to relieve the tension of unconscious strivings. This system of
sympathetic magic does not influence the environment as primitive
man believed, but only the processes of animate nature within the
individual, causing increased comfort, coordination and happiness.
The cultivation of taboo was developed at the same time to avoid
decoordination and anxiety. This sympathetic influence through
the medium of conditioned cerebro-spinal and autonomic reflexes,
affects (a) the association of ideas and coordination of skilful
movements in the inhibition of ideas and decoordination of move-
ments; (b) the genesis of affectivity, formation and neutralization
of wishes; and (c) the stimulation or depression of organs which
produce the vital energy for the struggle of carrying out the idea and
fulfilling the wish.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Influence of Complexity on the Fluctuations of the Illusions of
Reversible Perspective. (Amer. Journ. Psychol., October, 1931.)
Donahue, W. T., and Griffiths, C. H.

The authors carried out a series of experiments on six subjects,
using figures of varying complexity. They found that complexity
per se has a tendency to make the rate slower, although the differ-
ences in rate had but slight statistical significance. The figures
representing the more familiar objects fluctuated more rapidly
than those representing the less familiar objects, unless there was
unequal familiarity with the two interpretations of a figure. The
fluctuation-rate for all figures decreased rapidly during the course
of the experiment. Other things being equal, the rate of change
is proportional to the definiteness of the ideas involved in the two
interpretations, and to the approach to equality in definiteness of
the ideas involved in the two interpretations of a single figure.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

3. Psychiatry.

Clinical Findings in "Recovered" Cases of Schizophrenia. (Amer.
Journ. Psychiat., November, 1931.) Lewis, N. D. C., and
Blanchard, E.

A paper based on the findings of 100 cases discharged as recovered.
In 41% there was a family history of definite mental disorder.
Only 26% of the cases had made satisfactory previous adjustment,
and 73% had spent their youth in stressful families. Sexual adjust-
ments were notably poor. The ability to re-establish interest in
the environment is impaired in practically all persons who have
suffered from severe schizophrenic symptoms, and many of the
patients return to hospital.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

The Deeper Layers of Schizophrenic Psychoses. (Amer. Journ.
Psychiat., November, 1931.) Zilboorg, G.

Schizophrenia is but a link in a bio-psychological chain. It is
not an irreversible process, and further therapeutic studies may