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### ARTICLES

#### **The historiography of psychoanalysis in Brazil: the case of Rio de Janeiro**

Cristiana Facchinetti and Rafael Dias de Castro ..... 13

1.—Introduction. 2.—Traditional studies on the history of psychoanalysis in Rio de Janeiro. 3.—The «official» discourse on the history of psychoanalysis in Rio de Janeiro. 4.—The new historiography of psychoanalysis in Rio de Janeiro. 5.—Final considerations.

**ABSTRACT:** The objective of this article is to analyze the background of the historiography of psychoanalysis in Rio de Janeiro. Three different phases and approaches are analysed, based on the viewpoints of different groups of authors. The first group features authors who displayed an early interest in the subject, in the 1920's-1930's. The second refers to psychiatrists/psychoanalysts who worked with mental health institutes and societies between the 1940's and 1970's, while the third perspective comes from the academic/university environment, from the end of the 70's to the present. This distinction was made not only to better define the timeframe of the arrival and dissemination of psychoanalysis in Rio de Janeiro, but also to provide a better understanding of the relation between the specific professional and intellectual interests of each group and the respective historical context.

#### **The assimilation of the books on animals of Aristotle in the medicine of Arnau de Vilanova (c. 1240-1311)**

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1.—Introduction. 2.—The Latin translations of the books on animals during the 13th and 14th centuries 3.—The books on animals and the Faculty of Medicine of Montpellier during the second half of the 13th century. 4.—The heart and the movement of animals. 5.—The heart as a principle of generation. 6.—The generation of animals: radical humidity and spermatic humidity. 7.—Conclusions.

ABSTRACT: The Latin translation of Aristotle's books on animals, which was carried out during the middle ages, lead to the dissemination of new theories in the field of biology and zoology in the western culture. From the second half of the 13th century, this group of books contributed to the development of a new medical practice based on the recovery of classical authorities and natural philosophy. On different occasions, Arnau de Vilanova (c. 1240-1311) —one of the most preeminent physicians of the Latin middle ages— used the books on animals to describe biological and physiological processes, and also to formulate a new medical discipline within the framework of discussions between natural philosophy and medicine in Montpellier; this took place at the end of the 13th century and early 14th century.

### **Suicide and cultural criticism in 19th century Spanish medicine**

José Javier Plumed Domingo and Enric J. Novella..... 57

SUMMARY: 1.—Introduction. 2.—The disorder of passions. 3.—Suicide and social change. 4.—Suicide, degeneration and *fin de siècle*. 5.—Conclusions.

ABSTRACT: This paper explores the major role of suicide in the cultural criticism deployed by 19th century Spanish doctors by analysing the most important theoretical models that inspired their contributions to its aetiology. In the first half of the century, the most commonly debated causal factor was the passions, which were thought to stand in a permanent tension with a free, reflexive and conscious self, in accordance with the spiritualist doctrine that was then dominant. In the context of a growing somatisation of moral and intellectual phenomena, the notion of suicide as an act of free will was later modified, and it became considered the consequence of certain organic disturbances. However, this process did not alter the central role of suicidal behaviour within 19th-century cultural criticism, because the advent of degeneration theory meant that doctors finally had a doctrine that allowed them to combine biological determinism with the extended perception of a moral and social crisis threatening the stability and achievements of bourgeois society.

### **The marvels of the incarnated man. Víctor Melcior and the redefinition of mediumship (1901)**

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SUMMARY: 1.—Introduction. 2.—Dynamite nullified by an invisible power. 3.—The wonders of the incarnated man. 4.—The strengths of mediums. 5.—The diseases of mediums. 6.—The controversy with «Dr. Balsam». 7.—The conundrum called the unconscious of the medium. 8.—Conclusions.

**ABSTRACT:** Towards the end of the 19th century, new medico-psychological approaches were applied to mediumship through the scientific study of spiritualist phenomena. The spiritualist idea of the medium was replaced with the notion of the medium as an unstable human being capable of emanating psychic forces unconsciously. This paper analyses the redefinition of mediumship through the polemical articles of the Catalan physician Víctor Melcior. On one hand, this microhistory allows the local debate to be placed within the scientific international context, describing the relationships among spiritualism, medicine and psychopathology at that time. On the other hand, it permits analysis of the reactions of some spiritualists to Melcior’s theories and of the consequences of this debate for spiritualism in general.

**¿Qué pasa en La Inclusa? The role of press scandals, doctors and public authorities in the evolution of *La Inclusa de Madrid*, 1890-1935**

Bárbara Ana Revuelta Eugercios..... 107

1.—Introduction. 2.—Wet nurses and the mortality of foundlings. 3.—What happened in *La Inclusa*: the mortality of foundlings and the transformation of the institution, 1880-1935. 3.1.—Evil born of old incidents and abuses: the 1898-1900 press scandal. 3.2.—The discovery of «la Herodiada» in 1918 by the medical staff of the provincial public assistance. 3.3.—The definitive turning point: 1927. 4.4.—Final remarks.

**ABSTRACT:** Traditionally, infants abandoned at foundling hospitals were identified as «bastards» and «children of vice», whose health to all intents and purposes reflected the moral sins of their parents and therefore led to unavoidable mortality. By the late 19th century, there were various challenges to this view, including: a growing emphasis on the importance of fighting infant mortality, the appearance of a new, medicalised ideal of motherhood, the spread of new medical theories, the appearance of disciplines such as Child Health, and the construction of paediatric wards and maternity hospitals. The consequences of these changes had their greatest impact at *La Inclusa* due to its location in the capital city, close to the decision-making centres and a focus of national media interest. This article examines the role of the press and the medical profession in successively denouncing the excess mortality at *La Inclusa* during the period 1890-1935. By looking at daily press and medical publications, it sheds light on the uneven consequences of the press scandals that denounced the extreme mortality of foundlings during this period. The first scandal (1899-1900) faded without the acknowledgment of any excess foundling mortality; the second (1918) was initiated by the doctors in charge but only produced a few changes. The third scandal (1927) was instrumental in bringing about the transformation of a century-old institution into a state-of-the art medicalised centre and of foundlings from the dregs of society into healthy children. The effects of the press coverage were not restricted locally to foundlings in Madrid but had a wider impact: by making the public aware of the dire situation of foundlings, they contributed to the development of legislation related to the fight against infant mortality and the control of mercenary breastfeeding.

## **The role of the media in influencing public attitudes to penicillin during World War II**

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1.—Penicillin and the public consciousness. 2.—Alternative penicillin. 3.—Publicity control and conclusions.

**ABSTRACT:** The journey of penicillin towards becoming an effective antibacterial chemotherapeutic agent took place during World War II. Its strategic military value was immediately recognised by the Allies, and mass production was undertaken with the prime objective of meeting the needs of the armed forces. News of its development came to be widely reported in the media and is examined here. These reports frequently combined accounts of the prodigious clinical effectiveness of penicillin with the fact that it was to remain largely unavailable to the civilian population until the war had ended. More penicillin was to be made available to the civilian population in the USA than in the UK, but the sense that it was rationed remained equally high. The idea of «homemade penicillin» was hatched in response to this situation and was widely promulgated by both the British and American media. Although the numbers treated with penicillin produced in this way were never going to be significant, knowledge of the existence of these endeavours may have served to assuage in some measure the frustration about the unavailability of penicillin felt by the civilian population.

## **Embryology and «official science»: the contribution of the anatomical school of José Escolar to embryology during the first Francoism (1939-1959)**

Raúl Velasco Morgado ..... 153

1.—Introduction. 2.—José Escolar, creator and organiser of an anatomical school. 3.—The beginning. 4.—The «Anatomy section» of the Cajal Institute. 5.—Embryology and the German view of neuroanatomy. 6.—Conclusions.

**ABSTRACT:** In this paper, we analyse the contribution of the anatomical school of José Escolar (1913-1998) to embryology during the first two decades of the Francoist dictatorship. Special attention is paid to the process by which the Spanish group, with the support of the new Superior National Research Council, made contact with the German morphology being developed by Hugo Spatz (1888-1979) at the Max Planck-Institut für Hirnforschung. Our study reveals the numerous influences that finally led to the anatomy and embryology of Escolar. In Spain, we found a direct influence of the Gegenbaurian morphology of Gumersindo Sánchez Guisande (1894-1976) and the neuroanatomy of Juan José Barcia Goyanes (1901-2003), full of references to studies by Braus. International contacts of the «Escolarian group», first with North America and then with Germany, created a homogeneous group with a single anatomy (functional and ontophylogenetic) but with so many research interests that subspecialisations had to be developed. An important embryological work resulted from an intense relationship with the German anatomical community during the 1950s.

Escolar worked in this field on the development of the amygdala and allocortex, Fernando Reinoso studied the embryology of the diencephalon and Smith Victor Agreda, along with the German scientist Rudolf Diepen, made some important discoveries on the development of the hypothalamic-pituitary system.

DOCUMENTS

**«Influence of epidermal friction and wear on papillary patterns»:  
unpublished fingerprinting experiments by Federico Olóriz  
Aguilera (1855-1912)**

Fernando Girón Irueste and Miguel Guirao Piñeyro ..... 177

SUMMARY: 1.—Introduction. 2.—Brief review on the life and work of Federico Olóriz. 3.—The framework of his experiments. 4.—The document. 5.—Comments.

ABSTRACT: Federico Olóriz introduced in Spain a method of identification based on fingerprints that is now used in various other countries. Among the numerous studies he performed for this purpose is a hitherto unpublished experiment reported in this paper. The objective was to test whether fleshy parts of fingers that undergo manipulation can maintain their dermal folds in a manner that permits their correct identification. Olóriz found that dermal folds produced by a simple ligation did not pose serious identification problems, while alterations resulting from sharp elements generated greater but in some way surmountable difficulties. A brief biography of Olóriz is first provided, with a summary of his studies on Anthropology and, in greater detail, his dedication to Forensic Anthropology, which led to the development of the so-called «Olóriz Method» of identification by means of fingerprints.

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