The section on the treatment of renal disease is particularly worthy of study. Classification is based on recent lines and a differentiation is made of pedo-nephritis, that is, the focal nephritis of children. It is pointed out that this type, in spite of the presence of albumen, casts and occasional blood cells in the urine, is comparatively innocuous, and though persistent does not demand the same absolute rigidity of treatment as do the more severe types.

Three simple tests for renal efficiency are described. In the treatment of acute nephritis the traditional and empiric administration of milk diet is condemned on the grounds of the high salt, water and protein content of such a diet: salt-free diet is advocated, the water content to be regulated as far as possible by the previous day's excretion (a measure which may with advantage be followed in more chronic states), and protein is at first excluded from the diet. Sugar days, an exclusive diet of sugar for some days, to be followed by the guarded introduction of a carbohydrate-fat diet, are suggested. In chronic nephritis a more liberal diet is of course admitted, the protein being limited not by the presence of albumen in the urine, but by the non-protein nitrogen blood content. The middle section of the book is devoted to therapeutic technique and a remarkably wide range of subjects is presented, for example heliotherapy, baths, lumbar puncture and intracardial injections. Other therapeutic measures not found here are described under the appropriate subjects. It is interesting to find a distinction between tonsillotomy and tonsillectomy, hitherto we had regarded the former as a failed tonsillectomy. The author does not recommend it.

The final section, drugs and formulas, presents a comprehensive pharmacopœia to which is added a long list of proprietary preparations, many of which are of course unfamiliar, but others of which, thanks to energetic advertising, have gained a place in the formulary of many physicians in this country. Many interesting formulæ for "difficult feeders" are included. There are two particularly useful features in this section, the first being that for all drugs in common use the appropriate dosage for the different ages of infancy and childhood is given, and the other that, in the case of poisonous drugs, the symptoms of overdose and the treatment of poisoning are described. Tropical diseases are not included, possibly no disadvantage as in a general textbook such subjects, when included, seldom receive but scant and uninformative attention.

E. H. V. H.

BACTERIOLOGY APPLIED TO NURSING.—By Jean Broadhurst, Ph.D., and Leila I. Given, R.N., M.S. London: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1930. Pp. 498, with 290 illustrations, 2 in colour. Price, \$3.00. Obtainable from Messrs. Butterworth & Co. (India), Ltd. Price, Rs. 9-6.

THE importance of the functions of the trained nurse in the operation theatre and by the patient's couch can hardly be minimised. The carrying out of the doctor's instructions faithfully and intelligently are the essential features demanded of an efficient nurse. Unless a perfectly rational understanding of the measures adopted in the sick room is assured, the nurse may not be expected to fulfil this function to satisfaction. The book under review is an admirable volume attempting to explain in lucid and non-technical language modern bacteriological knowledge with a view to helping the nurse to understand her part intelligently. The book is divided into five convenient parts. The first three chapters may be treated as introductory, describing the microscope, the cell and the place of bacteria in the order of human existence. The second part—Chapters IV to VII—deals more fully with the bacteria, protozoa, etc. Chapters VIII and IX are devoted to the consideration of the rôle of bacteria as a part of our general environment. In the fourth part—Chapters X to XIII—the relationship of bacteria to diseases,

the modes of bacterial infection, the natural resistance of the organism to these onslaughts and the help part played in the process by vaccines and sera are outlined.

The last part is devoted to a descriptive treatment of anaphylaxis and a general consideration of the many laboratory tests with their bacteriological significance.

A style free from the pedantry of unnecessary technical terms, the instructive charts and textual diagrams and the method of treatment of the subject-matter have all contributed towards the making of a unique volume on the subject and we commend the book to all those interested in the training of nurses in this country.

S. S. R.

STATE BOARD QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR NURSES. Compiled and edited by J. A. Foote, M.D. Eighth edition. 1930. London: J. B. Lippincott Co. Pp. 600. Price, 15s. net. Available in India from Messrs. Butterworth & Co. (India), Ltd., 6, Hastings Street, P. O. Box 251, Calcutta. Rs. 11-4-0.

THIS is a most useful publication, which should be of special interest to nurses. It consists of questions and answers to them in the actual examination papers for the title of registered nurse set in 31 States in the U. S. A. The answers have been compiled from the actual answer papers sent in. The range of subjects covered is a very wide one; and includes materia medica and therapeutics, anatomy, physiology, hygiene and bacteriology, general nursing and contagious diseases, surgical nursing, gynaecological nursing, obstetrical nursing, dietetics, the ethics of nursing, chemistry and physics, psychiatric and neurological nursing; whilst a new section deals with the newer type of questions. In the present edition over 60 pages of new material have been added.

Annual Report.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1928-29. LONDON: H. M. STATIONERY OFFICE. PRICE, 3s. NET. INDIAN AGENTS: MESSRS. THACKER, SPINK AND CO., CALCUTTA AND SIMLA. MESSRS. THACKER & CO., BOMBAY. MESSRS. HIGGINBOTHAMS, LTD., MADRAS AND BANGALORE.

INDIA may always take a pride in that, when the stern necessities of the Great War made an intensive study of war diseases imperative, the Privy Council in Great Britain went to India for their inspiration, and created a Medical Research Committee very much on the lines of the Indian Research Fund Association. Later, this became the Medical Research Council, and year by year the work of this Council becomes of ever increasing importance. Although its main activities centre in the National Institute for Medical Research at Hampstead, yet very numerous research schemes and clinics at the larger hospitals throughout Great Britain are financed by it, whilst it is in intimate contact with the Colonial Medical Research Committee. In 1928-29, with an income of £148,000, provided by Parliament, its programme for research was a very widespread one. Special investigation committees dealt with problems in human nutrition, accessory food factors, dental disease, mental disorders, tuberculin, the bacteriology of tuberculosis, the hæmolytic streptococci, vaccination, canine distemper, radiology, with special reference to cancer, X-ray standardisation, the biological actions of light, chemotherapy, salvarsan, the physiology of vision and of hearing, the properties of hæmoglobin, general bacteriology, status lymphaticus and the causes of