

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS

Report on the papers of  
SIR FREDERIC CHARLES BARTLETT, CBE, FRS  
(1886-1969)

deposited in the University Library, Cambridge

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THE ROYAL SOCIETY

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS

Joint Committee on Scientific & Technological Records

CONTEMPORARY SCIENTIFIC ARCHIVES CENTRE

Papers of

Sir Frederic Charles Bartlett C.B.E., F.R.S.

1886 - 1969

Listed by: Jeannine Alton  
Harriot Weiskittel

Deposited in the University Library, Cambridge 1975

Description of the collection

The papers were received from Lady Bartlett; some material remains in family hands.

The collection refers entirely to Bartlett's scientific and professional work. It comprises notebooks, a small amount of correspondence, and drafts or notes for lectures, addresses and papers; many are written on the backs of undergraduates' essays or examination scripts, and very few are dated. Where the material corresponds or is related to an entry in The Writings of Sir Frederic Bartlett, CBE., FRS: an annotated handlist by A.D. Harris and O.L. Zangwill (Br. J. Psychol., (1973), 64, 493-510), a note has been made to that effect, in the form 'H. and Z. no.'. Items without such a note are either additional to the handlist, or unpublished.

The notebooks of Bartlett's early experiments on memory and association tests 1914-17 (A.4; A.6-A.9; A.11) are of interest.

There is no biographical material as such, but B.86 contains an autobiographical account of Bartlett's early life, and Cambridge period up to 1914.

Titles and descriptions in inverted commas are those which appear on the notebooks or manuscripts. All items are manuscript unless otherwise indicated.

The help of Dr. A.D. Harris in dating and attributing manuscripts is gratefully acknowledged.

Copies of Harris and Zangwill's Handlist, and Dr. D.E. Broadbent's Memoir (Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society, 1970, 16, 1-13) are included with A.1.

Summary of the career of Sir Frederic Bartlett

b.1886; educ. privately

- 1909            B.A., London, Philosophy, 1st Class  
 1911            M.A., London, special distinction in Sociology & Ethics  
 1911-14        St. John's College, Cambridge; Moral Sciences Tripos, 1st Class  
                  Assistant Director, Psychological Laboratory, Cambridge

married Emily Mary Smith

- 1922            Reader in Experimental Psychology, Cambridge  
 1922-52        Director, Psychological Laboratory, Cambridge  
 1924-48        Editor, British Journal of Psychology  
 1931-52        First Professor of Experimental Psychology, Cambridge  
 1932            Elected to the Royal Society  
 1941            C.B.E.  
 1943            Baly Medal, Huxley Medal  
 1948            Knighted  
 1952            Royal Medal

Contents of the handlist

		<u>Items</u>	<u>Pages</u>
A.	Notebooks	A.1 - A.42	3- 5
B.	Lectures, Addresses, Reports	B.1 - B.88	5- 9
C.	Publications	C.1 - C.32	9-11
D.	University of Cambridge	D.1 - D.5	11-12

A. Notebooks A.1 - A.42

- A.1 and A.2 (H. & Z. no.1) 1913 & other dates  
 2 notebooks, 'Logic Definitions' and 'Logic Note Book'.  
 Notebooks also include later notes on dreams related by hospital patients 1917, and early notes by Bartlett on Langland & Milton, and lists of Greek vocabulary.
- A.3 1914  
 Notes for lectures on philosophy, esp. on sense data; includes draft of letter to 'Mr. Russell' on problems of sense data.
- A.4 1913-14  
 Notebook. with some loose sheets.  
 'Practical Work in Psychology': accounts of expts. performed on each other by Bartlett, E. Seaver, C.S. Myers and others, on sensory perception of sound, temperature, colour etc. Loose sheets contain charts and drawings.
- A.5 1914, 1928  
 Notebook. of lectures given in Lent and May terms 1914 on various topics on thought processes.  
 Later in book: Lectures headed '1st. Lent Term 1928', with introductory plan of course on Recognition.
- A.6 1914-15  
 Notebook. of expt. observations and casenotes on association tests on pictures and objects.
- A.7 1916  
 Notebook. inscribed inside front cover 'Original. Why the Sun & the Moon live in the Sky'.  
 Contains also the story 'The War of the Ghosts' and other stories used as expt. material for tests of memory, with versions given by hospital patients, and comments and casenotes by Bartlett. This is the raw data for A.8, Bartlett's Fellowship thesis on 'Transformations arising from repeated representation ...'
- A.8 1916  
 Thesis (H. & Z. no.3)
- A.9 1916-17  
 Light blue notebook. with some loose sheets.  
 Expt. observations and charts of patients' reactions and memory, incl. raw data for A.8.  
 Draft 'Study of Convention in Perceiving & Imagining' (plan and notes for H. & Z. no.5).
- A.10 n.d.  
 Red notebook.  
 Misc. notes and drafts on Emotion, feeling and representation, and on books and articles read.  
 Draft 'II Feeling and Criticism' (continuation of 'Expt. study ... perceiving & imagining' H. & Z. no.5).  
 Drafts of 'An Expt. Study of the nature and course of changes in the Content of Representation' and (at rear of book) 'A Study of Change in Reproduction'.
- A.11 1916-17  
 Black notebook.  
 Notes and expt. observations on memory, and subjects' reactions and transformations.

- A.12 Black notebk. 1918, 1930  
Notes on books and articles on perception of sound and hearing 1918 (in middle of book) Observations headed 'Expts. on Differential Threshold' 1930.
- A.13 Notes on various topics on remembering and communication, transmission of material etc. Indexed by Bartlett as far as p.41, but work continues to end of book. n.d.
- A.14 Notes on books and articles on topics in anthropology and psychology. n.d.
- A.15 Red notebk. Perhaps a draft for book, on scientific method, measurement, experimental method, variables, approximations, etc.
- A.16 Ditto (continuation of A.15), on 'The Philosophic Mind', generalisation and analogy, classifications, etc.

Nos. A.17-A.39 are probably notes made by Bartlett on lectures attended at the University of London 1906-09.

- A.17 Ex. Bk. 'Introduction to Political Science'.
- A.18 " " 'Introduction to SOCIOLOGY' (Bartlett's index inside front cover).
- A.19 " " 'Ethics Mackenzie' ( " " " " " ).
- A.20 " " 'Manuel of Ethics Book III' ( " " " " " ).
- A.21 " " 'Groundwork of Psychology' ( " " " " " ).
- A.22-A.25 4 Ex. Bks. 'Analytic Psychology II, III, IV, V' (Vol I missing), with Bartlett's index inside front cover.
- A.26-A.28 3 Ex. Bks. 'KANT. Development of Modern Philosophy V, VI, VII'
- A.29-A.34 6 Ex. Bks. 'LOTZE' (Bartlett's index inside front cover).
- A.35-A.37 3 Ex. Bks. 'The Origin & Development of the Moral Ideas' (Bartlett's index inside front cover).
- A.38, A.39 2 Ex. Bks. 'Morals in Evolution' ( " " " " " ).
- A.40 Notebk. entitled 'F's Journal of S. African visit 1929'. 1929  
(Bartlett's journal 29 July-10 September 1929); some loose papers.
- A.41 loose gathering from ex. bk. 1909  
Essays on logic, with tutorial annotations, reading lists, etc.  
Date-stamped 'Returned corrected 23 Sept. 1909'; probably work done by Bartlett during studies in London before going up to Cambridge.

A.42 loose gatherings from ex. bks. n.d.  
early notes on psychology, indexed, and pages numbered.

B. Lectures, speeches and addresses B.1 - B.88

- B.1-B.7 Lectures on Social Psychology, given at Cambridge 1930.  
B.1 includes notes for plan of course.  
All lectures are manuscript; there is also a typescr. version of all except B.5 and B.6.
- B.8-B.23 Lectures on Social Psychology, given at Cambridge, some dated 1937. Manuscript, some also with typescr. versions.
- B.8 Individual Initiative and Social Control (see also B.20)
- B.9 Popular Education.
- B.10 Social Stability.
- B.11 Popular Education and Social Responsibility.
- B.12 Psychological Principles which operate in determining the effects of a Contrast of Cultures.
- B.13 Class Distinctions and Divisions.
- B.14 The Specialisation of Function in Society, Social Stratification and Leadership.
- B.15 Group Resistance to Disintegration.
- B.16 The 'Representative' Man.
- B.17 Leadership.
- B.18 Election and Representation.
- B.19 The Notion of Collective Unconscious.
- B.20 Individual Initiative and Social Control (not the same lecture as B.8).
- B.21 Problems and Methods.
- B.22 Social Values (typescr.).
- B.23 incomplete lecture on popular education.
- B.24 A discussion of factors involved in Learning.
- B.25 Learning Processes.
- B.26 G.

- B.27 Learning (1934).
- B.28 The Relation between Laboratory and Field Work in Industrial Psychology.
- B.29 untitled lecture on 'historical study in regard to psychological problems'.
- B.30 Innate Differences between Social Classes.
- B.31 How the Body and Mind deal with the Sorting of Key processes and items (1945).
- B.32 Games and Amusements.
- B.33 Education and Social Life.
- B.34 Psychology in relation to Social Phenomena.
- B.35 Man in Society.
- B.36 untitled address, on group psychology.
- B.37 Friendliness and Unfriendliness between different social groups (address given to British Association for the Advancement of Science, 1938).
- B.38 Group Organisation and Social Behaviour (typescr.).
- B.39 Psychological Factors in Peace and War (typescr.).
- B.40 incomplete lecture on similar subject (page 1 missing; typescr.).
- B.41 untitled lecture on the Swazi people.
- B.42 Psychological Problems in the Government of Native Races.
- B.43 Koffka (a reply by Bartlett to criticisms of his work by K).
- B.44 incomplete lecture, or lectures, on learning processes (perhaps for Cambridge course).
- B.45 A Preliminary Note on Promising Lines for the Assessment of Temperament.
- B.46 A note on early signs of Skill Fatigue.
- B.47 The Development of Skill.  
Summary. 1. Definition. 2. The Development of Skill.  
3. Sequences in Skill. 4. Objective Control. 5. The Task.  
6. Co-ordination. 7. Continued Exercise. 8. Mental Skill.

- B.48 Fatigue in the case of Skill.
- B.49 Experimental Psychology in Modern Society.  
1. The Study of Human Skill. 2. Incentives. 3. Learning.  
4. Human Relations. 5. Selection.
- B.50 Functional Anthropometry.
- B.51 untitled account of experiments conducted with Dr. Henry Barcroft on mental reactions during decreased O<sub>2</sub> pressure.
- B.52 Self-delusion, and its Value. Paper delivered to the 'Heretics', Cambridge (typescr. with Ms. corrections).
- B.53 Some applications of Experimental Psychology (perh. abstract for address or paper) (typescr.).
- B.54 Prodigious Memories.
- B.55 The Evaluation of Sensory Experiences (incomplete).
- B.56 Psychology in England (a historical survey from 1914 to post 1945).
- B.57 Experimental Psychology, Past and Present.
- B.58 Psychology Past and Present.
- B.59 The Group Mind (incomplete).
- B.60 Four lectures on 'Social Planning' (incomplete); also misc. shorter notes for lectures and papers by FCB, and Mss. found with FCB's papers but not by him.
- B.61 Ms. 'Comments of the Lecture entitled Some Aspects of Fatigue' (by Dr. W.S. Frederick).
- B.62 'Karl Spencer Lashley' (perh. reference or commendation).
- B.63 Foreword to Series 'Psychological Monographs on Cognitive Processes'.
- B.64 'Animism', address to 'The Heretics', Cambridge 1912
- B.65 'Remembering', perh. related to H. & Z. no.54. ? 1935
- B.66 'Social Psychology in Colonial Administration' (Ms. and typescr. versions). 1943
- B.67 'Psychology as a Social Science' (typescr.). 1945
- B.68 'The Bomb and the Human Mind' (Ms. and typescr.). 1945

- B.69 'Experimental Psychology (for History of Science Lectures)'. 1946
- B.70 'Thinking' (The Herbert Spencer Lecture, Oxford) 2pp. only. 1947
- B.71 'The Contact of Social Groups in the Modern World':  
 I The Psychology of the Very Large Social Group.  
 II Forms and Results of the Contact of Groups.  
 III Prediction in the Field of Group Contact.  
 with an introductory Ms. note 'The three chapters of this book were delivered as YANUSEN Lectures in the University of Princeton in February and March 1947. They have been expanded in a few places and some additional detail and references added. In all other respects they remain in their original form'.  
 Ms. and typescr. ? 1947
- B.72 'Psychological Aspects of Industrial Productivity'. ? 1949
- B.73 Speech of welcome by FCB at Psychological Laboratory, Cambridge, to Professor Michotte and colleagues from Louvain. (In French.) 1950
- B.74 'The Industrial Training of the Older Worker' (cyclostyled report). ? 1953
- B.75 'Thinking: An Experimental Approach', discourse given at the Royal Institution, March 1955, with drafts and notes. 1955
- B.76 Obituary notice of Madison Bentley (published in Nature, 2 July 1955) with editorial correspondence. 1955
- B.77 Ms. Draft chapter for Thinking (H. & Z. no.133), and two other typescr. sections 'probably not by FCB' (Dr. A.D. Harris).
- B.78 'Anticipation in Flying', with Ms. note 'talk to Congress of Aviation Medicine'. typescr. 1958
- B.79 'Memory', article for Enc. Brit., typescr. 1958
- B.80 'Association, Mental', article for Enc. Brit., typescr.
- B.81 'A little more about Remembering' (12 pp. Ms.) ? 1960  
 1. The Topic of the Book.  
 2. Theory of Remembering.  
 3. 'Turning round on one's own Schemata'.  
 4. Immediate Versus Remote Remembering.  
 5. Remembering Discrete Items, and Return to Remembering (11 pp.). Typescr. of above with new title and an added section I 'A 'Romantic' Approach', the other sections being renumbered 2-6.
- B.82 'Recent Developments in the Psychology of Thinking'; contribution to Recent Trends in Theory and Practice of Psychology, Silver Jubilee Commemorative volume of the Faculty of Education and Psychology, Baroda, India., with related correspondence. 1959-60

Bartlett	CSAC 36/13/75		9
B.83	untitled address to International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine, Dublin, 14 Sept. 1964.		1964
B.84	'Foreword', prob. for <u>The framework of human behaviour</u> by Julian M. Blackburn, 1947.		1947
B.85	'The Bearing of Medicine and Psychology upon Engineering' (+ one unidentified page).		
B.86	'What's the Use of Psychology?'. Preface and Ch.1 of a 'short book', describing early life, Cambridge studies and lecturers before and during 1914-18 War.	?	1964
B.87	Sketches for short stores (by Bartlett).		
B.88	Misc. reports:		
	1. On the efficient length of the working week.		(c.1943)
	2. The Positioning of Instrument Controls.		
	3. Fatigue: Navigators and Radio operators.		1944
	4. The Role of the Operator in Tracking Targets.		1944
	5. Assessment and Structure of Mechanical Ability.		1944
	6. The Relations of Psychiatrists and Psychologists in regard to the Post-War Development and Application of Psychiatry and Psychology.		1942
	7. A Note on Personnel Problems in the Royal Navy.		
	8. Speed of Performance.		

C. Publications C.1 - C.32

C.1-C.29	Mss. of published papers. The related no. in Harris & Zangwill's handlist is given in each case.		
C.1	'Inheritance and Social Status' (H. & Z. no.31).		1927
C.2	'Cambridge, England 1887-1937' (H. & Z. no.57).		1937
C.3	'Anthropology in Reconstruction' (H. & Z. no.70).		1943
C.4	'Fatigue following highly skilled work' (H. & Z. no.71).		1943
C.5	'Current problems in visual function and visual perception' (H. & Z. no.72).		1943
C.6	'Psychology after the War' (H. & Z. no.73) (Ms. and corrected typescr. versions).		1944
C.7	Obituary of K.J.W. Craik (H. & Z. no.74).		1945
C.8	'Some Growing Points in Experimental Psychology' (H. & Z. no.75) (Ms. and typescr. versions).		1945

Bartlett	CSAC 36/13/75	10
C.9	'Psychological Methods for the Study of 'Hard' and 'Soft' Features of Culture' (H. & Z. no.78).	1946
C.10	'Visitor to America' (H. & Z. no.79) (typescr.).	1947
C.11	'Some Problems of 'Display' and 'Control'' (H. & Z. no.82) (Ms. and typescr. versions)	1947
C.12	'The Measurement of Human Skill' (H. & Z. nos. 84, 85) (Ms. and typescr. versions)	1947
C.13	'Men, Machines and Productivity' (H. & Z. no.87).	1948
C.14	'Psychological Research in Industry' (H. & Z. no.93).	1949
C.15	'Incentives' (H. & Z. no.96) (with several drafts).	1950
C.16	'Human Tolerance Limits' (H. & Z. no.97).	1950
C.17	Foreword to 'The Mind at Work and Play' (H. & Z. no.97).	1951
C.18	'Psychology' (H. & Z. no.117).	1952
C.19	'Recent Advances in Knowledge about Hearing' (H. & Z. no.131) (Ms., typescr., editorial corresp.).	1958
C.20	'Laboratory work on Fatigue' (H. & Z. no.132) (typescr.).	1958
C.21	Obituaries of Herbert Sidney Langfeld (H. & Z. no.134, and another).	1958
C.22	'The Future for Ergonomics' (H. & Z. no.140) (corrected typescr.).	1962
C.23	'On Getting and Using Information' (H. & Z. no.145).	1962
C.23A	Another version.	
C.24	'Some Remarks about Skill' (H. & Z. no.150).	1966
C.25	'The Task of the Operator in Machine Work' (H. & Z. no.178) (Ms. and typescr. versions).	1943
C.26	'The Future of Industrial Psychology' (H. & Z. no.179) (Ms. and typescr. versions).	1943
C.27	'Synthesis in Education' (H. & Z. no.180).	1944
C.28	'The Relation of 'Thresholds' of Sensory Acuity to Perceptual Efficiency' (H. & Z. no.182).	1945
C.29	'Hail and Farewell' (H. & Z. no.187) (duplicated).	1952
C.30	Misc. book reviews (Ms.).	1942-60

- C.31 Misc. offprints of published papers:  
 'W.H.R. Rivers', The Eagle, Camb., 43, 12-14  
 (H. & Z. no.19).  
 'James Ward 1943-1925', Am. J. Psychol., 36, 449-453  
 (H. & Z. no.24).  
 'The Bearing of Medicine and Psychology upon Engineering'.  
 James Clayton Lecture delivered at an Ordinary Meeting of  
 the Inst. Mech. Eng., 22 March 1961.  
 Review of 'A Survey report on Human Factors in Undersea  
 Warfare', Nat. Acad. Sci., Nature no.622 1956.
- C.32 Misc. corresp. re publications and lectures. 1945-55
- D. Cambridge University D.1 - D.5
- D.1 Notes and reports on research projected or in progress, organisation  
 of subject at University, etc. (3 files):
1. Ms. draft of report by 'Group' on organisation of  
 Field Survey Units for psychological research and its  
 application to Colonial Administration.
  2. 'Proposed Investigation of Patterns of Ageing'.
  3. 'Effects of Cold on Behaviour' (Ms. by FCB and  
 another) 23 Jan. 1948.
  4. Application to Rockefeller Foundation for support  
 for Laboratory of Exper. Psychol., Cambridge.
  5. Suggestions for research.
  6. Proposals for research.
- D.2 Misc. papers and notes, mainly related to Psychol. Lab. Univ.  
 Cambridge:
1. 'Notes for Part II Class', May 1945.
  2. 'The Psychological Lab. Univ. of Cambridge Unit  
 in Applied Psychology' (Account of work and publns.  
 during War, with sep. note on those of K.J.W. Craik  
 and FCB.)
  3. 'Report on Research Work from the Cambridge Psychological  
 Laboratory, for the six months ending 1946.'
  4. 'Probable Post-War Requirements in the Department of  
 Experimental Psychology'.
  5. 'Post War Research in Aviation Medicine. Personnel  
 Research with particular reference to Psychological  
 Problems' (incomplete).
  6. Note on Mackworth's experiments (perh. related to  
 H. & Z. no.101).
  7. Long Vacation Courses.
- D.3 Reports on work of Cambridge Psychological Lab. 1943 (2), on  
 theses, etc.

D.4 Misc. teaching material. 'Dilemma Tests', stories and articles for reproduction, etc.

D.5 Cambridge Nuffield Research Unit on Ageing. 1945-61  
Corresp. and papers on research proposed, grants from Nuffield Foundation, reports by FCB on progress and new projects for research, etc.  
(Incl. Ms. draft of 'The First Eighteen Months of the Cambridge Nuffield Research Unit on Ageing', J. Geront. 3, 294-295. H. & Z. no.88).  
Corresp. with L. Farrer-Brown, Sir Alan Parkes, James E. Birien.