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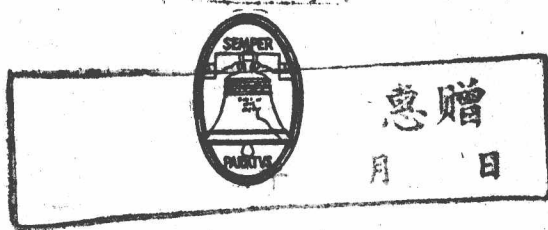
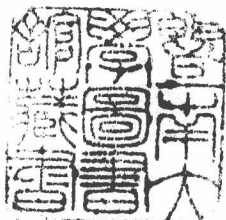
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# *The Story Behind Great Medical Discoveries*

By ELIZABETH RIDER MONTGOMERY

*With an Introduction by Dr. Hyman Miller, Associate Professor, School of Medicine, University of Southern California*

Drawings by Vartanian



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**THE STORY BEHIND GREAT  
MEDICAL DISCOVERIES**



# *Preface*

**THIS** is the story of a war—war between Doctors and Disease, between Science and Suffering. This is the story of some of the great battles of that war, and of those who won victories.

The campaign against Suffering and Disease has been going on for many, many centuries—ever since the beginning of man. Primitive men had their medicine men. Early civilizations had barber surgeons and alchemists. But it was only about two hundred years ago that the fight became really organized; that medicine grew to be a genuine profession, based on research and observation, rather than on superstition and mumbo jumbo. Then—and only then—did the tide of battle turn.

In physical fighting a victory is due to many men, not only to the leader who happened to be in command at the time. Yet that leader's plan of attack or defense, or his ability to spot the weak point in the enemy's line, was an indispensable factor in winning the battle.

So it is in the war with which this book deals. Each victory over Disease and Suffering owes much to the work and endurance and foresight of many people. Yet always there was one whose contribution was outstanding in pointing the way to victory. It is of these men and women that I have told.

While the stories are based on historical facts, I have tried to make them real to you by telling how I imagine the people thought and spoke. I have tried to indicate the importance of their discoveries in your daily life. If this book makes you want to know more about the never-ending struggle for health, it will have accomplished its purpose.

My thanks are due to many people for material and suggestions for this book: to various physicians, dentists, orthodontists, nurses, teachers, librarians, pharmacists and pharmaceutical companies; to the Los Angeles County Medical Association for allowing me the use of its library; and to Dr. Lee de Forest and Mrs. Edward H. Angle for hitherto unpublished details. Most of all, I am indebted to Dr. Hyman Miller of Los Angeles for his generous help in checking the manuscript.

E. R. M.

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# *Introduction*

BY HYMAN MILLER, A.B., M.D.

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WAR is an ugly business, a bitter pill that mankind seems to have had to swallow from the beginning of time. A rather purposeless, destructive pill despite its sugar-coating of heady romance and exciting adventure. War will always be a bitter pill, but its destructiveness need not remain. With politics coming of age and war waged for "Peace" and "Four Freedoms," the sugar-coating is not needed; the bitterness must be tasted to achieve such high goals as "Peace" and "Freedom."

Politics—the new humanistic, constructive politics—might have come of age sooner had mankind considered another sort of war, a war fully as old as political war: the war against disease, the war with which this book deals. Here, no sugar-coating was ever needed. Men struggled, fought and even offered their lives without thought of romance or adventure—fought that mankind might live in a better, a healthier world.

Like the malignant wars of politics, the benign wars of freedom and health have culled all the fields of human knowledge and society for effective weapons and soldiers. This book

is a simple and warm record of these soldiers and what they did. Here is a chemist, Pasteur, whose belief in his own work withstood the sneers and criticisms of the scoffers. A country doctor, Jenner, who did not hesitate to vaccinate his own son to prove the truth. A janitor, Leeuwenhoek, whose membership in the Philosophic Society was considered an honor to the society. A woman, Florence Nightingale, inspired by horror for the neglect of the wounded, the broken and discarded human remnants of war. All these and many more are the soldiers in the war for health, of which this book treats. Soldiers from high places and low, seeking not decorations or praise, but merely that sense of satisfaction that comes from helping to make this world a fairer place in which to live. They have fought a constructive war, a war to help guarantee that new political goal—the "Four Freedoms."

# PART ONE

# REVOLT

The human body is like a nation. When each part is behaving itself and doing its work properly, the body is healthy. But if one part stops working, or begins to interfere with the function of another part, then there is trouble—sometimes even civil war.





