

BOOK REVIEW

FOX, Cyril - **Mosquito net: a story of the pioneers of tropical medicine.** Manchester, i2i Publishing, 2008. 253p. illus. ISBN 978-0-9560369-0-2.

Few people would consider the story of four amazing scientists and an insect, to be a romantic history. That, however, is exactly what Dr Cyril Fox has achieved. Make no mistake; this is a serious and incredibly well researched account of the dedication that helped to substantially reduce the death and misery to humankind represented by the twin scourges of malaria and yellow fever. We may think of research scientists spending their lives in clinical laboratories but here we have men frequently putting their own lives in danger in pursuit of the villain of the piece, the tiny but far from inconsequential mosquito.

Mosquito Net is not only essential reading for medical and scientific practitioners. It is also a fascinating tale and told in a manner that renders it to be eminently readable for professional and lay readers alike.

Cyril Fox was born in London in 1930. He studied Medicine at the University of Cambridge (Trinity Hall) and Guy's Hospital Medical School, London. He graduated MB., B.Chir (Cantab) 1956 and MD (Cantab) by dissertation in 1970.

He worked throughout his medical career as a full-time General Practitioner and part-time researcher.

CONTENTS:

Part One: Manson & Ross

Chap. 1: Manson in China; **Chap. 2:** Return to London; **Chap. 3:** Ross arrives; **Chap. 4:** Ross in London; **Chap. 5:** Follow the flagellum; **Chap. 6:** First interruption; **Chap. 7:** Mosquito day; **Chap. 8:** The solution; **Chap. 9:** Ross v Grassi; **Chap. 10:** Liverpool and Glory; **Chap. 11:** Personality; **Chap. 12:** Later work.

Part Two: Reed & Gorgas

Chap. 13: Reed appears; **Chap. 14:** The Reed Commission; **Chap. 15:** Definitive experiments; **Chap. 16:** Gorgas appears; **Chap. 17:** Havana clearance; **Chap. 18:** Panama Canal; **Chap. 19:** Gorgas' glory.

Appendix: The malaria cycle.

Dr. Cyril Fox
c-fox4@sky.com
www.mosquito-net.net

i2i Publishing. Manchester
www.i2ipublishing.co.uk