

death, her sister wrote an unsigned letter to Benjamin Franklin, suggesting that a tract of land be awarded Mrs. Wright for her services ("Mr. Pain has been Considerd why not Mrs. Wright"). Patience Wright never got her land, but she is remembered in Britain's *Dictionary of National Biography* as well as the *Dictionary of American Biography*.

GUERRILLA: A Historical and Critical Study

by Walter Laqueur
Little, Brown, 1976
462 pp. \$17.50
L of C 76-22552
ISBN 0-316-51469-1

In this exhaustive but carelessly edited analysis, historian Laqueur proves beyond question that guerrilla movements defy easy generalization. There is no all-encompassing formula that helps explain why some guerrilla wars succeed and other fail. Most do fail. In the 19th century, no guerrilla movement managed to win without the support of a regular army, foreign or domestic. (The same was true in Vietnam, where Hanoi's regular battalions were essential to Communist victory.) And despite the political achievements of some 20th-century efforts (in Cuba, Algeria, Portuguese Africa), the conditions conducive to continued success of guerrillas have faded with decolonization and the absence of the turmoil and distractions of general war. Guerrillaism, says Laqueur, is on the decline: "The retreat into urban terror, noisy but politically ineffective, is not a new departure but . . . the end of an era."

SUN YAT-SEN: Frustrated Patriot

by C. Martin Wilbur
Columbia, 1976, 413 pp.
\$16.50
L of C 76-18200
ISBN 0-231-04036-9

Born in a Macao fishing village, educated by Christian missionaries, revered today by hundreds of millions of Chinese as *Kuo Fu* ("Father of the Country"), Sun Yat-Sen (1866-1926) did not live to see Mao's revolution. Sun dreamed of ridding his homeland of Manchu corruption. Captured in an early, abortive uprising against the monarchy (Canton, 1896), he was condemned to death. He escaped and spent the next 16 years abroad, working furiously as publicist-evangelist for a democratic China among foreign officials, newsmen, financiers, and his overseas compatriots. Late in 1911, he sailed from the United States for Shanghai as the first, provisional President of the Republic. Amid fac-