Methods in Microbiology. Vol. 1, 1969. Edited by Norris, J.R. and D.W. Robbins. Academic Press, London and New York.

This first volume of a contemplated series includes nineteen chapters with twenty-two authors. The later volumes are in process which will bring the total number of contributors to about one hundred fifty.

The objective of the series is "to describe research techniques in microbiology at the practical level." Again, "Our main theme has been to provide sufficient practical detail to ensure that sorties into the original literature may be avoided." Further, "We have avoided areas which are already well-documented."

The editors have been surprisingly successful in this volume in achieving these objectives. The successive chapters discuss media and equipment, properties in constituents of culture media, sterilization of apparatus and media, processes for deep culture, laminar flow devices, safety in laboratory, membrane filter techniques, cultivation in a liquid medium, observation in the microbial division cycle, microculture, solid and solidified media, isolation and cultivation of single organisms, laboratory fermenters, deep culture of bacteriophage, physical and chemical evaluation of growth, evaluation of mycelial growth, use of the Coulter counter, viability evaluation, and determination.

The editors have succeeded in getting balanced organization without over-standardization.

Microbiologists interested in systematic bacteriology will find the volume useful, even though there is little direct reference to nomenclature or taxonomy.

The volume is well illustrated with uniformly styled drawings, diagrams and photographs.

- R. E. Buchanan

An illustrated key to the British freshwater ciliated protozoa commonly found in activated sludge. By C.R. Curds. Water Pollution Research Laboratory, British Information Services, 845 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Price \$2.00. 90 pp.

From the standpoint of water pollution, its prevention and cure, the microbiologist plays an important role. In the