

## EUROPEAN PSYCHOLOGY AS REPRESENTED IN THE ARCHIVES OF THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY

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The purpose of the Archives of the History of American Psychology (AHAP) was initially restricted to the preservation of unpublished documents and antique apparatus relevant to the history of psychology, but in 1980 the facility began to supplement these archival and museum functions by starting a 'Literature Center for the History of Psychology'. The first major acquisition was the library of Eunice and Josef BROŽEK. This has been supplemented by several additional libraries, including those of William BATTIG, David SHAKOW, E. Paul TORRANCE, William VERPLANCK, and Robert I. WATSON, Sr. Additional deposits have been promised and steady enlargement is anticipated. But, as the cornerstone, the BROŽEK library of 12,000 volumes is particularly relevant to this account since it is strong in works relating to Soviet and Slavic psychology. The collection is distinctive in the West because of the richness of the whole and the rarity of many of the individual items. The Literature Center includes additional deposits from the continent, the most concentrated being a series of volumes of Norwegian social science, contained in the Martin REYMERT Library.

These published books provide scholars with resources that are impressive in both quality and quantity, but they are not unique. More extensive and singular

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materials are encountered in the extensive unpublished archival holdings at AHAP. The scope of these and the system for locating items of particular interest, have been described in *Storia e critica della psicologia* (OCHSENHIRT, 1983) and in various technical reports available from the Archives on request. No comprehensive list of holdings is issued but *ad hoc* enquiries are welcomed. The main purpose of this paper is to provide readers with some facts about the extent of archival resources of European origin and the conditions under which they were generated.

The AHAP was founded in 1965. More than 600 individuals and organizations have contributed to the riches of the holdings. At this writing they include 675 m of documents (278 m processed with finding aids prepared and ready for scholarly use, at least 100 m unprocessed and awaiting the preparation of finding aids, and 297 m of materials which are in sealed storage until the expiration of restrictions imposed in order to protect confidential contents). There are uncounted tests and pictures, more than 600 pieces of historic apparatus, more than 70 films and 15 oral histories, both tapes and transcripts, on file as well as collections of ephemera such as newsletters, convention programs, and announcements of workshops. These items are supplemented by an adjunctive repository, "The Child Development Film Archives". This houses 96 km of motion pictures, photographed for exclusive use in research of growth phenomena in the human child.

The word American in the title of the Archives of the History of American Psychology refers to materials generated by psychologists who were born and worked or who functioned for some significant part of their professional life on the North American psychological scene. This focus does not come from a nationalistic bias but rather from the necessity for imposing some limits on holdings. American psychology originated in Europe and has been nourished by its traditions, and the Archives defines psychology as supra-national, pluralistic, extended in time and with highly permeable boundaries. It recognizes that "the field was affected by major events abroad and, as a result, primary source material relevant to the world-wide history of psychology and closely related disciplines emerges in various collections" (BROŽEK & McPHERSON, 1973, p. 237).

Pioneer American psychologists were forced to import not only ideas but also the apparatus which was deemed necessary if the 'new' or 'physiological' psychology were to become a true science. AHAP holds more than 600 historic instruments, some of European provenance: German, French, Dutch, Czechoslovakian, English, and Italian. This collection, described by POPPLESTONE, McPHERSON, and WHITMORE (1967) and DAVIS (1970), is among the four major accumulations available to scholars in the United States. It is supplemented by some rare turn-of-the-century catalogs issued by European manufacturers. A number of illustrated books and other photographs of the period portray just how the tools were used and help in the planning for the restoration of devices that have been damaged. Ironically, much less research attention has been devoted to the history of this equipment than its importance warrants, but there have been a few published papers (for example, DAVIS & MERZBACH, 1974, GUNDLACH, 1978; McPHERSON,

1980, POPPLESTONE, 1980; POPPLESTONE & McPHERSON, 1971; SOKAL, DAVIS & MERZBACH, 1976).

Documents are the most commonly consulted resources, and they disclose an impressive amount of first-hand, sometimes informal, observations about contacts with European psychology. AHAP preserves the corpus of the papers of two American who earned the doctorate in Europe: Raymond DODGE (Ph.D., Halle, 1896) and Edmund Burke DELABARRE (Ph.D., Freiburg, 1891). Unfortunately very little material generated during their educational residence has survived, although both men kept posters announcing their oral defense. DELABARRE did retain some notes on clinical problems in France in 1891 and DODGE's foreign correspondence during the 1920's and 1930's remains.

Several of the first generation of American trained psychologists supplemented their education with residence and study abroad, and some accounts of their experience are also on deposit. Foster P. BOSWELL attended lectures at Leipzig (BARTH, CHUN, and WUNDT) and Freiburg (HUMSTEDT, Von KRISS, and WEISMANN) in 1906, and in 1907 attended a class in Berlin (NAGEL). These class notes are accessible to researchers.

Henry Herbert GODDARD made various trips to the continent. In 1908 he visited hospitals and educational facilities in England, France, Switzerland, and Italy in order to observe methods for assessing and educating mentally retarded individuals. He kept a log of this journey and in it described the people and places that were visited. He learned about the BINET method of measuring intelligence and introduced the tests to the United States immediately after his return to the Vineland Training School in New Jersey. If GODDARD met BINET there is no record of it in the diary or other manuscripts. (AHAP has a few minor BINET items in a special gift of Theta WOLF, the biographer of BINET). Some GODDARD correspondence with European colleagues still exists: for example, DECROLY, DESCOEUDRES, and STERN.

Donald K. ADAMS was an important figure in the United States-Germany circuit in that he formed a wide circle of friends while studying at Berlin and Frankfurt during 1929 and 1931. These contacts were maintained by correspondence, and later when many of these people were stateless ADAMS was effective in helping them undertake the difficult task of relocation. The ADAMS papers are a particularly rich source for the history of European psychology.

Walter and Catherine MILES are two Americans who deserve special attention because of their extended contacts in Europe. Catherine Cox MILES first went to Germany in 1913-1914 to study at Berlin and Jena and returned in 1920 as a staff member of the American Friends Service Committee's facility which provided food for children. In 1920 Walter MILES first visited Europe, toured physiology laboratories (and a few on psychology) and compiled a diary, 265 typewritten pages in length and illustrated freely with photographs. The MILES spent time in England and Europe on other occasions, maintained correspondence with their hosts, and also recorded



various details of their journeys. The MILES's manuscript collection consists of more than 14 linear meters.

The Archives preserves a unique contribution from an American visitor to Austria in the form of an account by Pauline HAVRE, the wife of an American physician who was studying in Vienna. Mrs. HAVRE and a few friends obtained permission to audit a series of lectures given by FREUD in Vienna in 1926-27. She recalls the experience in an articulate and evocative memoir. Incidentally, this is the only unique FREUD material that the AHAP holds. In 1909 the American psychologists G.S. HALL, then President of Clark University, organized a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the founding of that institution and in response to HALL's invitation Sigmund FREUD made this meeting his only visit to the United States. AHAP has very little which directly reflects the Clark meetings, although there is a collection of photocopies of HALL-FREUD correspondence, some photographs of the participants, and an oral history from the woman who served as HALL's secretary at the time of the conference.

Following World War I a noticeable reversal in the direction of travel began when psychologists from Europe started to visit the United States, and later, when flight from HITLER was necessary, they took up residence. Karl BUHLER was a prominent member of this group but the traces of his stay in this country are scarce. They do include summaries, saved by David SHAKOW, of a series of lectures he gave at Harvard University in 1927-1928.

Kurt KOFFKA came to reside permanently in America in 1924, and the bulk of his manuscripts are housed at AHAP. These contain some papers written while he was living in Germany as well as correspondence throughout his life with fellow countrymen. These documents provide researchers with numerous rich items during the inaugural era of Gestalt psychology.

A substantial number of papers of a second prominent Gestaltist, Kurt LEWIN, are also at the AHAP. At the time of LEWIN's death the materials were widely dispersed but cooperative activity on the part of several psychologists has resulted in the acquisition of many documents as well as a few of the films that LEWIN made. The collection includes the material that Alfred MARROW assembled for the writing of the biography of LEWIN, *The Practical Theorist*.

AHAP also possesses a few unique materials relevant to Wolfgang KOHLER and to Max WERTHEIMER. These consist largely of letters, but there is also a lengthy Oral History given by Anne HORNBOSTEL, the widow of Max WERTHEIMER, and taken by his son, Michael WERTHEIMER.

These data in relation to Gestalt psychology are supplemented by audiotapes and transcriptions of a symposium held in Nebraska, 1978, "Gestalt Psychology: Germany to America". The contributors to this include people who knew personally the Gestalt founding fathers and their recollections furnish enlightening descriptions of events both prior to and after migration.

The manuscript collections of additional intellectual migrants are included in the AHAP holdings, but most of these deal with events after expatriation. The principals

include: David BODER, Wally REICHENBERG-HACKETT, Martin REYMERT, Klaus RIEGEL, Martin SCHEERER, and Hans-Lukas TEUBER. The Boder materials include both wire recordings and transcriptions of the interviews he conducted in the post-World War II displaced persons camps. The Reichenberg-Hackett papers include tests devised by Wilhelm STERN.

North American psychologists have been participants in international societies and the papers of these individuals furnish information about these societies and the meetings they have sponsored that go beyond the formal record provided by *Proceedings* and other communications. The papers of Morris VITELES include items developed in the course of his involvement in the International Psycho-Technical Association (1939, 1954-56) and in the International Association of Applied Psychology (between 1958 and 1968). Martin REYMERT's Papers reflect the 1928, 1948 and 1968 International Symposia on Feelings and Emotions. Edward C. TOLMAN was co-President of the 14th International Congress of Psychology held in Montreal, Canada in 1954 and his papers offer both private and official data concerning the event.

Three international societies have named the Archives the official depository of their records: The International Council of Psychologists; Cheiron (The International Society of the History of the Behavioral and Social Sciences), and, the International Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis. The recent, 1982, birth of Cheiron-Europe has not diminished the international flavor of the parent organization, founded in 1968.

In 1929 two international congresses were held in the United States (physiology in Boston, Massachusetts and psychology in New Haven, Connecticut). I.P. PAVLOV attended both of these meetings and also visited the Pavlovian Laboratory in Battle Creek, Michigan. American psychologists also met PAVLOV at additional international meetings, and some have been guests in his laboratory in Russia between 1907 and 1913 and between 1924 and 1935 in the Soviet Union. "Pavloviana in the USA: Archives of the History of American Psychology, University of Akron" (BROZEK & McPHERSON, 1973) records materials relevant to PAVLOV that have been accessed by AHAP up to 1973. An excerpt from the abstract of this article provides one illustration of the amount of data -with some good fortune- that may be gleaned from archival data: "...informative references to PAVLOV, including letters written by K.S. LASHLEY, R.M. YERKES, and J.B. WATSON. References to PAVLOV are also located in a variety of other sources, including reminiscences of psychologists and R.M. YERKES' "Obituary" of PAVLOV written in 1916. Pictures of PAVLOV and his close associates are reproduced from photographs and motion picture films" (p. 236).

Archival collections are in continuous growth and ten years after the above inventory the AHAP has acquired a film, "The Function of the Brain" ca. 1932 that was produced for PAVLOV as an account and demonstration of his work and that of his associates. The movie was shown at the 14th International Congress of Physiology, and was accompanied by PAVLOV's spoken commentary. This personalized origin adds a note of authenticity that is reassuring to historians who are searching for as direct contacts as possible with PAVLOV.



Similar additional first hand accounts relevant to many other psychologists continue to be discovered and to be accessed. Historians, with due cause, lament the destruction of records, but archival materials suggest that a two-way process is also operative: the passage of time both obliterates and yields data.

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