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## THE FIRST CENTURY OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE AND PRACTICE IN AMERICA

### 1880-1889

First American psychology laboratories: Johns Hopkins, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Wisconsin, Clark, Nebraska, Kansas

Child Study Movement began

Publication of George Trumbull Ladd's **Elements of Physiological Psychology** (1887)

Founding of **American Journal of Psychology** (1887) by G. Stanley Hall

Psychology taught within traditional philosophy departments

### 1890-1899

Psychology laboratories founded at: Columbia, Iowa, Michigan, Catholic, Cornell, Wellesley, Brown, Illinois, Yale, Chicago, Trenton State, Princeton, Randolph Macon, Harvard, Stanford, Amherst, Western Reserve, Denison, Minnesota, Pennsylvania State, City University of New York, Wesleyan, Smith, California, Ohio State, Bryn Mawr, Texas

Coining of the term "mental test" in 1890 by James McKeen Cattell and development of anthropometric mental testing

Publication of William James's **Principles of Psychology** (1890)

Structuralism flourished under Titchener at Cornell University

Joseph Jastrow organized psychology exhibition at the Chicago World's Fair (1893)

Cattell bought **Science** magazine (1894)

Founding of new journals: **Pedagogical Seminary** (1891), **Psychological Review** (1894), **Psychological Monographs** (1894), **Psychological Index** (1894)

Founding of the first psychological clinic at the University of Pennsylvania by Lightner Witmer (1896)

Edward Thorndike's pioneering work in animal learning

Beginnings of American functionalism and its conflict with structuralism

Dominance of studies of sensation and perception in the study of human consciousness

Formation of the American Psychological Association in 1892 by G. Stanley Hall and others

First study on the psychology of advertising by Harlow Gale (1895)

## **1900-1909**

Publication of the four volumes of Titchener's **Experimental Psychology** ("The manuals") (1901-1905)

Studies of learning became more prominent, especially animal learning

First eugenic sterilization law in Indiana (1907)

Mental hygiene movement began (1908)

Applied areas of study included: child development, educational psychology, abnormal psychology, mental testing

New journals: **Journal of Philosophy, Psychology, and Scientific Method** (1903), **Psychological Bulletin** (1904), **Journal of Religious Psychology** (1903, stopped in 1914), **Journal of Abnormal Psychology** (1906), **The Psychological Clinic** (1907)

Founding of Titchener's Experimentalists (1904)

First psychology laboratory in a mental hospital -- McLean Hospital in Belmont, Massachusetts (1904)

Sigmund Freud visited America for the Clark University 20th anniversary (1909)

Formalization of American functional psychology (functionalism) at the University of Chicago and Columbia University

Publication of Walter D. Scott's **Psychology of Advertising** and Hugo Münsterberg's **On the Witness Stand** (both 1908)

First books on social psychology (1909)

Binet scale was translated in America by Henry Herbert Goddard working at the Vineland Training School (1908)

**Happenings:** Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (1904), exhibit and conference at St. Louis World's Fair (1904), regional psychology organizations (branches of APA) established in Chicago (1902) and New York (1903)

## 1910-1919

Watson published his behaviorist manifesto (1913)

Psychoanalytic ideas became more commonplace

New journals: **Journal of Educational Psychology** (1910), **Psychoanalytic Review** (1913), **Journal of Experimental Psychology** (1916), **Journal of Applied Psychology** (1917)

First internships in psychology were begun at the Boston Psychopathic Hospital under Robert Yerkes (1912)

Founding of American Association of Clinical Psychologists (1917)

Research on the nature and origin of sex differences; early work on the psychology of women

Lewis Terman's version of Binet scale, the Stanford-Binet (1917)

World War I provided a significant impetus to applied psychology, particularly mental testing and abnormal psychology

Psychologists were stationed at 40 Army hospitals during the war

Rapid growth of industrial psychology

**Happenings:** New York Psychoanalytic Society (1911), American Psychoanalytic Association (1911)

## 1920-1929

Gestalt psychology ideas crossed the Atlantic

Structuralism disappeared after the death of Titchener in 1927

Debates over nature-nurture

Child Guidance Movement began

APA established a certification program for consulting psychologists

Behaviorism became dominant system of psychology

Decade of greatest popularity of psychology with the public

Appearance of several American popular psychology magazines

First textbooks published on the history of psychology (1929)

**Happenings:** Francis Cecil Sumner is first African-American PhD in psychology (1920); American Vocational Guidance Association (1921), The Psychological Corporation (1921), **Rorschach Test** (1921), teaching machine (1924), **Draw-a-Man Test** (1926), Ninth International Congress of Psychology - Yale University (1929), Psi Chi (1929)

## 1930-1939

Emphasis on operationism and operational definitions

Growth of projective testing

Decade for grand theories of personality (Allport, Murray)

Beginning of neobehaviorism (Tolman, Hull, Guthrie, Skinner)

Beginnings of differential academic training for experimental and clinical psychologists

Large influx of emigre psychologists from Europe, especially Germany and Austria

**Happenings:** Association for Consulting Psychologists (ACP (1930), Kelloggs' ape and child study (1931), Society for Research in Child Development (1933), Inez Beverly Prosser – first African-American woman PhD in psychology (1933), George Sanchez EdD in psychology (1934), Psychometric Society (1935), **Thematic Apperception Test** (1935), Psychological Round Table (1936), Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI, 1936), **Journal of Consulting Psychology** (1937), Boder's Psychological Museum in Chicago (1937), American Association for Applied Psychology (1937), **Journal of Parapsychology** (1938)

## 1940-1949

Psychologists performed admirably in contributions to World War II in selection of personnel, training, design of military equipment, psychological warfare, therapy for victims, etc.

Tremendous growth of psychology -- new doctoral programs, new job opportunities for graduates

New APA was formed by merger of several groups (particularly AAAP). Central Office was established in Washington, DC (1945)

Federal government asked for training of psychologists by the Veterans Administration and for quality assurance of academic programs. Led to joint APA/VA program to establish accreditation of clinical psychology programs (1946) and establishment of Vocational Counseling Program at the VA (1946)

Boulder Conference established scientist/practitioner model of training for clinical psychologists (1949)

Dominance of Hullian learning theory in experimental psychology

Increased interest in physiological psychology

First state psychology licensure law, Connecticut (1945)

**Happenings:** National Council of Women Psychologists (1941), **MMPI** (1942), **Strong Vocational Interest Blank** (1943), **American Psychologist** (1946), National Mental Health Act (1946), Indiana Institute for Sex Research (1947), Educational Testing Service (1947), National Institute of Mental Health (1949); Egas Moniz won the Nobel Prize for work that led to prefrontal lobotomies (1949)

## **1950-1959**

APA began accreditation of counseling psychology doctoral programs (1951)

First **DSM** (1952)

Publication of first APA code of ethics (1953)

Emphases on human factors, physiological psychology, development across the lifespan, scientific method, statistics

New fields: space psychology, psychopharmacology, use of computers

Modern cognitive psychology began

Evelyn Hooker published research that de-pathologized homosexuality (1957)

First professional school of psychology: Adelphi University

Social psychology gained in prominence, perhaps because of psychology's role in 1954 Supreme Court Decision on desegregation, Brown vs. Board of Education

**Happenings:** National Science Foundation (1950), Human Resources Research Organization (HumRRO, 1951), Nebraska Symposium on Motivation (1953), **Journal of Counseling Psychology** (1954), **Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale** (1955), APA Approved Internships (1956), National Defense Education Act (1958)

## 1960-1969

American discovery of Piagetian ideas, especially in education

History of psychology became a specialty field: Archives of the History of American Psychology founded at University of Akron (1965)

Major growth of cognitive psychology (Neisser, Bruner, Simon)

President Kennedy signed the Community Mental Health Centers Act (1963) that called for prevention, community based treatment, and deinstitutionalization

Academic psychology flourished with excellent financial support from business and government

Concerns over the social relevance of psychological research and theory

Roger Sperry did initial psychological research on split-brain patients and hemispheric specialization (leading to Nobel Prize in 1981)

Humanistic psychology began

B. F. Skinner's ideas achieved prominence via applications in education and clinical psychology

Majority of states passed laws for licensure of psychologists, a process completed in the 1970s

Formation of first free-standing schools of professional psychology: California School of Professional Psychology

Behavior modification movement

**Happenings:** Psychonomic Society (1960); American Association of State Psychology Boards (1961); Georg von Bekesy, Nobel Prize (1961); **Journal of Humanistic Psychology** (1961); Rogers-Skinner Debate (1962); National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1963); Keller's Personalized System of Instruction (1965); **Psychology Today** (1967); North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (1967); Association of Black Psychologists (1968); **DSM-II** (1968); National Association of School Psychologists

(1969); Texas licensure law (1969); **Professional Psychology** (1969)

### **1970-1979**

APA began accreditation of school psychology doctoral programs (1970)

Debate over professional training models led to Vail Conference (1974) and development of the Doctorate of Psychology (PsyD); subsequent growth of professional schools

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) -- Public Law 94-142 (1974)

Heavy government funding of research on alcoholism and drug abuse

Organizational issues achieved prominence in forming industrial/organizational psychology

Government interest in rural mental health care, geropsychology, substance abuse

Increased Federal Government funding of programs to recruit and train ethnic minorities as psychologists

Reduction of Federal Government role in training of psychologists, first by the VA, then by NIMH

Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky published their paper on prospect theory and decision making, work that would earn Kahneman the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2002

**Happenings:** Association of Psychologists Por La Raza (1970), became National Hispanic Psychological Association in 1979; **Cognitive Psychology** (1970); **APA Monitor** (1971); Skinner published **Beyond Freedom and Dignity** (1971); Asian American Psychology Association (1972); Nobel Prize awarded to ethologists Konrad Lorenz, Niko Tinbergen, and Karl von Frisch (1973); Society of Indian Psychologists (1973); **DSM-III** (1973); Federal freedom of choice law (1974); National Institute on Drug Abuse (1974); National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (1974); Minority Fellowship Program (1974); National Council of Schools of Professional Psychology (1976); Nobel Prize in economics to Herbert Simon (1978); **Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences** (1979)

### **1980-1989**

Many scientists left APA to form new organization, American Psychological Society (1988)

National conference on psychology and aging held in Boulder, Colorado -- known as "Older Boulder" (1981)

Some areas of psychology dropped the term psychology from their field, allegedly to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of their field, e.g., behavioral neuroscience, cognitive science

Lillian Gilbreth became the only American psychologist ever to appear on a U. S. postage stamp (1984)

**Happenings:** Roger Sperry, David Hubel, and Torsten Wiesel, Nobel Prize 1981; APA purchased **Psychology Today** (1983); **Psychology and Aging** (1986); **Journal of Family Psychology** (1987); American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (1988)

## **1990-1999**

Managed care altered nature of psychotherapy, significantly reduced insurance coverage of mental health

Psychology Exhibition at the Ontario Science Center (1991)

Psychologists lobby for prescription privileges

Executive coaching

**Happenings:** Teachers of Psychology in the Secondary Schools (1992); Advanced Placement Psychology Exam (1992)