needles, posology and incompatibilities have been extensively dealt with. A large number of formulæ, English and Latin vocabularies, organotherapy and bibliography have also been appended.

The book is recommended to medical students, general practitioners and pharmacists as a book of reference for everyday use.

R. N. C.

DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT. (CATECHISM SERIES.)—Revised by W. S. Syme, M.B., F.R.F.P.S. Second Edition. E. and S. Livingstone, Edinburgh. Pp. 68. Price, 1s. 6d. Postage, 2d.

Books of the Catechism Series are sufficiently well known not to require any introduction. This small volume has been compiled in the form of questions and answers. Consequently it is likely to command a certain amount of popularity. Considering the small size of the book, it is remarkable that very little of importance has been left out. The chief objection to books of this type, is that, they are liable to encourage the reprehensible habit of cramming. Used intelligently, this book is likely to be of some use to the examinee for the purpose of rapid revision of a special subject.

P. N. R.

SIMPLE KEY FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANOPHELINE LARVÆ FOUND IN THE SIBSAGAR DIVISION, ASSAM. Tables arranged by Dr. D. Mason and Dr. L. R. Dey, Cinnamara Central Laboratory, Assam

THIS publication consists of five tables which are well arranged and have the advantage of presenting a good many of the diagnostic points in the form of a one-point key, instead of the usual wholly dichotomous keys.

It should prove of great value to workers in the area for which it has been compiled.

A TEXTBOOK OF GENERAL BACTERIOLOGY.—By Edwin O. Jordan, Ph.D. Eleventh Edition. 1935. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London. Pp. 825. Illustrated. Price, 25s.

As a textbook for students of bacteriology the popularity of this book is well deserved and is reflected in the production of its eleventh edition. The general arrangement follows the usual plan adopted in textbooks on bacteriology and it is difficult indeed to find faults with a book of such established reputation. The text has been thoroughly revised and in it is contained much useful information in a readily accessible form which makes this book particularly valuable to the advanced students of bacteriology.

C. L. P.

HANDBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGY.—By J. W. Bigger, M.D., Sc.D. (Dub.), F.R.C.P.I., D.P.H., M.R.I.A. Fourth Edition. 1935. Baillière, Tindall and Cox, London. Pp. xvi plus 458, with 5 coloured and 93 other illustrations. Price, 12s. 6d.

WE recently reviewed the third edition of this book and the appearance of another edition within four years of its predecessor is an indication of its popularity. This is one of the very few textbooks on bacteriology which has not increased in size and still retains a form well suited for the medical student. It is concisely written, clear, comprehensive and contains a straightforward account of the essential facts. The recent advances in the subject have been incorporated in this edition. The medical student has a vast number of textbooks on bacteriology from which to make his selection and often this is no easy task. This is one of the few that can be confidently recommended.

C. L. P.

A TEXTBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGY.—By T. B. Rice, A.M., M.D. 1935. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London. Pp. 551, with 119 illustrations. Price, 21s.

THIS is one of the shorter textbooks of bacteriology which supplies all the real fundamentals necessary for a student. The classification and nomenclature is based on the modern system, the old nomenclature is also given. The chapters on filtrable viruses, immunity, bacterial virulence, toxin, antitoxins and agglutinins are particularly good for the concise and comprehensive way in which these subjects have been dealt with.

The inclusion of the more important pathogenic protozoa in a small chapter will be appreciated by the busy practitioner though it is inadequate for the needs of a medical student in the tropics. The five appendices at the end of the book contain some very useful summaries and information which will prove of very great help.

C. L. P.

PATHOLOGY.—By James Miller, M.D., F.R.C.P.E. Parts I and II. Fourth Edition. (Catechism Series.) 1935. E. and S. Livingstone, Edinburgh. Pp. 152. Illustrated. Price, 1s. 6d. each part. Postage, 2d.

FOR a student who has completed an undergraduate course in pathology and who wishes to refresh his memory on important technical points these two volumes have many advantages. They are written in a concise and clear manner and the information contained in them covers the whole field of pathology required by a medical student.

There is a tendency by teachers to discourage the use of books of this type. This is based on the fear that the student might be tempted to regard these compact volumes as substitutes for lecture notes or textbooks. An inherently lazy student might do so and there is nothing to prevent such a student taking the 'easy path', but an intelligent student will use these books as valuable aids in his understanding of the matter contained in his textbook. It is easier, we venture to think, to write large textbooks, but more difficult to summarize in a few pages all the important points in a subject, and in this the Catechism Series to which these two little volumes belong have succeeded very well. We would encourage the intelligent use of these booklets by students of pathology.

C. L. P.

CHRONIC STREPTOCOCCAL TOXÆMIA AND RHEUMATISM.—By J. D. Hindley-Smith, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. 1935. H. K. Lewis and Company, Limited, London. Pp. xi plus 276. Price, 7s. 6d.

AS the author points out in the preface, this book has appeared at a time when medical attention is being focused upon the ætiology of chronic rheumatism and allied disorders. In it Dr. Hindley-Smith advances, with much logical reasoning, a claim for the study of those ailments which do not correspond to textbook disease entities. Certainly it is becoming increasingly common for persons with vague and chronic disorders 'untabulated and falling into none of our preconceived definitions of disease' to present themselves for treatment, and requiring careful and laborious investigation before a precise diagnosis can be arrived at. Those called upon to treat such cases will find in this book much with which he is in agreement and much that will help to solve his difficulties.

An hypothesis is very convincingly advanced by which it is shown that most chronic unknown ailments are due to an acid toxæmia. That this is brought about by chronic poisoning of the human organism by toxins of such a nature that its reactions use up the alkali reserve of the tissues, and cause a shifting of the pH value towards acidity of all the cells and secretions of the body excepting the blood stream. Its causes are many and various and range from worry,