

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

GENERAL PATHOLOGY

General Pathology. 2nd edition. Edited by Sir Howard Florey, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. Pp. xv + 932. Illustrated. 84s. net. London: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. 1958.

This second edition varies a little from the first, which appeared under the title *Lectures on General Pathology*. The sequence of the chapters has been changed and several very valuable new chapters have been added, including chapters on thrombosis, the metabolic changes following injury, atherosclerosis, and tumours. Each of these, in the tradition set by the previous edition, is contributed by recognized experts in the field. As may thus be expected, the present edition is up to date in every sense.

I regard this text-book as an outstanding contribution on the principles of general pathology, including the contents submitted by acknowledged experts, many of which have contributed significantly to the subject on which they write. It is the advanced student who will derive the most benefit from the book, and it should also be included in the library of every medical practitioner, no matter what branch of medicine he practices. C.J.U.

IDENTIFICATION OF BACTERIAL GENERA

A Guide to the Identification of the Genera of Bacteria. By V. B. D. Skerman. Pp. ix + 217. 5 figures. 44s. and \$5.50. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox Ltd. Baltimore: The Williams & Wilkins Company. 1959.

This publication is divided into 3 parts, the first 2 of which are complementary. The second part is a digest of the main features of the different genera, and the first is a key to the identification of microorganisms. The digest of data on the varying genera is arranged in a manner similar to that in Bergey's *Manual of Determinative Bacteriology* and the book in fact is described as a supplement to that manual.

The third section contains a brief account of certain practical methods of staining and culturing microorganisms and of their biochemical properties.

It is difficult to see what need this publication fills. Anyone wishing to consult such a guide would almost certainly prefer a more comprehensive text such as Bergey's *Manual*, and the methods described can be found in most standard texts on bacteriology. K.C.W.