

## II Historical Experience + Historical Knowledge

Human Knowing = exp + used + judg  
Historical Knowing involves hist exper, under, & judgment  
Some contemporaries have hist. exp. w/ hist. und. of what's going on

— Sequel's hist. psychological present | part an instant  
| but a time span

— time-span may be extended | by memories, reports, hist. narrative  
| by anticipation, forecasts, calculation  
Mean a historical being via thought experiment

if an individual suffered amnesia  
cannot recall who he is

fails to recognize relatives, friends, associates

does not know his commitments, his lawful responsibilities

where he works, how he makes his living

how he to perform his ordinary tasks

if he is to survive after cure the amnesia or begin afresh  
our past have made us what we are

or that capital we have to live or else start afresh

what holds for the individual, holds for the group of individuals

group amnesia = group impotence

as individuals, so groups live on their past

so to speak, their past lives on in them

past functioning of good of order = past routines +  
routines + minimal accommodation

mean as historical being: living tradition is existential history

individual + group memories

stories of ex-plants + legends of heroes

rough history for group to have an identity as a group

for individuals to maintain + promote good of order

Transition from man's historicity to historical narrative

Medium of transition: 1) autobiographies 2) biography

182 +

1 Diary → autobiographies

183 +

2 Biography

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3 Life + times → times

4 Procedure of historian

## III Critique History

Begin from contrast: pre-critical history

- 185<sup>1</sup> community is the conspicuous community - one's own
- 185<sup>2</sup> it is not critical history - not just what happened but also how to keep it happening
- 186<sup>1</sup> not just sorting out testimonies - finding some credible - to be worked into a narrative - others incredible to be deposited in a waste basket
- 186<sup>2</sup> from historical experience → knowledge of historical process  
need for a series of discoveries
- 186<sup>3</sup> potential, formal, actual evidence
- 187<sup>1</sup> process starts from question for best intelligence
- 187<sup>2</sup> transition from potential to formal evidence - heuristic
- 187<sup>3</sup> shift in manner of one's questioning - esthetic
- 188<sup>1</sup> also selective, constructive, critical
- 189<sup>1</sup> This process occurs twice
- 189<sup>2</sup> intrapersonal or biopolar processes
- 190<sup>1</sup> variety of types of insight → find one that completes the circle
- 190<sup>2</sup> structuring ordering wrapped in data  
orderly expressed in a variation of relations
- 191<sup>1</sup> importance of exact expression of these topics
- 191<sup>2</sup> cumulative process / heuristic esthetic selective constructive critical TWICE
- 191<sup>3</sup> no more than best available opinion
- 192<sup>1</sup> new sources of information Remembrance Remembrance
- 192<sup>2</sup> new perspectives arising from later events
- 192<sup>3</sup> neither of above simply invalidate → do not dissolve whole network of 99 + aa.  
history ongoing; context enlarging; Adorno, Gehlen  
but its effects not universal nor uniform; Freud, Wittgenstein, Schier, much
- 193<sup>1,2</sup> critical history of 2nd degree
- 193<sup>3</sup> presupposed historical knowledge for hist. 99 - closing the circle
- 194<sup>1</sup> critical hist of 2nd degree: brief reviews, monographs, verbal comments

Classification 194 ff

194<sup>2</sup> Aim

two objectives

communication - functioning of hist. group

functional speciality - wide as adjustment (common)

widely misinterpreted as positivistic in letter  $\frac{1}{2}$  19<sup>th</sup>

Becker Collingwood Huxon tract 203-208

~~conception of possibility~~ hypothesis - for judgement of fact = past

~~option - for value - future~~

conception of possibility | of fact - past - <sup>present</sup> judgement of fact - history - critical  
of value - future - option - of value - communication - practical

distinguish or compare (historicism)

195<sup>1</sup>

Relativism

empirical method - scientific community - at any time, no more than particular opinion

immanent - fuller insight - rewrite aesthetic selection constructive critical judgment

dialectic - process or essence of hist. work by conversation  
conclusion does not rest on further insight

195<sup>2</sup>

What is history, method past or, directly

formulating set of procedures that, caeteris paribus, yields historical knowledge.

195<sup>3</sup>

Though I admit that <sup>historical</sup> method does not go to the root of problem of historical <sup>relativism</sup>

still method is not believing available sources - = hist. experience

but historic aesthetic selection constructive critical judgment

195<sup>4</sup>

Aim being to fight the set of procedures that lead historians to affirm possibility  
of repetition historical knowledge

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- Carl Becker
- Erich Rothacker
- Karl Heussi
- Rudolf Bultmann
- Patrick Geddes

175n. ~~Er~~ Gerhard Ebeling