Imagine American society completely under the influence of psychedelics at all times. The drugs are sold to the public under monopoly control at enormous prices by the "Syndicate" which in turn has virtual control over judicial and executive branches of State and Federal government. Key "Syndicate" men are strategically placed in all sectors of society and are selected according to criteria of psychic sensitivity; i.e., they are powerfully telepathic. Moreover, PSY-104 is rationed to the public in diluted form so that the psychedelic experience is kept within the bounds of specific sets of expectations—sexual, aesthetic and mystical. The "Syndicate" is controlled by a board of directors who are called "Specials." The "Specials" are super-sensitive who take unrationed amounts of undiluted PSY-104 and have therefore a full range of psychic powers which include telepathy, clairvoyance, telekinesis, etc. Understandably, the "Specials" still fight among themselves in a bizarre psychedelic rivalry. The final ingredient in this vision is a revolutionary movement called "Anis" whose goal is to overthrow the "Syndicate" and thereby restore the dominance of "natural" undrugged experience and values. It is only fitting that "Anis" is led by a natural "Special" who does not require PSY-104 for his psychic powers.

In reading this short novel one is struck by the familiar strands of thought about psychedelics drawn from the social and legal controversy of the last few years and spun into a paranoid web that easily transcends the fantasies of all the parties in the actual controversy. Charbonneau has spun a weird tale about a psychedelic society that has continued to function with the same old power structure and plastic-doll illusions. Psychedelics are used here to reinforce the old Marxist myths. We are led through, among other things, psychedelic nudist colonies, fornica-

**BOOKS RECEIVED**


Barton, Helen B.: *Nervous Tension, Behavior and Body Function*. New York, Philosophical Library Pp. 356. $5.00


Pincher, Chapman: *Not With a Bang*. New York, New American Library Pp. 256. $4.95


Owens, Claire Myers: *Discovery of the Self*. Boston, Christopher Publishing House Pp. 354. $3.95

Owens, Claire Myers: *Awakening to the Good; Psychological or Religious?*. Boston, Christopher Publishing House Pp. 273. $3.75