BOOK REVIEWS

PARANORMAL COGNITION
L. J. Bendit
(Faber & Faber, London, 1943. Pp. 79. 5s.)

The author adopts as a working assumption the hypothesis that the existence of extra-sensory perception has been proved beyond reasonable doubt. He discusses the different mental states in which these phenomena occur, contrasting the alert, critical attitude encouraged by Rhine in his experiments, with the dissociated, hysterical states in which comparable material is produced by mediums, people who are drugged or ill, etc. He points out that patients attending a doctor for psychotherapy may also produce symptoms or ideas which can be interpreted along these lines, and illustrates this by a series of examples from his own practice and non-professional experience. When the true nature of these symptoms is realized and explained, benefit to the patient results. The author considers that extra-sensory perception is, at least, very common both in man and in animals, and that it is probably to be associated with the sympathetic nervous system. As a rule protopathic, it may be lifted to an epicritic level. If neglected, these functions may become regressive and potentially morbid; an increasingly conscious control and integration with other functions are to be aimed at.

LANGUAGE AND THOUGHT IN SCHIZOPHRENIA
J. S. Kasanin
(University of California Press, 1944. $2.00. Pp. 133)

This small book contains material likely to give thought to all interested in the symptomatology of schizophrenia. The papers are all by authorities and each has contributed to the book. It is to be recommended to those interested in the abnormal cerebral processes encountered in this field of psychiatry.

ENGLETON’S INDEX AND ABSTRACTS OF LITERATURE ON PROGRESS IN INTRACRANIAL LESIONS RELATED TO AURAL AND NASAL CONDITIONS.
(Limited Edition, 1941)

This is a substantial volume of some 500 pages. Its substance is provided by a number of reviews of world literature on intracranial complications of aural and nasal sepsis. The reviews were originally published in the Archives of Oto-laryngology. They cover, with some interruptions, the period 1925-1940 and are here fully reprinted. The subject is widely and satisfactorily covered, and the index should prove a most valuable reference volume. A feature of the work is a very full subject index.

NARCOANALYSIS
J. Stephen Horsley
(Oxford Univ. Press, London, 1943. Pp. 134. 8s. 6d.)

The purpose of this book, says the author in his preface, is to describe a technique which he has devised in order to shorten the course of deep mental analysis and psychotherapy. The patient, drugged by barbiturate, talks freely and repressed, forgotten or withheld episodes of his history are made known to the observer. The information thus acquired is subsequently used in attempts to integrate the psyche.

The account of the method and of the results obtained is obscured by more or less relevant psychiatric jottings, and by random quotations from other authors. The structural formulæ of some of the barbiturates are given. There is the inevitable collection of dreams and a short chapter on malingering. It is a pity that Dr. Horsley has not supplemented the introduction of his valuable method of treatment by a pertinent and lucid description of its value and limitations.