

and systematized. They arise either from the misinterpretation of some physical sensation or experience, or as elaborations from other phobias, which in turn developed out of the misconstruction of physical sensations. The object of the phobia is always a logical one. The cause is usually contemporaneous with the phobia or may just precede it. Among 672 cases of manic-depressive insanity the author found phobias in 65%, and in 10% among 544 cases of dementia præcox. In these two psychotic conditions the phobias are usually illogical. Whether logical or illogical they are uneradicable by reason or explanation or by facing the fear. In the psychoneuroses the fear can usually be removed by reason or explanation and by endeavouring to make the patient face the fear.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Growth of Visual Perception in Children.* (*Brit. Journ. Psychol., Monograph Supplements, No. 15, 1931.*) *Line, W.*

The author concludes that the ability to perceive form is dependent very largely on the same "g" that operates in all cognitive processes. The results support Spearman's contention that "relations furnish the woof and warp of shapes or whole qualities." Education in relations is vital to the cognition of "shape."

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Influence of Adrenal Extract on Behaviour and Mental Efficiency.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol., July, 1931.*) *Fersild, A. T., and Thomas, W. S.*

Adrenal extract was administered hypodermically by the authors to six persons for the purpose of studying its effect on (a) mental performance, (b) motor performance, (c) physiological response and (d) emotional behaviour. The results of the tests of mental and motor performance showed that adrenaline did not promote mental efficiency, whereas the motor activities were somewhat improved by the drug. Behaviour symptoms ranged from tremor to signs of restlessness and emotional irritability. The subjects reported "tingling" sensations, a feeling of "stuttering" and divergent affective experiences, such as feelings of strain, weeping spells, irascibility, fatigue and drowsiness subsequent to the experimental period.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Redintegration of Pleasant and Unpleasant Experiences.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol., July, 1931.*) *Stagner, R.*

The author found that unpleasant feeling-tone is associated with poor retention. Unpleasant events involve the setting up of some kind of tension, and in pleasant situations there is a release from tension. A reflex which results in satisfaction has its potency raised relatively to other reflexes conditioned to the same stimulus. The inadequate response is subject to the action of retro-active inhibition, in consequence of the fact that it is followed by other responses, whereas the successful one is not. Learning thus consists in selecting the correct response and inhibiting the incorrect.