

NEW YEAR EDITION

BREAKING NEWS

1895

DECEMBER 31

A NEW TAKE ON HYSTERIA



Freud in 1891

Joseph Breuer and young partner Sigmund Freud published *Studies in Hysteria* (1895), a series of case studies, shining a new light on causes and treatment of Hysteria. Freud and Breuer have shifted away from Charcot's neurological approach, instead suggesting that the disorder is significantly based in unconscious thought and life events centering around sexuality. The book takes a strong stance on the causality of neurotic behaviour that is seen in patients suffering from Hysteria. Freud and Breuer argue that all or almost all neurotic behaviour can be traced back to some sexual experience or desire. While previous minds have acknowledged the importance of sex in neurotic behaviour (Charcot), none have given it as much weight as Freud and Breuer do.

The book contains a series of case studies Breuer and Freud have conducted over the past several years. The cases focus on women suffering from various types of Hysteria. Freud and Breuer offer a new way of assessing and curing these patients. They believe that in cases where hysteria has been caused by a traumatic event, the patient's mind often buries the memory, letting it fester in their unconscious mind. This internalization can cause a series of neurotic symptoms including loss of language, loss of proper motor function or even blindness (Breuer & Freud, 1895). The only way for these symptoms to be alleviated is to for the patient re-experience the event, usually through the help of hypnosis.

Like their predecessor Charcot, Freud & Breuer rely heavily on the use of hypnosis to assess cause and administer treatment. As he states in the book Freud believes that in order for a clear and convincing connection to be made between the causes and symptoms of the condition, the memories from when symptoms first began must be aroused and brought into consciousness through hypnosis (Freud & Breuer 1895). Freud and Breuer are the first to probe the "unconscious mind" in hopes of curing hysteria and its neurotic symptoms. A bright hope for the future of this field.

WILDE FOUND GUILTY IN RETRIAL

This past year, well-known playwright Oscar Wilde, was found guilty of 25 counts of gross indecency. It was discovered that Wilde had been engaging in homosexual acts with a young British noble named Alfred Douglas. The affair had been going on for 4 years, having started in 1891. Wilde's wife Constance Lloyd was unaware of the affair and has yet to comment on Wilde's verdict. Wilde was first tried for homosexuality on April 26, with the jury unable to reach a decision. The retrial took place in May, three weeks after the first. The jury reached a verdict of guilty, and Wilde was sentenced to two years of hard labour, the maximum sentence for this crime. The sentence began May 26, being served at Pentonville Prison in London, England. Wilde's lover, Alfred Douglas was not tried despite the fact that Wilde was found guilty. A charge has not been ruled out, but it is unlikely that Douglas will be charged and tried for gross indecency or sodomy.

DREYFUS STRIPPED OF RANK, SENT TO PRISON

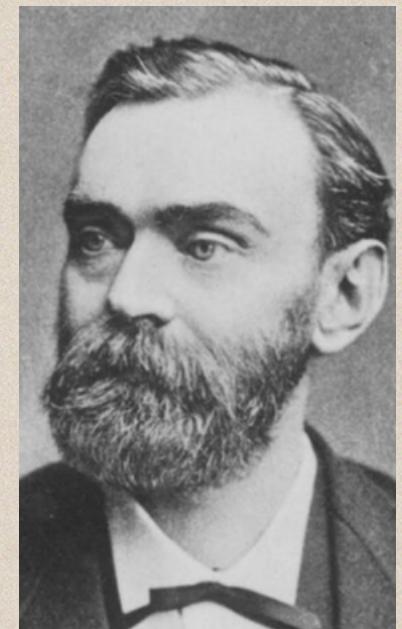
Captain Alfred Dreyfus was officially stripped of his military rank this year and was sent to Devil's Island on April 13 to serve his sentence. Dreyfus was found guilty of selling military secrets to German militia on December 22, 1894. There has been some speculation that the evidence that the decision was based on was unreliable. The handwriting was not an exact match to Dreyfus and bore a striking resemblance to that of a member of his battalion. More updates to come.



Wilde in undated photograph

NOBEL CEMENTS LEGACY

On November 27, 1895 Alfred Nobel signed his last will and testament. Nobel was most well known for his invention of dynamite, used in mining and demolition as well as military applications. With a strong interest in science and political landscapes Nobel ensured that the majority of his estate would go to establishing a set of prizes for individuals who excel in different fields. The prizes will be in Physical Science, Chemistry, Medical Science or Physiology, Literary Work, and International Fraternity. These Nobel Prizes will be available internationally to anyone, as long as they are able to show excellence in their field. With this final act Alfred Nobel solidifies his importance to the scientific community as well as the world.



Nobel in undated photograph

CROWD PSYCHOLOGY, ARE YOU REALLY IN CONTROL?

Have you ever wondered why you act differently when in a crowd versus when you are alone? Well, not to worry, Gustave Le Bon has the answer. This past year Le Bon published his book *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*. In the book he studies and explains how people's beliefs, behaviours and perceptions change when they find themselves in large crowds.

Le Bon begins the book by explaining how crowds need to be analyzed. He believes that we can not look at crowds as the sum of all the individual people in them and instead see them as their own psychological entity. In a crowd, individuals achieve a mental unity where intelligence and sense of responsibility are dulled. He explains how this effect occurs through three possible processes.

First, being a part of a crowd gives a feeling of some sort of invincibility. This numbs our inhibitions and survival instincts, leading to more reckless behaviours. Second, he proposes an idea of collective interest taking place over individual interest. In simpler terms, when in crowds, individuals share emotions and follow the group as they consider their best interests to align with the groups. The final explanation follows that of the first. When in groups people are more suggestible, feeling pressure to make decisions from other crowd members, leading to hasty decisions that have not been thought over (Le Bon, 1895).

He goes on to discuss crowd morality, emotions, reasoning, emotions and much more. What was very interesting about this publication was Le Bon's idea of looking at crowds as their own psychological entities and not simply the sum of the individuals in them. Copies can be found at local libraries or bookstores.



Le Bon in undated photograph

FIRST EVER BOXER DOG SHOW
HELD IN MUNICH, GERMANY!

KOREAN EMPRESS MYEONGSEONG ASSASSINATED IN HOME, SINGLE FINGER FOUND

15 LOST IN ATTEMPTED RESCUE

While most people take joy in the day before Christmas, this past eve came with somber news. 15 Crew members perished during an attempted rescue off the shores of Kingstown, Ireland. The cause appears to be the weather as there were incredibly strong winds and heavy rain throughout the day. The crew members are survived by their wives, children, and siblings. With hope, this tragedy can be a lesson to stay on land during strong storms.

ALFRED BINET OPENS
PARIS LABORATORY
FOR CHILD STUDY
AND EXPERIMENTAL
TEACHING

THIRD WAR IN PAST 50 YEARS BEGINS IN CUBA

On February 24 of this year a string of uprisings began on the island of Cuba. Cuba has been occupied by Spain for over 300 years and the people indigenous to the country seemed to have had enough. The country has been experiencing riots and rebellion all over. Some of the major cities where these uprisings have occurred include Santiago, Guantánamo, Jiguaní, El Cobre, El Caney, and Alto Songo. The rebels had no access to weaponry when the raids began as they had been banned after the last war. The number of casualties has yet to be reported but by December of this year Spain had sent over 98,000 troops in efforts to contain the citizens. Spain is facing difficulties not only because this was unexpected but also due to the help Cuban citizens are receiving from the United States Military. This war shows no sign of ending soon and who the victor will be remains unclear. We hope this war ends soon and no more life is lost.



Militants riding horses into battle

NEW MEDICAL BACK TREATMENT
PERFORMED FOR FIRST TIME IN
DAVENPORT, IOWA, U.S.A. TREATMENT
DUBBED CHIROPRACTIC ADJUSTMENT



Latrobe YMCA team

RUDYARD KIPLING PUBLISHES NEW STORY

Writer Rudyard Kipling published his new story *Mowgli Leaves the Jungle Forever*. The story can be found in the magazine *Cosmopolitan* for 10 cents. The story focuses on a boy named Mowgli who was lost by his parents in the jungle and must now survive.

FIRST PROFESSIONAL GAME OF NEW SPORT PLAYED IN AMERICA

The first ever professional game of American Football was played this year on September 3. The game took place in Latrobe, Pennsylvania featuring the Latrobe YMCA and Jeannette Athletic Club. The goal of the game is to have more points than your opponent after a certain amount of time has elapsed. Points can be scored by running the ball past a line that the opposing team is defending. Latrobe YMCA ended up winning the game with a final score of 12-0. Although the name is unoriginal this new sport is exciting and could develop into a popular physical activity in the future.

BY CYCLISTS REQUIRED TO PASS
TEST BEFORE THEY CAN RIDE
IN MUNICH