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DUNCAN BLEWETT

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BY ROBERTA LEXIER

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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".

Box 1	1. Questionnaires	n.d.
CLOSED		
CLOSED	2. Questionnaires	n.d.
CLOSED	3. Questionnaires	n.d.
CLOSED	4. Questionnaires	n.d.
CLOSED	5. Questionnaires	n.d.
CLOSED	6. Questionnaires	n.d.
Box 2	7. Patients	1953 – 1960
CLOSED		
CLOSED	8. Patients	1953 – 1960

CORRESPONDENCE

CLOSED	9. LSD	1965 – 1968
Box 3	10. Professional	1968 – 1972
	11. Psychic Energy	1971 – 1972
	12. University of Regina	1980 – 1986
	13. Information about LSD	n.d.
	Includes:	
	“Facts about LSD”	
	“When You Take L.S.D. – 25”	
	“What Parents Should Know about Drugs”	
	14. Legislation about LSD	1962 – 1967
	15. Commission of Inquiry into Non-Medical Use of Drugs	
	Includes:	
	Students’ Union, University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus: “A Brief to the Commission of Inquiry on the Non-Medical Use of Drugs”	
	“Statement by Gerald Le Dain, Chairman, Commission of Inquiry into the Non- Medical Use of Drugs at the First Public Hearing in Winnipeg”	
	16. International Foundation for Advanced Study	1965
	17. Northern Institute for Psychetronic Research	1973
	18. Seminar and Conference Programs	1964 – 1965
	19. Original Sources (Copied) – LSD	n.d.

RESEARCH NOTES

20. “The Grand Experiment” also known as “The Carleton Project” – notes on industrial morale	1975
21. Miscellaneous	n.d.

PUBLICATIONS

22. Duncan Blewett	1962 – 1963
Includes:	
“Psychedelic Drugs in Parapsychological Research”. <i>International Journal of Parapsychology</i> , volume 5, #1, Winter 1963.	

“The Psychedelic Drugs in Psychological Research”
 “New Horizons in Motivation and Insight”
 “LSD – a Therapeutic Rationale”
 “Proposal for the Establishment of an Institute for Studies in Normal Psychology”.

23. LSD

1955 – 1975

Includes:

- Abramson, Sklarofsky, Baron, & Gettner, “Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD-25) Antagonists. I. Blocking Effect of Brain Extract in the Siamese Fighting Fish: Preliminary Report”
- Bercel, Travis, Olinger & Dreikurs, “Model Psychoses Introduced by LSD-25 in Normals. I. Psychophysiological Investigations, with Special Reference to the Mechanism of the Paranoid Reaction.”
- Clark, “Psychedelic research: Obstacles and Values”, *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, volume 15, #3, Summer 1975.
- Clark, “The Relationship between Drugs and Religious Experience”, *the Catholic Psychological Record*, volume 6, #2, Fall 1968
- Fogel & Hoffer, “Perceptual Changes Induced by Hypnotic Suggestion for the Posthypnotic State: I. General Account of the Effect on Personality”, *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Psychopathology*, volume xxiii, #1, March 1962.
- Fogel & Hoffer, “The Use of Hypnosis to Interrupt and to Reproduce and LSD-25 experience”, *Quarterly Review of Psychiatry and Neurology*, volume xxiii, #1, March 1962
- Heath, Martens, Leach, Cohen & Angel, “Effect on Behaviour in Humans with the Administration of Taraxein”, *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, volume 114, #1, July 1956.
- Heim, Hoffman, Cailleux, Brack & Kobel, “Nouvelles Observations sur les Agarics Hallucinogenese du Mexique”, *Revue de Mycologie*.
- Isbell, Belleville, Fraser, Winkler & Logan, “Studies on Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD-25). I. Effects in Former Morphine Addicts and Development of Tolerance during Chronic Intoxication”.
- Janiger, “Hallucinogenic Agents in Psychiatry”, *The California Clinician*, 1959
- Jarvik, Abramson & Hirsch, “Comparative subjective effects of Seven Drugs including Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD-25)”, *the*

- Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, volume 51, #3, November 1955
- Krippner & Davidson, "Paranormal Events Occurring during Chemically-Induced psychedelic Experience and their Implications for Religion", *Journal of Altered States of Consciousness*, volume 1, #2, Spring 1974.
- Leary, "The Effects of Test Score Feedback on Creative Performance and of Drugs on Creative Experience".
- Levy, Cameron & Aitken, "Observation on Two Psychotomimetic Drugs of Piperidine Derivation – CI 395 (Sernyl) and CI 400", *The American Journal of Psychiatry*, volume 116, 39, March 1960.
- Liebert, Wapner & Werner, "Studies in the Effects of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD-25); Visual Perception of Verticality in Schizophrenic and Normal Adults".
- Linton & Langs, "Empirical Dimension of LSD-25 Reactions", *Archives of General Psychiatry*, volume 10, May 1964.
- Linton & Langs, "Placebo Reactions in a Study of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD-25)", *Archives of General Psychiatry*, volume 6, May 1962.
- Linton, Langs & Paul, "Retrospective Alterations of the LSD-25 Experience", *The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*, volume 138, #5, May 1964.
- Mogar & Savage, "Personality Change Associated with Psychedelic (LSD) Therapy: a Preliminary Report", *Psychotherapy: Theory and Practice*, volume 1, #4, Fall 1964. Mogar, "Research in Psychedelic Drug Therapy: a Critical Analysis", *Research in Psychotherapy*, volume 3, 1968.
- O'Reilly, "Lysergic Acid and the Alcoholic", *Diseases of the Nervous System*, volume 23, #6, June 1962.
- Terrill, "The Nature of the LSD Experience", *The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*, volume 135, #5, November 1962.
- Unger, "LSD-Type Drugs and Psychedelic Therapy", *Research in Psychotherapy*, volume 3, 1968.
24. LSD-25 Series, Harold Abramson, *The Journal of Psychology*. 1955
- Includes:
- III. As an Adjunct to Psychotherapy with Elimination of Fear of Homosexuality
 - V. Effect on Spatial Relations Abilities
 - VI. Effect upon Recall and Recognition of Various Stimuli.

- VII. Effect upon Two Measures of Motor Performance.
- XV. The Effect produced by Substitution of a Tap Water Placebo.
- XVI. The Effect on Intellectual Functioning as Measured by Wechsler-Bellevue Intelligence Scale.
- XVII. Tolerance Development and Its Relationship to a Theory of Psychosis.
- XVIII. Effects of LSD-25 and Six Related Drugs upon Handwriting.
- XIX. As an Adjunct to Brief psychotherapy, with Special Reference to Ego Enhancement.
- XXII. Effect on Transference.
- XXIII. Comparative Effects of LSD-25 and Related Ergot Drugs on Brain Tissue Respiration and on Human Behavior.

Box 4

25. Psychology General (1/4)

Includes:

- Balesteri, "On the action Mechanisms of LSD 25"
- Barr, "Types of Reactions to LSD-25: a Person Cluster Analysis of Subjective Reactions and Behavioural Changes under the Drug".
- Brown, "My Twelve-Hour Workshops in Direct Body-Contacting".
- Chwelos, Blewett, Smith & Hoffer, "Use of D-Lysergic Acid Diethylamide in the Treatment of Alcoholism"
- Dusheck, "A Newspaperman Reports on LSD".
- Eisner, "The Importance of the Non-Verbal"
- Evans, Geronimus, Kornetsky & Abramson, "Effect of Ergot Drugs on *Betta splendens*".
- Floyd, "Of Time and the Mind".
- Harman, "The Humanities in an Age of Science".

26. Psychology General (2/4)

1963 – 1975

Includes:

- Harman, "The Issue of the Consciousness-Expanding Drugs".
- Hawley, "Policy Concerning Staff Drug Use".
- Hoffer, Smith, Chwelos, Callbeck & Paysa, "Psychological Response to D-Lysergic Acid Diethylamide and its Relationship to Adrenochrome Levels".
- Jensen & Ramsay, "Treatment of Chronic Alcoholism with Lysergic Acid Diethylamide".
- "Philosopher's Notebook".
- Johnson, "Existential Man".
- Leary, Metzner, Presnell, Weil, Schwitzgebel & Kinne, "A New Behavior Change Program using Psilocybin".

Ling, "The Use of Lysergic Acid and Ritalin in the Treatment of Neurosis".

Marchbanks, Rosenblatt & O'Brien, "Serotonin Binding to Nerve-Ending Particles of the Rat Brain and Its Inhibition by Lysergic Acid Diethylamide".

McGlothlin, "Hallucinogenic Drugs: a Perspective with Special Reference to Peyote and Cannabis".

McGlothlin, Cohen & McGlothlin, "Short-Term Effects of LSD on anxiety, Attitudes and Performance".

McMullen, "The Pattern of the Flow of Time in Living Systems".

27. Psychology General (3/4)

1956 – 1965

Includes:

Metzner, "Methods of Enhancing Human Awareness of Life-Energies".

Mogar, "The Psychedelic Drugs and Human Potentialities".

Osmond, "Hallucinogenic Drugs in psychiatric Research".

Osmond, Cheek, Albahary & Sarett, "Some Problems in the Use of LSD-25 in the Treatment of Alcoholism".

Pioch, "Preparation of Lysergic Acid Amides".

Rolo, Krinsky, Goldfarb & Abramson, "Multitherapist Interviews Utilizing LSD".

Rolo, Krinsky, Abramson & Goldfarb, "Preliminary Method for Study of LSD with Children".

Savage, Herman & Fadiman, "Questionnaire Study of the psychedelic Experience".

Sedlak, "The Electromagnetic Nature of Life".

28. Psychology General (4/4)

1962 – 1963

Includes:

Sherwood, Stolaroff & Harman, "The Psychedelic Experience – a New Concept in Psychotherapy".

Smith, "Some Reflections of the Possible Therapeutic Effects of the Hallucinogens".

Stafford, "A Guide to LSD and the Law".

Unger, "Consciousness-altering Drugs, Extra-Drug Variables and the Issue of Rapid Personality Change: a Brief Review".

VanRhijn, "Variables in Psycholytic Treatment".

Watts, "Psychedelics and Religious Experience".

Webster, "New Role for an Ancient Drug".

29. Unknown Authors

1962 – 1964

Includes:

"Preventing D. T. Deaths".

"Apparent Results of Referrals of Alcoholics for LSD Therapy".

"Summary Report of LSD Questionnaires".

- “The Need for Research and Training Programs on the Use of Psychedelic Drugs”.
- “Psychiatry and Spirituality”.
- “The Psychodynamics of Psychedelic Response”.
30. Miscellaneous
31. Magazines: Drugs (General) 1968 – 1974
- Includes:
- Playboy*, “The Decent Society”, 1968.
- Time*, June 22, 1970.
- Drug Enforcement*, Fall 1973
- Drug Enforcement*, Summer 1974
- The Institute for Psychedelic Research.
- Box 5 32. Newspaper & Magazine articles 1961 – 1969
33. Cannabis 1968
34. Psychedelics – Notes, Manuscripts, Background (1/2) n.d.
- Includes:
- Blewett, “LSD – a Therapeutic Rationale”.
- “The Psychedelic Drugs in Psychological Research”.
- “LSD Experience”.
- “Examples from James”.
- “LSD Experience directed by Dr. A. Hubbard”.
35. Psychedelics – Notes, Manuscripts, Background (2/2)
- Includes:
- Chwelos, Blewett, Smith & Hoffer, “Use of d-Lysergic Acid Diethylamide in the Treatment of Alcoholism”.
- “Psychedelic Drugs in Parapsychological Research”.
- “LSD Experience with Ascorbic Acid Premedication”.
- “Psychedelic Drugs in Therapy and Research”.
- “Report on Three LSD Sessions”.
- “Cultural Trends and Social Sciences”.
- Cohen & Dirman, “Complications Associated with Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD-25)”.
- Jensen, “A Treatment Program for Alcoholics in a Mental Hospital”.
- Janiger, “The Use of Hallucinogenic Agents in Psychiatry”.
- Blewett, “New Horizons in Motivation and Insight”.
- Blewett, “Proposal for the Establishment of an Institute for Studies in Normal Psychology”.