PSI AND STATES OF AWARENESS

PROCEEDINGS OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD IN PARIS, FRANCE AUGUST 24–26, 1977



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Edited by Betty Shapin and Lisette Coly

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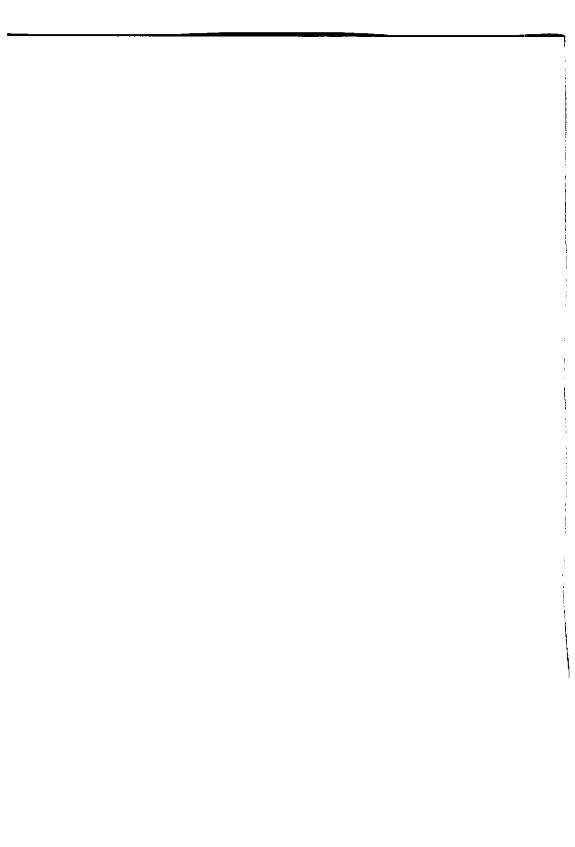
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INTRODUCTION

Angoff: I am Allan Angoff of the Parapsychology Foundation. For the Directors and Trustees, I call to order this Twenty-Sixth Annual International Conference of the Parapsychology Foundation.

Our theme, as you know, is "Psi and States of Awareness," and during the morning and afternoon sessions of these three days, August 24, 25, and 26th, we shall address ourselves to this topic from varying viewpoints. This conference, like our annual conferences over the years, indeed for more than a quarter of a century, brings together for presentation of information and for exchange of views, researchers and experimenters in parapsychology from all over the world. And this is in the tradition of the Parapsychology Foundation founder, Eileen Garrett—a great friend of learning, a distinguished researcher herself, who encouraged, as so many of you know, the most searching scientific investigation of parapsychological phenomena. Thus, our colleagues at these annual conferences have included some of the great names in science.

Today, as I open this meeting, I recall three of them who are no longer with us, and whose deaths during the past year (during these past few months, indeed) represent a grievous loss to parapsychology and the world of learning. I refer to Joost A. M. Meerloo of Amsterdam, William Grey Walter of Bristol, England, and Frances Payne Bolton who, with Eileen Garrett, established this organization which brings us together today. This conference is dedicated to these great figures and colleagues of our past conferences; and as we begin our discussions we may well recall them here with the legend: Presence Joost A. M. Meerloo, Grey Walter, and Frances Bolton. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. I will now introduce the President of the Parapsychology Foundation—Eileen Coly.

EILEEN COLY: Ladies and gentlemen, I'll make no great speeches. It is just my very great pleasure to welcome everybody—participants and observers. I think we'll have a very interesting meeting and—let's start.