

appear when a special demonstration was staged; (for the occasion would lead to variations in method that were unwittingly fatal to the demonstration, for no one knew what was important). The little that was known about the phenomena made no sense in terms of the science of the day, which recognized only gravitational, mechanical and chemical forces. The phenomena were trivial, and there were plenty of "ordinary" explanations that might have explained them. "Electricity" in those days was not, scientifically, a respectable subject. It may be that these telepathic and other phenomena are similarly just straws that show the movements of an otherwise unobservable atmosphere.

Be that as it may, Soal's book is as good as any written on the subject. It can confidently be recommended.

W. ROSS ASHBY.

General and Social Psychology, By R. H. THOULES. University Tutorial Press Ltd., London. Third Edition, 1951. Pp. 430. Price 17s. 6d.

"This book is intended for students studying for a degree in psychology"—as such it is quite excellent. It commands one's deep respect.

Much of this third edition has been completely rewritten and account has been taken of "new developments in psychology and new directions of interest". The book is indeed comprehensive.

It is evident that the author has read widely throughout his very big subject; having digested what he has read, assimilated and thought about it, he has presented his knowledge with clarity. The 316 references in the text are blended into a single, clear exposition. The facts and theories of psychology are placed in perspective with an apparent effortlessness which is always the product only of skill. The reader's attention is thus held.

This relatively small volume of well spaced type is packed with knowledge. The author's style is not expansive, he is not verbose and nothing in the book is redundant. This is not a book to be skimmed; it is a text book deserving to be studied, learnt and remembered.

C. E. H. TURNER.