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Abstracts

I. Ideas, concepts and therapies through the ages

Hans Dieter Mennel

Arthur Schopenhauer and Neurophysiology

Arthur Schopenhauer represents a special philosophical trend in the succession of Immanuel Kant's transcendentalism, apart from the philosophical mainstream in Germany during the first half of the 19th century. His main tenets were published in his opus magnum *The World as Will and Representation* in the year 1819. This and some minor works remained unnoticed for nearly 30 years. Nevertheless, later on, his teachings of the supremacy of the blind will over the rational forces of mankind had far-reaching consequences in philosophy and cultural development not only in Germany. Schopenhauer was very familiar with the natural sciences since his early academic education. During his studies in Göttingen and Berlin, he attended courses in a variety of scientific disciplines, especially in life sciences as a pupil of the renowned naturalist Blumenbach. Preparing his main treatise *The World as Will and Representation*, he documented in his preparatory notes (*Handschriftlicher Nachlass*) the reception of articles of Johann Christian Reil's *Archiv für die Physiologie* and especially themes on central and peripheral nervous function herein. Schopenhauer claimed, that data of physiology of the nervous system confirm his philosophical theories. Since it is the human body where we experience the will as a driving force, human physiology and mainly neurophysiology constitute the immediate empirical complements of the mentioned demand. As the extension of the crucial role of the will on the whole nature is only possible by analogy, other branches of natural science play also a pivotal, but only analogous role.

Keywords: Arthur Schopenhauer, Johann Christian Reil, Neurophysiology, 19th century, metaphysics of Will.

Christian Prüter-Schwarte

Emil Kraepelin and „The Abolition of Punishment“: The Debate on Penal Reform

In the debate on penal reform in the late 19th century, psychiatrists strove to expand their territory of influence into criminal justice. This objective was mirrored in the book „The Abolition of Punishment“ by Emil Kraepelin published in 1880. Kraepelin called for the abolition

of penal sentences in favor of an individualized treatment and a restructuring of the criminal law on the model of the psychiatric clinics. The traditionally antagonistic relationship between criminal justice and psychiatry should be transformed into a symbiotic one, in which the psychiatrist would have a significant say in terms of the treatment of offenders. From a medical point of view, the concept of culpability was not tenable. Kraepelin considered a crime as determined behavior for which the offender could not be held responsible on grounds of the natural-scientific causative principle. This paper illustrates the influence German psychiatrists wanted to have on the development of society in the light of academic positivism shaped by natural sciences.

Keywords: Abolition of punishment, Kraepelin, penal reform, 19th century.

Marion Reich

The Fate of the „Little Scholz“: Dr. Ludwig Scholz and his “Guide for Nurses of the Mentally Ill” in Fifteen Posthumous Editions From 1919 to 1950

The „Guide For Nurses of the Mentally Ill“ by Dr. Ludwig Scholz (1868-1918) was first published in 1900. In 2004, Kai Sammet provided a detailed description of its contents, its origin and medical historical background. For a surprisingly long time, the “Little Scholz” was considered the standard reference for psychiatric nursing, witnessing a total of 26 editions between 1900 and 1950. Editions 2 to 12 were edited and revised by the author himself. This paper primarily follows the fate of fifteen posthumous editions since 1919. Significant changes and amendments made in a number of editions by different authors reflect not only medical history, but also the political context of the era in question. From 1919 to 1930 (editions 13 to 22) Adolf Dannemann took on the task of editing the book by mostly following the original with the exception of necessary updates. Valentin Faltlhauser took over as editor from 1935 to 1940 (editions 23 to 24). Faltlhauser was a leading proponent of Nazi “euthanasia” ideology, and as director of the mental institution in Kaufbeuren-Irsee, he was responsible for the murder of countless patients. Altering the original text according to his eugenic beliefs, and later merging it with his own book “Mental Health Care”, he instrumentalized the still widespread reputation of the “Little Scholz” for his purposes. Finally, in 1949 and 1950, Lothar Ziegelroth, director of the mental hospital in Altscherbitz (Soviet Occupation Zone), managed to revive a “denazified” version.

Keywords: Ludwig Scholz, psychiatric nursing, textbook, “Euthanasia”.

Joachim Heinrich Demling

The History of Phenothiazine Neuroleptics, Part 2: Structural-Chemical and Clinical Development Lines, Adverse Effects and Neurobiological Hypotheses

The first part of this history of the tricyclic antipsychotics described the period from the origins in the 19th century up to the clinical use of the first medication (chlorpromazine) at the beginning of the 1950s. The following second part deals with the scientific and clinical resonance, the further development of phenothiazine antipsychotics and tricyclic successors (thioxanthenes, clozapine), initial reports of undesirable effects, and, closely linked to the mechanisms of action of these medications, the formulation of hypotheses on the

neurobiology of the schizophrenic psychoses. Historically, the tricyclic phenothiazine structure was the most important starting point for the developing psychiatrically effective medications and decisively advancing both the natural scientific ("biological") groundwork and the medicalisation and humanisation of psychiatry as a research and clinical discipline.

Keywords: phenothiazines, thioxanthenes, adverse effects, schizophrenia, history.

II. Science and research in the shadow of the "long 19th century"

Peter Theiss-Abendroth

Traumatic Psychosis Between 1888 and 1945: From Compensating to Killing the Affected

Over the last years, researchers have paid increasing attention to causal links between traumatic experiences, particularly in infancy and psychotic disorders. Such concepts can be traced as far back as the late 19th century, but failed to establish themselves in the German discussion on traumatized combatants of World War I and their potential pension claims. Veteran associations set great hopes on the National Socialist regime. Yet instead of being recognized in their rights, psychotic veterans were ostracized and persecuted. Many of them fell victim to Nazi euthanasia programs.

Keywords: Hermann Oppenheim, trauma, psychosis, World War I, Nazi euthanasia.

Bernd Reichelt and Thomas Müller

Note: „Anatomy“. The Relationship Between the Württemberg Asylum of Zwiefalten and the Anatomical Institute of the University of Tübingen during National Socialism

This paper addresses the movement of bodies of deceased psychiatric patients from Württemberg asylums to the Anatomical Institute of the Medical Faculty of the University of Tübingen during National Socialism in Germany. In illustrating this process in Württemberg, the organisation, the legal foundations and the nature of cooperation between asylums in Baden Württemberg, specifically the one in Zwiefalten, and the Anatomical Institute at the associated faculty of the University of Tübingen during National Socialism are examined. Presenting statistical data on the movement of dead bodies between these institutions, personal and detailed material of five biographies of former patients, whose corpses were transmitted to the Anatomical Institute of Tübingen University, will be portrayed. It becomes obvious that the corpses provided for medical purposes, and therefore being transmitted to the Anatomical Institute for study, mainly belonged to patients of lower social status (so-called *Staatspfleglinge*). Five patient biographies provide information about individuals from the group of patients under scrutiny here. Apart from long-term state regulations dating back to the 19th century, in the case of the asylum under study, additional precautions and arrangements were put into action during National Socialism in Germany.

Keywords: anatomy, psychiatry, National Socialism, Zwiefalten, Tübingen, World War II.

Bernd Holdorff

Neuroscientific Habilitations at the Charité in Berlin During the Nazi Era

Neuroscientific habilitations at the Charité in Berlin still took place under Karl Bonhoeffer during his tenure until 1938. After that they were taken on by external neurologists (Eberhard Bay and Hans Rosenhagen) and by Helmut Selbach, who was clinically active under Bonhoeffer's successor Maximilian de Crinis and conducted his research at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Brain Research in Berlin-Buch. Neuroscience in this huge complex of clinics and laboratories had widely surpassed Charité neuroscience, essentially during World War II and through funding programs of war medicine and war-related topics. Few co-workers of Karl Bonhoeffer were reserved about or even opposed to the Nazi authorities, in contrast to opportunism or loyalties of other young professionals. The case of Helmut Selbach is discussed in more detail in its ambiguous aspects and hardly convincing exoneration writings after the end of the war.

Keywords: Karl Bonhoeffer, Maximilian de Crinis, Helmut Selbach, Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institut für Hirnforschung.

Eberhard Gabriel

The Psychiatrist Wolfgang Holzer (1906–1980): The Complexity of Entanglements

Wolfgang Holzer (1906–1980), a member of „the inner circle of National Socialist psychiatry“? Is this possible? Wolfgang Holzer, who at that time was an assistant at the Department of Psychiatry and Neurology in Vienna and at that time had only been active in the field for five years, submitted a „Proposal for the creation of a research institute for active therapy of mental and nervous disorders“ in the late summer of 1944 (!). „It is mainly the current problem of euthanasia that confronts every responsible researcher with a new situation.“ Hubenstorf (2002) concluded from that proposal that Holzer should be considered a member of the inner circle of National Socialist psychiatry. Source material in Viennese archives (political evaluations by Holzer 1939, 1941 and 1943; Holzers own remarks about his political positions and those of his family; appointments to academic positions in 1945/1946 and commissions to reports by the authorities; testimonies of a witness during the trial against Emil Gelsing in connection with the murders of psychiatric patients in Gugging 1943–1945; psychiatric reports on the mental condition of Holzer in that time period) and the question of Holzer's intentions in these activities speak against the interpretation of Hubenstorf (2002).

Keywords: Wolfgang Holzer, psychiatrist, psychiatry under the National Socialist regime, National Socialist murders of patients, Mental Hospital Gugging, Emil Gelsing.

III. "On the spot" - Regional studies in psychiatry

Bernd Reichelt

Upper Swabia as a Psychiatric Landscape: Psychiatry and Rural Society in Württemberg in the 19th Century

After the Napoleonic Wars, the geographically peripheral Upper Swabia – a rural and Catholic region in Southern Germany – was incorporated into the Protestant Kingdom of Württemberg at the beginning of the 19th century. Accompanied by the ideas of the Enlightenment and the industrial revolution, the political change led to profound processes of change in the state, in economy, in society and in science. These also included the establishment of a modern medical administration and a state-run psychiatric system. The sparsely populated region of Upper Swabia became a geographical center for this re-measurement of psychiatry: three out of four state asylums in Württemberg were founded in secularized monasteries in Upper Swabia in the 19th century. This paper on the one hand deals with the development of state psychiatry within the new medical administration. On the other, it sheds light on the interactions between state-run institutional psychiatry and rural society in Upper Swabia. Social, denominational and agricultural aspects are addressed.

Keywords: psychiatry, state-run psychiatry, 19th century, institutional psychiatry, medical administration.

Kai Sammet

Where does the Frog Live? Knowledge Access, Intelligence Tests and Psychiatry: Gretchen A. in the State Hospital Hamburg Friedrichsberg, 1918/19

To date, little is known about the role mental testing played in German psychiatry. In this paper I discuss the case of Gretchen A., a 12-year-old girl labelled as an imbecile that was admitted to the asylum Hamburg Friedrichsberg in 1918. Gretchen was examined with a specific test invented by Wilhelm Weygandt (1870-1939), the so-called *Schwachsinnsprüfungskasten* for feeble-minded children. To estimate the role this test played, a description of other epistemological approaches is necessary in order to balance the weight and mutual relations of these different approaches utilised in diagnosing lunatics.

Keywords: Intelligence test, German psychiatry in the Weimar Republic, Asylum Hamburg-Friedrichsberg, epistemologies in psychiatry.

Kathleen Haack

"Everyone complains in the BFKH": Institutional Psychiatry in the GDR in the 1980s

This paper deals with the conditions in institutional psychiatry in the GDR, using the example of the Ueckermünde District Specialist Hospital (BFKH). Using materials from the archives of the Federal Commissioner for Stasi Documents (BStU), from regional state archives, and documents in the historical archives of the AMEOS Clinic in Ueckermünde, insights into the

desolate conditions are shown until the 1980s; likewise the extremely difficult attempts to overcome them. The aim is to stimulate comparative supra-regional research in order to be able to make generally valid statements about psychiatry in the GDR.

Keywords: district specialty hospital, Hans Eichhorn, psychiatry, German Democratic Republic, Ueckermünde.

IV. Between emancipation, denial and adaptation

Jana Prokop

Alice Sollier and Constance Pascal: Two Female Psychiatric Pioneers in France

Subject and aim: This paper deals with the work of the first female physicians in the field of psychiatry in France, addressing both the topic of the position of women as physicians and the development of psychiatry in France. Part of the aim is to gain insight to the history of psychiatry in France through the biographies of these two pioneering female physicians.

Material and Methods: The French women come from a circle of 29 women, who were found with the help of five reference works, including directories of the *Bibliothèque Universitaire de la Santé Paris*. An extensive archival, literary, and online search forms the basis for the biographies.

Results: The biographies of two French female psychiatrists are the focus of this paper, one of which has remained completely unexplored to date. Tracing the careers of these women revealed that a high level of personal commitment, courage and perseverance were indispensable character traits for early female physicians. Strong female personalities acted confidently within their means, published early, and, in some cases, simultaneously took on a mothering role. There is a constant and intense interplay between unexpected historical events as well as individual reactions of female physicians to the then changed circumstances.

Conclusions: It is possible to gain privileged access to historical facts through life stories. The example of the two selected female psychiatrists clearly illustrates the hurdles women had to overcome and the continued efforts to gain access to training and higher career positions. As pioneers, the two women opened up new fields of study and work for subsequent generations.

Keywords: physicians, women, history of medicine, 20th century, history of psychiatry, France, biography.

Burkhard Brückner

Adolf Glöklen: A Key Figure in the German Lunatics' Rights Movement in the Early 20th Century

In this paper, the social movement of (former) psychiatric patients in the German Empire between 1880 and 1925 is reevaluated from a history of experience perspective. The main

focus is on the biography and work of Adolf Glöklen (1861 to approx. 1935), a former patient and activist from Heidelberg, whose personal accounts and medical files are assessed. This serves as a starting point for analyzing the politics and the impact of the *Bund für Irrenrechts-Reform und Irrenfürsorge*, a lunacy law reform and welfare association founded by Glöklen in 1910.

Keywords: psychiatry, lunatics' rights movement, German Empire, Adolf Glöklen, *Bund für Irrenrechts-Reform und Irrenfürsorge*.

Jan Armbruster

The Neuropathologist Karl-Heinz Elsaesser (1912-1979): Conflicting Priorities of Research Performance and Political Alignment - A Typical Career of a University Professor in the GDR?

Based on the files of the University Archive of the University of Greifswald, the paper deals with the changing professional biography of the neuropathologist Karl-Heinz Elsaesser and his various places of work. His academic career is traced chronologically up to his professorship for the specialist areas of neurology and psychiatry. In addition, his directorates at the mental hospitals in Rostock and Greifswald will be highlighted, taking into account his scientific work as well as his socio-political engagement in the context of the GDR. As a result, despite repeated ruptures due to personal difficulties - in the long-run - continuous advancement can be established, which reflects typical mechanisms of scientific development and university policy in the GDR.

Keywords: Karl-Heinz Elsaesser, University of Greifswald, history of neurology in the GDR, professorship in the GDR.

V. Historical Aspects of Neuropathology, Neurosurgery, and Neuropaediatrics

Uwe J. Neubauer

Lorenz Heister and the Treatment of Extradural Hematomas in the Early 18th Century

Trephination is a surgical technique known and used since ancient times; but until the late 17th century, surgeons operated primarily for depressed fractures. Hematomas were first and foremost seen as a source for infection and not as the cause of clinical symptoms of an initial trauma. Some earlier reports on the treatment of epidural hematomas exist (Tulp 1639), but it was only in the beginning of the 18th century that surgeons started to open the skull regularly in order to remove suspected hematomas. In Germany, it was Lorenz Heister (1683-1758) who made significant contributions to this treatment. He was a professor for anatomy, surgery and botany at the universities of Altdorf and later Helmstedt, where he wrote his *Compendium Anatomicum* in 1717 and two years later his surgical textbook "*Chirurgie - Wund-Artzney*", the first edition was published in 1719. In this book he describes in

great detail the clinical signs and symptoms of head injuries, the indications and most recent techniques in trephination. He was already aware of the peculiarities in dealing with posterior fossa hematomas, their difficult diagnosis and poorer prognosis compared to supratentorial hematomas. This is unique for the surgical literature of his time and is rarely found in other sources. Although he was aware that the pressure of the developing hematoma was the main dealing force and described the phenomenon of secondary deterioration, a clear description of a lucid interval is still missing.

Keywords: Lorenz Heister, trephination, extradural hematoma, 18th century.

Hans Michael Straßburg and Benjamin Kuntz

The „Neurological Diseases of Childhood“ by Georg Peritz (1870-1935): A Comparison of the 1912 and 1932 Editions

Georg Peritz was a pioneer of German neuropediatrics with his book "The Neurological Diseases of Childhood" published in 1912. In 1932, an even more extensive 2nd edition was published. He was an internist trained at the Charité in Berlin with a focus on endocrinology, and had worked together with the founder of German neurology, Hermann Oppenheim. He attained clinical experience in special child neurological clinics and during his private consultations. In addition, he was the head of the school for brain injuries in Berlin. In the 1912 edition, the classic neurological disease patterns known at that time are described based on extensive knowledge of anatomy and physiology. The importance of X-ray and CSF examinations are discussed. Typical clinical findings are documented with impressive photographs, but the representation of the mostly undressed patients is no longer ethically justifiable today. In the 1932 edition, he also describes pneumencephalography and, as a special method for understanding the "angiospastic constitution" postulated by him, sub-ungual capillary microscopy and his own measurements of changes in blood pressure. His ideas about epilepsy, genetic abnormalities and especially the development of behavioral disorders can no longer be shared today. Georg Peritz has an extensive list of publications on many other areas of endocrinology, neurology and metabolic physiology. Nothing is known about the last years of his life; after 1945 he was almost completely forgotten.

Keywords: Georg Peritz, neuropediatrics, Berlin Charité, neurological diseases of children, angiospastic constitution.

Detlef Ernst Rosenow, Michael Synowitz and Hans Joachim Synowitz

Looking Back on 100 years of Neurosurgical Activity at the II Surgical University Clinic of the Charité in Berlin (1868-1968)

By order of Friedrich I in 1709, the „Charité“ hospital in Berlin was founded in 1710. Initially it was a hospital to cope with the bubonic plague, which had already killed a great number of people at that time. The term „Charité“ (French for welfare) stands for the treatment of patients irrespective of their social provenance. The care of patients and academic teaching were the two mainstays of this institution from its very beginning. In 1816, by order of the Prussian King Friedrich Wilhelm III, a clinic for surgery and ophthalmology was founded at the Charité and in 1868 this department was split into two independent departments:

surgery and ophthalmology. Thereafter, the surgical department was named II Surgical University Clinic. Simultaneously with the founding of the Berlin University in 1810, a „Royal Clinical Institute for Surgery and Ophthalmology“ was founded, which was named „I University Clinic“, with Ferdinand von Graefe as its first head of the department. Both academic institutions saw renowned masters of their discipline, be it Adolph von Bardeleben (1819-1895), Franz König (1832-1910), Otto Hildebrand (1858-1917), Ferdinand Sauerbruch (1875-1951), Willi Felix (1892-1962) or Hans Joachim Serfling (1913-2004) at the II Surgical University Clinic and in turn Ferdinand von Graefe (1787-1840), Johann Friedrich Dieffenbach (1792-1847), Bernhard von Langenbeck (1810-1887), Ernst von Bergmann (1836-1907) or August Bier (1861-1949) at the I. Surgical University Clinic. Apart from these well-known institutions, other general surgeons at municipal hospital institutions in Berlin were not only renowned in their original discipline, but also became famous in the new surgical field neurosurgery. Fedor Krause (1857-1937), Moritz Borchardt (1868-1948), Emil Heymann (1878-1936) Carl Felix List (1902-1968), Max Marcus (1892-1983), Ernst Unger (1875-1938), Franz Schück-Breslauer (1888-1958) and Arthur Woldemar Meyer (1885-1933) represent the second generation of neurosurgeons in Germany. The curricula vitae of the directors of the Berlin II Surgical University Clinic are shown here in connection with the development of neurological surgery at this single academic institution.

Keywords: Charité, University Surgical Clinic, Directors, Brain Surgery.

Hans Joachim Synowitz, Michael Synowitz and Detlef Ernst Rosenow

Klaus-Joachim Zülch, an Employee of the Neurosurgeon Wilhelm Tönnis From 1937 - 1948

Thanks to previously unknown documents, it is possible to take a closer look at Zülch's professional development during his 12-year tenure under Wilhelm Tönnis and his changing relationship with him, his former mentor. The 26-year-old Zülch came to Würzburg on a scholarship from the Rockefeller Foundation, where he meets Tönnis. "What more could a 26-year-old ask for," recalls Zülch when Tönnis offers him a job in Berlin. He will move there to take on an extra-ordinary office for brain surgery and lead a neurosurgical clinic and a department in the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Brain Research (KWIH). On April 1 in 1937, Zülch and two other fellows were commissioned to equip the "Department for Tumor Research and Experimental Pathology" at the KWIH in Berlin-Buch. Here his work begins with the classification of brain tumors, which he continues over the next few years. As a member of the SA, Zülch joined the NSDAP in 1937 and was drafted into the *Wehrmacht* in August 1939. He took part in the "Poland Campaign, West Campaign, East Campaign" as an auxiliary doctor, later as a departmental doctor in the medical field. He was nevertheless able to continue his scientific work. At the end of the war, Zülch was appointed department head of the military hospital in Hamburg-Blankenese and underwent denazification in Hamburg, where he was classified in group V (group of the exonerated) with the discharge certificate dated 18 February 1948. In 1946/1947 he continued his work in the reopened research department with Tönnis in Bochum-Langendreer. His constantly pursued goal of "combined clinical-pathological work" was only realized in 1951 with his appointment as head of the "Department of General Neurology" in Cologne. Zülch sums up in his later years: "What could have happened in Germany to the neurological sciences if Tönnis and I had really worked together throughout our entire life."

Keywords: Zülch, Tönnis, NSDAP membership, professional career.

VI. Interfaces between psychiatry and art

Dennis Henkel

Maniacs and Lunatics - Psychiatry and its periphery in silent films

The turn of the 20th century was a significant time for psychiatry. The era of the asylum was being increasingly replaced by modern psychiatry—and the field was in upheaval. Important impulses came from non-psychiatric physicians like Freud, Broca, and Charcot, which made psychiatry overlap with other fields. At the time of this turning point for medicine, a new medium saw the light of day: the cinema. How did this new art form reflect, present, and portray psychiatry, its patients, and doctors? If one searches for an article on the era of silent films that are themed on psychiatry, no systematic overview can be found, apart from reviews of individual classics. This article aims to fill this gap with a brief, representative overview. After intensive research and reviews of numerous works, 55 films spanning almost three decades of film history were identified and categorized in accordance with leading syndromes. For each of the individual categories, a memorable and impactful film is analyzed, which is supposed to make the journey through 30 years of cinema history more vivid. As a result, one question stands out: Psychiatry is a subject that is clearly more “stretched” and used by dramatists compared to other fields. What was the cause for such fascination?

Keywords: motion pictures, movies as topics, medical history, 20th century, Psychiatry.

Tobias Wustmann

Ludwig van Beethoven From a Psychiatric Perspective

On the occasion of Ludwig van Beethoven’s 250th anniversary of his birthday on 17 December 2020, an overview of the previous publications on depression and bipolar disorder by the composer will be presented. Biographical sources as well as musicological and psychiatric-historical studies will provide a summary of the subject and a classification of Beethoven’s mental illness today.

Keywords: Beethoven, music, history, depression, bipolar disorder.

Reinhard J. Boerner

On the Occasion of the 250th Anniversary of Friedrich Hölderlin’s Birthday (1770–1843): The Influence of his Personality on his Psychosocial Conflicts and his Psychotic Disease

This paper is devoted to a neglected research topic. By today's standards, Hölderlin's personality can be characterized as introverted/unstable (melancholic). Mental and psychosomatic symptoms appeared already early on. His numerous and very stressful external and

internal conflicts became increasingly insolvable for him. This can partially be explained by Hölderlin's personality. This represents moreover an important predisposition for the later manifestation of his schizophrenia as well as its symptomatic profile.

Keywords: Friedrich Hölderlin, personality, temperament, schizophrenia.

VII. Book review

Jens Gründler, Hans-Walter Schmuhl and Malte Thießen (Eds.): Main topic: history of psychiatry as a contribution to regional contemporary history. Franz-Werner Kersting on his 65th birthday (=Westfälische Forschungen 70/2020, p. 1-175). Münster 2020, 501 pag. ISBN: 978-3-402-15405-2), reviewed by Christina Vanja