of new diseases and assumption of new aspects by old ones. Besides evaluating factors even of financial nature, the Author suggests how to overcome defi-

ciencies of medical education and research, so as to keep pace with the changing patterns of disease control.

In the following papers subjects as arbovirus diseases, leprosy, malaria, trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis, filariasis, onchocerciasis, as well as malnutrition, heart diseases, sprue and anemia in the tropics are carefully discussed.

Special emphasis is given throughout the papers on "how recent advances in techniques are being successfully applied to many hitherto insoluble problems and how advances in knowledge are coming from research institutes and laboratories all over the world", as remarked in the introduction to this stimulating symposium.