rewrite their work with greater development of the general without stepping up significantly the algebraic prerequisites.   T. A. WHITELAW

CHAUNDY, T. W., *Elementary Differential Equations* (Oxford, at the Clarendon Press, 1969), xii+414 pp., £3·75; paperback £2·00.

This book appears after the death of Dr. Chaundy who left it in manuscript form, the editing for publication having been carried out by Dr. J. B. McLeod. The first six chapters are concerned with standard methods of integration of ordinary differential equations—use of operator D, separation of variables and so on. In the succeeding chapters great use is made of the operator $\delta \equiv xd/dx$; the methods of solution by series expansions and definite integral are also described, leading onto consideration of hypergeometric functions. There is a final chapter on singular solutions.

The book has a rather old fashioned appearance in that there is great emphasis on manipulation and use of formulae. The style, too, is rather ponderous and over wordy; it is hard to imagine modern students finding the general presentation attractive.

It is also a little difficult to decide what sort of student would benefit from this book. Those reading engineering or science would find the almost total lack of reference to physical problems a great drawback. On the other hand mathematicians might find it useful in parts but not as a single course.

There is a fairly detailed list of contents at the beginning of the book but no index at the end; one is certainly needed. At the end of each chapter many examples are given but solutions are provided for only the first nine chapters.

                                                              R. JORDINSON