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DUNCAN BLEWETT

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Note

This finding aid has been updated integrating notes prepared in November and December 2008 by Dr. Robert Stek, a colleague and friend of Dr. Duncan Blewett.

Biographical Sketch: Duncan Blewett was born in Edmonton, Alberta in October 28, 1920. After fighting in WWII, Blewett, along with other young veterans, was offered the choice of a lump sum payment or a free education as compensation for their time given to the war. Blewett chose to pursue an education in psychology. He received his BA from the University of British Columbia in 1947 and his MA from the same institution in 1950.

Blewett went on to earn his PhD in one and a half years at the University of London with renowned psychologist Hans Eysenck. He later taught at the University of Illinois which was headed by noted psychologist Raymond Cattell, before the government of Saskatchewan recruited Blewett to be chief psychologist of the province in the 1950s.

Blewett was pivotal in pioneering psychedelic research. In 1959 along with Nicholas Chwelos, he co-authored *Handbook for the Therapeutic Use of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide- 25(LSD) : Individual and Group Procedures (1959)*. Blewett became instrumental in advancing LSD treatment programs as therapy for schizophrenics and alcoholics in Saskatchewan.

In 1961, he was hired by the University of Saskatchewan Regina Campus to develop psychology as a discipline at the rapidly growing institution. Here he founded the University Of Regina Department Of Psychology. Blewett would also be a founder of the Saskatchewan Psychological Association. During this time he joined the world-renowned University of Saskatchewan research team at the Saskatchewan Hospital in Weyburn and worked beside such notable researchers as biochemist and psychiatrist Abram Hoffer, and project coordinator Humphry Osmond (who coined the word “psychedelic” in a letter to his friend Aldous Huxley).

Blewett retired from the University of Regina in 1986 and moved to Gabriola Island, B.C after nearly three decades of dynamic research and teaching. Throughout his career Blewett wrote many books and publications that continue to influence the field of psychology today. His early work has been the subject of at least three documentaries, and a fourth was created around his March 24 memorial on Gabriola Island, B.C.

Blewett died on February 24, 2007, having lived “fabulously in the moment until the end”.

Scope and Content: This collection is primarily comprised of materials dating from the late –1950’s to the early –80’s. Of particular interest is the correspondence, notes and publications relating to the controversial L.S.D. research conducted in the province during the last half of the 1950’s. In addition, numerous papers and publications of others pertaining to the therapeutic use of psychedelics can be found within the collection. An ample proportion of materials relating to psychotronics can also be found within the collection.

*Note on Arrangement: New file order and file headings regenerated. original order and headings deemed unusable.

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PROFESSIONAL MATERIALS

CORRESPONDENCE

Personal

- Box I
1. Brenneman, Dick -1973
 2. Cohen, Kenneth- 1974-75
 3. Fil and Gladys ? -1984, 1985
 4. Friends and Acquaintances -Miscellaneous -1965, 1967, 1974-76, 1986, 1988

CONFIDENTIAL 5. Nick _____? -1965

Professional

6. Centre for Humanistic Studies -1974
7. Letters of Reference -1975-76
8. Miscellaneous Professional -
 - 1958 - Willis W. Harman (Stanford)
 - 1962 - re: spiritual experience with LSD
 - 1964 - Raymond B. Cattell, re: personality factors related to LSD
 - 1965 - MacLean's - Sandoz stops production of LSD
 - 1967 - Teddy Weckowicz
 - 1974
 - 1975 - Ralph Metzner
 - 1979 - Alvin Mahrer, re: history of the psychology Department
9. Requests to Lecture -1967-68
10. Ryerson Press -1966

WRITINGS, SPEECHES AND NOTES

Duncan Blewett

Psychedelics Research

11. "A Handbook for the Therapeutic Use of L.S.D. -25"
-Draft -D. Blewett and N. Chwelos -n.d.
12. "A Handbook for the Therapeutic Use of L.S.D. -25"
-Draft -D. Blewett and N. Chwelos -1959
13. "Interim Report on the Therapeutic Use of L.S.D.
25" -Draft -1958
14. "L.S.D. -A Therapeutic Rationale" -1962
15. "New Horizons in Motivation and Insight" -n.d.
16. "Notes on the Psychological Evaluation of Response

to Drugs" – Incomplete – n.d.

17. "Psychedelic Drugs in Parapsychological Research" from: International Journal of Parapsychological Research (v. 1) -1963
18. "Use of D-Lysergic Acid Diethylamide in the Treatment of Alcoholism" -D. Blewett, N. Chwelos, C. Smith and A. Hoffer –1962
19. "Weyburn Assessment Scale" -D. Blewett and W. Stefaniuk -from: Journal of Mental Science (104, 435) –1959

Psychotronics Research

Box 2

20. "Dynamics of Morale" -Drafts and Supporting Material –1981
21. "Dynamics of Morale" -Drafts and Supporting Material –1981
22. "Dynamics of Morale" -Drafts and Supporting Material -1981?
23. "Dynamics of Morale" -Drafts and Supporting Material- 1981
24. "Dynamics of Morale" -Drafts and Supporting Material- 1981
25. "Dynamics of Psychic Energy" -Draft - Incomplete -n.d.
26. "Body Exercise (Physical?) -Notes and Supporting Material -n.d.
27. "A Handbook for Psychotronic Engineering" -Draft - 1985
28. "A Handbook for Psychotronic Engineering" -Notes - n.d.
29. "An Induction -Resonance Model of Psychic Energy Dynamics" -D. Blewett, J. Blewett and R. Ochshorn- 1980
30. "An Induction -Resonance Model of Psychic Energy Dynamics" -D. Blewett, J. Blewett and R. Ochshorn -n.d.
31. "Nature and Dynamics of Psychic Energy" -June Blewett and Duncan Blewett -Various -Drafts - 1973
32. "Psychic Energy -Its Characteristics and Dynamics"

-Conference Draft –1973

33. Psychic Energy -Notes –1975
34. Psychic Energy Studies -Background Materials and Notes- 1970- 1971
35. "The Utilization of Psychic Energy in Industry" - D. Blewett, J. Blewett and R. Ochshorn -1977

Teaching Materials

36. Lecture Notes and Materials -n.d.
37. "Supplementary Class Notes: Psychology 235" -D. Blewett -Draft –1972
38. "Supplementary Class Notes: Psychology 235" -D. Blewett -Draft –1979

Miscellaneous

39. "Burnout -A Stress Induced Psychological Disorder -D. Blewett, J. Blewett, C. Peyson and R. Stek –Draft information for proposal to provincial government (from Blewett-Peyson-Stek Associates -1982 or 1983.

Box 3

40. "Color Analysis of the Pyramid Test " -P. O'Reilly and D. Blewett -from: Diseases of the Nervous System (XX, 5) –1959
41. "Consciousness, Science and Religion: A Field Trip Through the 80s" –D. Blewett -Draft –1980
42. "Consciousness, Science and Religion... D. Blewett from: The Saskatchewan Psychologist (80,1) -1980
43. "Decline of Verbal standards in Universities" -D. Blewett -The School Review (Spring) –1958
44. An Experimental Study of the Inheritance of Intelligence" -D. Blewett -from: Journal of Mental Science (100, 421) –1954
45. Lecture Notes -Unitarians –1967
46. Notes -Miscellaneous Topics -n.d.
47. Notes -Miscellaneous -n.d.
48. Proposal For the Establishment of an Institute for Studies in Normal Psychology" -n.d.
49. Thesis -Ph.D. -D. Blewett -Title Unknown -n.d.

About Duncan Blewett

50. "The Heaven or Hell Drugs" -Sidney Katz -from: Maclean's (June) -1964
51. "L.S.D. -A Learning Process" -from: The Carillon -March 6, 1967
52. "L.S.D. -Research in Saskatchewan" -Therese Stocyk -Maga Nova (1, 1) -1984
53. "New Hope for Alcoholics" -Muriel Clements - Saturday Night -July 4, 1959
54. "The Psychedelic Experience -A New Concept in Psychotherapy" -J.N. Sherwood et al. -from: Journal of Neuropsychiatry -November 1961

Others

Psychedelics Research

55. "A Bibliography of Psychedelic and Related Research" -International Federation for Internal Freedom -1967
56. "Current Status and Future Trends in Psychedelic (L.S.D.) Research -Robert Mogar -1964
57. Hallucinogens -Collected Publications -1962-63, 1970, n.d.
58. "L.S.D.: Hollywoods' Status Symbol Drug" -Bob Gaines -n.d.
59. Leary, Timothy -Writings -1963
60. Narcotics Legislation -Collected Writings -1965, 1967, 1979, 1981
61. "Proposal for a Study of Self-Understanding..." - Willis W. Harman- 1962?
62. Psychedelic Substances: Personality, Perception - Collected writings, -1955, 1956, 1963
63. "A Sunday with Mescaline" -Philip Smith -Bulletin of the Menninger Clinic (23, 1) 1959
64. Therapeutic Use of L.S.D. Collected Writings 1961-63,1966,1971, n.d.

Psychotronics Research

- Box 4 65. "The New Mental Battlefield" -John Alexander -

from: Military Review(60, December) –1980

66. "Optimizing Human Resources" -R. Ochshorn- 1976
67. "Toward a Psychotronic Paradigm" -Roger Snyder n.d.
68. Zelman, Robert -Collected writings -n.d.

Students' Theses

69. "Maternal Child-Rearing Practices and Social Problem-Solving..." -Kelly Frederickson - 1986
70. "Nature and Implications of Out-of-Body Experiences" -Paul Coderre -1983
71. "Nature and Implications of Out-Of-Body Experiences" -Paul Coderre –1983
72. "Social Facilitation of Group Game Performance" Alexander Catley -Drafts -1975-77
73. "Some Jungian Personality Correlates..." -Robert Stek- 1978

Miscellaneous Topics

74. "Forecast for the 80' s" –New Age -1979?
75. "List of Organizations and Individuals Involved in...upper Aspects of Human Functioning Phillip Warren -n.d.
76. "Meditation as Education for Mind-Abilities" - Brian Carpendale –1974
77. "The only Way to Write a Modern Poem About a Nightingale" -A. Huxley -from: Harper's Magazine –1963
78. "Playboy Interview: Elisabeth Kubler" -from: Playboy (May) 1981
79. "Quantum Mechanics and Human Consciousness" - Imants Baruss -n.d.
80. "A Report on the Change In Direction of the Humanistic Psychology Institution" -T. Hanna -1976
81. Review -Aldous Huxley: A Biography -Sybille Bedford -D. Trilling -from: New York Times 1974
82. Roll, W.G. –Writing/transcript of talk/paper presented

by W.G. Roll at the conference on Altered States of Consciousness organized by the Northern Institute for Psychotronic Research at Fort Qu'Appelle, SK – October 1963.

83. "Scientific Study of 'Inner Experience'" -A. M. El-Meligi and J. Surkis -from: Journal of Orthomolecular Psychiatry -(6,3) –1977

84. "Thirty-One Hours: The Grindstone Experiment" -T. Olson and G. Christiansen -Canadian Friends Service Committee –1966

Box 5 85. "Unbiasing the Brain: The Effects of Meditation..." -J. Meissner and M. Pirot -n.d.

86. "Why the Humanities Are More Important than Ever" - K. Louis -n.d.

87. Others Writings -1963, 1970, n.d.

PROFESSIONAL MATERIALS

88. Conference on Psychotronic Research –First International -Prague –1973

89. Conference on Psychotronic Research -Second International -Monte Carlo -1975

90. Conference on Psychotronic Research -Third International -Sao Paulo –1977

91. Conference on Psychotronic Research -Fourth International -Tokyo –1978

92. L.S.D. Information/notes/summaries/reports (1956-68) and from conference on Parapsychology and Psychedelics, sponsored by the Parapsychology Foundation, November 15-16, 1958, New York, NY.

93. Psychology 235 Handbook -Revisions for Czechoslovakia Presentation -1972?

94. Sabbatical Leave Report -1981