students, scientific students and laboratory technicians. The book will also have a wide appeal to clinicians and pathologists in many different branches, particularly those in hospital practice.

J. A. DUDGEON

NOTES ON MEDICAL VIROLOGY By Morag C. Timbury. (Pp. 106; 8 tables. 10s. 6d.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1967.

This small volume on medical virology is based on lectures given to medical students at the University of Glasgow. The viruses described are grouped on the basis of the diseases they cause in man. Each chapter includes a brief summary of the clinical features, and details of epidemiology, methods of diagnosis, and prevention. Dr. Timbury's lucid style and admirable organization of the subject matter has resulted in a most attractive and useful book which, considering its size, is remarkably comprehensive. This book is strongly recommended for medical and veterinary students for whom it will provide both a useful introduction and framework on which to build further knowledge of medical virology.

J. A. DUDGEON

THE HAEMOLYTIC ANAEMIAS, PART III Secondary or Symptomatic Haemolytic Anaemias 2nd. ed. By J. V. Dacie. (Pp. ii + 273; illustrated. 60s.) London: J. and A. Churchill Ltd. 1967.

The author's present book has been awaited for a number of years. It is the third member of his series of four monographs on the haemolytic anaemias. The first of the three chapters is devoted to the haemolytic anaemias associated with malignant disease of the lymphoreticular system—Hodgkin's disease, chronic lymphatic leukaemia, reticulosarcoma, lymphosarcoma, and giant follicle lymphoma in addition to macroglobulinaemia, myelomatosis, miscellaneous forms of leukaemia, myelosclerosis, and other reticuloses. Descriptions of the haemolytic anaemias associated with other types of malignant tumours such as disseminated carcinoma and ovarian tumours complete this chapter. The succeeding chapters consist of accounts of haemolytic anaemias associated with a wide variety of non-malignant states including disorders of collagen, various infections, disease of the liver, kidneys, and vascular system, sarcoidosis, pregnancy, hypersplenism, vitamin deficiencies, burns, cardiac surgery, and march haemoglobinuria.

Excellent descriptions of the blood pictures, clinical and serological findings, pathogenesis of haemolysis and the effects of treatment on haemolysis are given throughout. They are accompanied by comprehensive reviews of the literature and interspersed with the author's unrivalled observations, many of them heretofore unpublished. The standard of the illustrative photomicrographs is expectedly high, and the index is comprehensive. Suggestions relating to further researches in this field are included.

This book is highly recommended. Of more than ephemeral value, it should be on the shelves of all those who have to deal with haemolytic states in the ward or in the laboratory. A must for those within the speciality of

haematology, it will prove invaluable to physicians and pathologists alike. There is also much to interest the modern surgeon.

E. K. BLACKBURN

THYROTOXICOSIS Edited by W. J. Irvine. (Pp. xii + 259; illustrated. 50s.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1967.

Thyrotoxicosis was the subject of an international symposium held in the Postgraduate Medical Centre in Edinburgh last in May, 1967. The proceedings are now published and provide a comprehensive account of present knowledge in this field. The various aspects of pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment are present in individual papers by well known authorities, including veterans of thyroidology such as Astwood and Werner, and each paper is followed by a well edited informal discussion. The most exciting development has been the identification of the long-acting thyroid stimulator (LATS) as an IgG immunoglobulin. The six contributions dealing with LATS describe recent evidence on the biological effects, the biochemistry, the genetic aspect and the experimental production of this factor which is now thought to be an autoantibody to a thyroid constituent and is probably responsible for the continued overactivity of the thyroid gland in Graves' disease. Evidence is also presented from recent radioimmunoassay measurements of TSH that the pituitary-thyroid axis behaves quite normally in thyrotoxicosis. Some interesting studies on the ultrastructure of the thyrotoxic thyroid show how closely LATS mimics the effects of TSH although the two substances are quite distinct.

The treatment of Graves' disease is thrashed out in some detail. Owing to the ever increasing incidence of myxoedema after ¹³¹I therapy, various methods are being tried of reducing the dose of isotope and combining it with prolonged carbimazole administration. No separate paper is devoted to the surgical treatment of thyrotoxicosis, which is a pity. There are certain accepted traditions which would benefit from some degree of critical revision yet for many patients thyroidectomy is still the treatment of choice. Ophthalmic Graves' disease is discussed in great detail, including the elusive subject of exophthalmos-producing-substance (EPS), its relation to LATS, and the recent efforts at treating malignant exophthalmos with immunosuppressive drugs. Parathyroid and calcitonin deficiency in relation to thyroidectomy also receive some attention. Each paper includes an up-to-date bibliography. This is an excellent symposium, and by virtue of its rapid publication provides a most useful method of communication for all those who wish to obtain a concise survey of present knowledge on thyrotoxicosis and the horizons for further research. The convenor of the symposium and the editor of its proceeding, Dr. W. J. Irvine, and the publishers should be congratulated.

D. DONIACH

A GUIDE TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE GENERA OF BACTERIA 2nd. ed. By V. B. D. Skerman. (Pp. xii + 303; illustrated. 78s.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1967

This is a companion volume to Bergey's 'Manual of determinative bacteriology' (7th edition). It has 330 pages.

In addition to the key for bacterial genera, standard methods are given, with references, on which to base identification. In this edition a brief account of numerical analysis applied to identification is also included.

The digest of genera is particularly useful for quick reference, and the key to genera also lists names used in modern standard books of bacteriology in English, French, and German, in addition to those used in the Manual. Although Latin names are universally employed, habits of nomenclature in the literature are variable and it is helpful to have this part of the book brought up to date.

If methods for obtaining anaerobiosis are to be included a Mackintosh and Fildes jar and Brewers jar are worthy of mention. The reader should also be warned that some indicator of anaerobiosis is essential for reliable work and that a single plate method with pyrogallol, as described here, is a poor substitute for a jar with an indicator.

For the medical bacteriologist the book is useful for occasional quick reference and particularly for elucidation of nomenclature encountered in foreign literature. The type is clear and no printing errors were discovered.

E. JOAN STOKES

REVIEW OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY 7th Ed. By E. Jawetz, J. L. Melnick, and E. A. Adelberg. (Pp. 492; illustrated. 50s.) Los Altos, California: Lange Medical Publications.

This edition is even better than its predecessors. It contains a remarkable quantity of accurate up-to-date information but at the cost of some indigestibility. A reader with no previous knowledge would find it hard to distinguish wood from trees. However, the book is very suitable for senior students, and excellent for post-

graduates requiring an authoritative reintroduction to microbiology.

The chapter on chemotherapy has been rewritten and a new chapter added on viruses and cancer. Much space is given to metabolism, genetics, and virology—a welcome emphasis in a modern elementary textbook.

The chapters on viruses are excellent. Those on immunity and hypersensitivity, though good, are not outstanding. This expanding field would justify rewriting and a little more space in future editions. There are few details to criticise; the table of chemical disinfectants (p. 122) should be revised; mercuric and quaternary ammonium compounds are not suitable for disinfecting instruments and inanimate objects.

W. A. GILLESPIE

CANCER RESEARCH TODAY By I. Berenblum. (Pp. xii + 151; illustrated. 30s.) Oxford and London: Pergamon Press. 1967.

Cancer research has become a complex subject directly involving thousands of research workers and indirectly a great many more. To keep up to date requires regular study of the many relevant journals and reviews but, as Dr. Berenblum points out, to understand the significance of current research it is often necessary to know what has gone before. This book is a pocket guide to both past and present.

It is reasonably comprehensive in its scope, with clinical sections for the non-medical oncologist and a useful chapter on methods which should at least dispel the clinicians' customary scorn for the laboratory mouse. Naturally in only 148 pages the treatment is superficial but the writing is clear and, as one might expect, the phenomena of initiation and promotion are especially well-expounded. As an introduction for doctors, nurses, or laboratory technicians, to a subject which they are very likely to encounter at some time or other, this is a useful book.

H. E. M. KAY