

IN THIS ISSUE

PROVISION of medical care and preventive health services for the 220 million people in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has received high priority among the programs for social development of the nation, and the program of health services has been described by observers from western Europe and the United States in a number of detailed reports. In the article on "Highlights of Soviet Health Services," Dr. Milton I. Roemer takes an overall view of the total program and organizes his discussion around twelve "key concepts" which seem to be basic to the policies, organization and administration of the health program. As a member of a study group that toured health facilities in the Soviet Union in the summer of 1961, Dr. Roemer, then Research Professor of Administrative Medicine at Cornell University, had an opportunity to observe the functioning of the services and to learn something of the ideas of those who have shaped the program. In this interpretative report, Dr. Roemer brings together his own observations and information taken from official reports and from studies of the program made by other western health specialists.

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A study of the relationship between the diagnosis of a psychiatric clinic patient and the clinic services received was reported for child patients in the preceding issue of the *Quarterly*. This analysis is extended to the experience of adult patients in a report on the "Diagnostic Characteristics of Adult Outpatients of Psychiatric Clinics as Related to Type and Outcome of Services" by Anita K. Bahn, Caroline A. Chandler,

and Paul V. Lemkau. Utilizing data from the state-wide register of psychiatric clinic patients in Maryland and employing the technique of "life-table" analysis, the authors explore the differences among clinic patients of varying psychiatric and demographic characteristics with respect to length of time under clinic care and to disposition and outcome of treatment. The authors observe evidence of a change in clinic function from primarily one of prevention toward the assumption of increasing responsibility for the psychotic patient. However, they also note the minor contribution of the clinics to the treatment of the alcoholic patient and those with degenerative diseases.



The various contrasts between Japan and Korea are much like those between the modern world and underdeveloped areas. In the context of industrial development, Japan has come a long way from uncontrolled to controlled fertility and has at once facilitated and documented this transition with an abundance of official demographic data and special surveys of family limitation, some of which have been reported in previous issues of the *Quarterly*. In contrast, Korea's agrarianism is accompanied by uncontrolled fertility, and by a dearth of demographic data. Recently, Doctors Sung-bong Hong and Joong-hi Yoon of the Soodo Medical College in Korea conducted a pilot study, of which the methods and results are described in their article "Male Attitudes Toward Family Planning on the Island of Kangwha-Gun, Korea." Despite the limitations of the sample, the article affords at least suggestive data on the relation of certain socio-cultural variables to male attitudes toward family planning.



The April, 1962 issue of the *Quarterly* contained an article on contraception and induced abortions based upon a recent survey of fertility and fertility control among Jewish maternity cases in Israel. A second article based upon the same materials

appears in this issue, "On Rationalization of Family Formation in Israel," by Judah Matras and Chana Auerbach. The authors attempt a sociological interpretation of the factors associated with deliberate efforts at control of family size. Among the factors considered are ethnic origin, length of residence in Israel, socio-economic status, and extent of religious observance.