Peter Thielst: The concept of emotions in the history of ideas

Emotions are the opposite of thoughts, just as sensuality is the opposite of spirit, body the opposite of soul. In the history of ideas the concept of emotions is just as miserable as the concept of sensuality and the concept of body. With the greek-orphian soma-sema-thought and the christian hope of salvation we have the beginning of that disruption in the view of man, which leads to doubt in body and emotions and often condemnation. If not morally, then because of theory of knowledge (emotions as confusing the pure thought). The article deals with the historical and ideological background and gives some characteristical examples from Plato to Nietzsche.

Benny Karpatschof: The Phylogenesis of the Feeling

The litterature on The Feelings is characterized by a considerable confusion. The concept of feeling has attached a series of apparently unsumountable metaphysicaI cleavages, which are also expressed in the disputes about terminology and definitions in the field. The article takes a phylogenetic approach, following the Hegelian idea of concordance between the logic of the concepts and the logic of evolution. The theoretical points of departure is Leontjews concept of Activity and his theory of the Stadies of the evolution of psychic life. In the article distinctions are made between Need, Motivation and Feeling. The latter concept is subdivided in three different levels, called, Affect, Emotion and Value. Feeling is defined as broad category concerning the general evaluation of the relation between the individual and its surroundings.

Lone Karpatschof: The communicative feelings

In continuation of the previous article, "The Phylogenesis of the Feelings" (by B. Karpat­schof), the social or communicative function of Personality is analysed in terms of Feelings, which are supposed organized hierarchically in three levels, an organization orginally proposed by Shand. The Conflicts between the different levels are discussed from a clinical psychological point of view, exemplified by the dilemma experienced by battered wives in a refuge.

Martin Johansen: Phenomenological traits about inhibition of emotions and inhibitionfeelings. 3.

In two previous articles the author has tried to describe phenomenological aspects about inhibition of emotions and to classify and name types of inhibitions of feeling. His research is defined to concern conscious phenomena, or phenomena that may easily become conscious.

The present text illustrates how inhibition of emotion, functioning effectively – possibly fixated –, may be influenced to break down by certain unforeseen factors that are
communicated to the person involved. An attempt is made to identify the nature of such straining influences, and in addition to determine circumstances that prevent a straining factor from inducing a collapse of inhibition.

To conceive the straining process as an inhibition of the inhibition is suggested.

As demonstrated by the author's examples, established inhibitions may be only episodically effective. This seems to indicate that the original founding of the inhibition takes place with only that kind and amount of 'vehicles' which are just necessary at the moment of the first establishment. And as a consequence the appropriate unforeseen straining factor on occasion brings the inhibition to collapse.

In the following section the author tries to characterize the emotional experience of the inhibition of a feeling. An attempt is made to set up categories of inhibition-feelings, — offensive or defensive types marked for instance by some variety of endeavour, by distaste, counterbalancing, or by invincibility. All this is based on the postulate that inhibition-feelings are emotions in their own right, only difficult to name.

A concluding section discusses certain difficulties in naming categories of inhibitions that restrain the feelings.

Ole Andkjær Olsen: Unconscious Affects

Psychoanalytic affect theory is divided into two badly connected parts. The first one deals with fylogenetic heritage, bodily organs and functions, drives, and — to some extent — social interaction. The second one deals with conscious affects — sometimes related to specific affect discharge processes, affective regulation of psychic processes, ontogenetic development of the reality principle on the basis of the pleasure principle, and the mechanisms of defence. The missing link is a theory concerning unconscious affects, and psychoanalytic litterature shows little interest in this topic. The present paper examines some of the existent beginnings of such a theory, mainly in Freud's writings, but orientated towards ideas expressed by Sandor Ferenczi, Melanie Klein, Jean Laplanche and André Green.

Laurits Lauritsen: Affect and effect. What becomes of Freud's affect in the psychoanalysis of Jacques Lacan?

Affect, in Freud's psychoanalysis, is the proper effect of repression. The french psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan, who died in 1981, is more concerned by how the repressed is coming back and incorporated into the actual speach act performed in the psychoanalytical situation. Therefore he is articulating the concept of affect into a structural part of the "psychic apparatus". Affect, in this respect, is representing the inherent difficulty of symbolic working-through. In Lacan's theory of the analytical speach act, the IRS-system representent the connection between imaginary, symbolic and "real" trends in the psychic development. "Real" (the psychic real) is opposed to "reality" (outer reality), and is seen as an inner boundary to analytical efforts in psychoanalysis. Affect, therefore, as opposed to symbolic working-through, is the structural resistance of the psychic system as such.

Bjarne Sode Funch: The demonic

In his work about "Angst" Kierkegaard describes the "demonic" with a remarkable insight and intensity. In this article the modes of Being that form the conditions of the demonic state are described, and their consequences for the dilemma about selfreflexion are discussed. The essence of the demonic is specified.
Boje Katzenelson: Knowledge, interests and research policy

The paper came into existence during the author's participation in preparing a report on Danish research policy, published by The Danish Council for Research Policy and Planning in the spring of 1984. It treats the contrast between objective knowledge and knowledge by interests. The knowledge-interests of Habermas are discussed. Knowledge-interests are determined as a unavoidable but insufficient foundation for knowledge. Knowledge is also characterized by being universal and directed towards an object. These features make true knowledge possible.

Arne Poulsen: Development of the self

Consciousness and prereflexion appear at the age of 9 to 12 months. This psychological phenomenon is an intersubjective product, made possible by a cooperation between child and caretakers. The empirical consequences of this phenomenon are described. They confirm the point of view that the way to autonomy goes via intersubjectivity.