“ODE TO SIGISMUND SCHLOMO JOY”
May 6, Tuesday: Sigismund Schlomo Freud was born to Jewish parents in the Moravian town of Freiberg/Mähren, in the Austrian Empire, and Robert Edwin Peary (who would lay claim inaccurately to have stood atop the North Pole of this planet) was born in Cresson, Pennsylvania. Sir William Stirling Hamilton of Preston, D.D., 9th Baronet, a Kantian advocate of the psychological method in metaphysics whose speculations are no longer much remembered, died in Edinburgh, Scotland.

May 6th
To Clam shell by river—
Our earliest currant out X Oat spawn
showing little polly wogs (?) in meadow
water—The Horse chestnut & Mt
ash leafing—gnawel out at clam shell
how long? cerastium out there under the
bank. That early white birch there was
about done running sap. Eq—sylvaticum {Equisetum sylvaticum}
a day or 2 on the ditch bank there.
The Reverend Henry Ward Beecher issued a volume on a couple of topics about which he knew less than nothing, *Evolution and Religion*.

Dr. Sigmund Freud, after seeing what had been done in a biography of Thomas Carlyle, destroyed his stores of unpublished notes and letters and manuscripts and scientific extracts, sparing only family letters.
He would continue this practice throughout his long life:

Whoever turns biographer commits himself to lies, to concealment, to hypocrisy, to embellishments and even to dissembling his own lack of understanding, for biographical truth is not to be had.
At the age of 39 Dr. Sigmund Freud developed a new treatment that would be the basis of psychoanalysis. “No neurosis is possible with a normal sex life,” he would opinion, but he would himself give up sex at age 42 and would suffer much of his life from stomach upsets, migraine headaches, and nasal catarrh, for which he would prescribe for himself cocaine.

When the patent medicine company Perry Davis & Son relocated its operation from Providence to New-York City, Edmund W. Davis stayed behind in Narragansett, Rhode Island.
Dr. Sigmund Freud had a patient, Anna O., who was paralyzed on the right side of her body, perhaps due to tuberculosis meningitis. He considered this to be a situation in which a painful memory of a psychological trauma involving her father, repressed below the level of consciousness, was doing bodily harm. By hypnosis he was able to help the patient regain slight mobility on the paralyzed side. He wrote about this in “Zur Ätiologie der Hysterie” (“On the etiology of hysteria”).

The activity of Penicillin was noticed by a French medical student, Ernest Duchesne (nothing would come of this, and in particular, neither penicillin nor sulfa drugs would be found to be of much use against tuberculosis).
April 21, Tuesday evening: Moritz Freiherr von Hirsch auf Gereuth, universally known as “The Millionaire Moses,” founder of a Jewish Colonization Association to sponsor large-scale Jewish emigration from nations in which they were being persecuted, such as Russia, to colonies in Argentina, Canada, and Palestine, died of apoplexy in Austria.

The central issue about the scientific standing of the analyses by Dr. Sigmund Freud emerged on this evening in what is now known as his seduction theory (Verführungstheorie). His claim was that this theory was scientifically founded. During the 1890s, while he was working with 18 women patients diagnosed with hysteria, he claimed, each of these patients had reported to him separately and spontaneously that they had been sexually molested as children, usually while they were under the age of 4, and usually by their fathers. His finding would immediately be derided as a mere “fairy tale” by sexologists of that era, such as Richard von Krafft-Ebing. The problem would not be, however, that he had been embarrassed by unfair attacks from his colleagues; the problem would be that this had been a false report from the get-go. We now have had sad experience about the manner in which children during the 1980s in the US had confirmed fantastical sex abuse stories that had actually been suggested to them by over-zealous investigators, investigators who were so certain that they were “onto something” that they had disingenuously manipulated their “anatomically correct” police investigation dolls. Over the course of time even Freud would become doubtful of his own understanding of what had been going on during his interviews with these 18 patients.
September 21, Tuesday: Dr. Sigmund Freud wrote to Dr. Wilhelm Fliess that he had had something of a revelation. His hysterical women patients had not been remembering any actual molestation, but instead, had been recovering their own infantile sexual fantasies, fantasies produced by their Oedipus complex, and by their unrecognized and unacknowledged ambivalent feelings toward their family members — fantasies which otherwise they would have been entirely unable to confront. All of the chronology of psychoanalysis has been written to accord with the dating of this particular letter, although in fact subsequent to this letter Freud would long persist in his previous seduction theory (Verführungstheorie), and would not until 1908 declare the centrality of this Oedipus Complex.

Speaking of fantasy-land, 8-year-old Virginia O’Hanlon of New-York had written to The Sun asking whether Santa was real, and on this day the editor (Francis Pharcellus Church) responded with what by now has become the most reprinted newspaper editorial ever:

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men’s or children’s, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa
Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that’s no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby’s rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.
Founding of the Wednesday Psychological Society: together with a small circle of those interested in the subject Dr. Sigmund Freud participated in a group that would meet regularly in his waiting room for discussions. Among the founder members were Alfred Adler, Wilhelm Stekel, Max Kahane, and Rudolf Reitler.

He received the title of Ordinary Professor of the University of Vienna, and would describe this in a letter: “The population displayed great enthusiasm. There was a shower ... of congratulations and flowers, as if the role of sexuality had suddenly been officially recognized by His Majesty, the meaning of dreams confirmed by the council of ministers and the necessity of psychoanalytical therapy for hysteria ratified by a 2/3 majority in parliament.”

The Reverend Thomas Dixon, Jr.’s THE LEOPARD’S SPOTS: A ROMANCE OF THE WHITE MAN’S BURDEN. Racial conflict is an epic struggle with the future of civilization at stake. Maybe we can’t have human slavery anymore but American blacks cannot be allowed to be politically equal with American whites as that would lead to social equality, and social equality would lead to miscegenation, and miscegenation would lead to the destruction of the family, and the destruction of the family would lead to the destruction of civilized society. Everything we admire and respect would fall like a row of damn dominoes, you fool.

Woodrow Wilson, Class of 1879, was elected 13th president of Princeton University. As president of that university he would turn away black applicants because, uh, black (such a desire for education was –his term– “unwarranted”). Meanwhile, his multi-volume HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE would be greeted warmly by reviewing white scholars — except for a few to whom it would reveal, guess what, “lazy scholarship and a cloying style.”
When the film *The Birth of a Nation* would be shown in the White House, it would be the 1st film ever to be shown there, and President Woodrow Wilson the national historian’s reaction to the screening was “it is like writing history in lightning. My only regret is that it is all so terribly true.” It is reported that Wilson’s scandalously tendentious history book has now been cited in the background material for Hollywood’s *Amistad* film, as academic support for its historical accuracy! (I cannot vouch for this, and it may very well be a mere urban legend.)

However, I must add that President Wilson’s ethos would not be found attractive, by Dr. Sigmund Freud:

> When a pretension to free the world from evil ends only in a new proof of the danger of a fanatic to the commonweal, then it is not to be marveled at that a distrust is aroused in the observer which makes sympathy impossible.¹

¹. Freud would spend his final years, while dying of cancer in England, in the writing of a Presidential biography in which his observations may now be generalized from President Wilson into remarks about a President not yet born, George W. Bush.
Dr. David Starr Jordan’s *The Blood of the Nation: A Study of the Decay of Races Through Survival of the Unfit* (Boston: American Unitarian Association) originated the notion of “race and blood” according to which human qualities and conditions such as talent and poverty were passed through the blood. Rome fell because of the degeneration of its people. What the empire of the United States of America needs in order to avoid what happened to the Roman empire, and take over the whole world and run it right, according to this Unitarian Universalist author who was a biological scientist and therefore an evolutionist, is government compulsory sterilization of the less fit among us. We don’t really need to go all the way to Adolf Hitlerland, we don’t need to poison anyone, for we can get this accomplished over a period of generations without actually going all the way to extermination. We could eventually recreate ourselves as a nation of 100% makers, with 0% takers and mooches to drag us down:

Our Republic shall endure so long as the human harvest is good, so long as the movement of history, the progress of science and industry, leaves for the future the best and not the worst of each generation.
President Woodrow Wilson had declared that through America’s participation in World War I we would “show the world a new and heretofore unheard of motive in warfare,” to wit, righteousness. Yes, the righteous might of our arms had made the world safe for democracy.

Fort Bragg was established in North Carolina. Our War Department had organized “moral zones” around military camps such as this to protect our boys from liquor and loose women (one in eight of these Johnnies was currently getting it in his gun, contracting syphilis). We would continue the great crusade against the Demon Rum back home – Prohibition.

“Killing to end war, that’s like fucking to restore virginity.”
– Vietnam-era protest poster
Dr. Sigmund Freud lost all his savings because they had been tied up in Austrian State Bonds. Meanwhile, his patient load had dwindled to the point that he could barely support his family. Although the Budapest manufacturer Anton von Freund donated 1,000,000 Kronen to psychoanalysis, over the next few years inflation would cause this donation to evaporate.

Woodrow Wilson’s ethos was found to be an unattractive one, by Dr. Sigmund Freud, who considered it as merely a projected mask for self-privileging:

> When a pretension to free the world from evil ends only in a new proof of the danger of a fanatic to the commonweal, then it is not to be marveled at that a distrust is aroused in the observer which makes sympathy impossible.²

2. Freud spent his final years, while dying of cancer in England, collaborating in the writing of the Presidential biography Thomas Woodrow Wilson: A Psychological Study. Freud assures us that Wilson, the highbrow president-elect, had asserted, before witnesses, that “God ordained that I should be the next president of the United States,” and that “Neither you nor any other mortal or mortals could have prevented it,” and commented in regard to these sound bites that “I do not know how to avoid the conclusion that a man who is capable of taking the illusions of religion so literally and is so sure of a special personal intimacy with the Almighty is unfitted for relations with ordinary children of men. As everyone knows, the hostile camp during the war also sheltered a chosen darling of Providence: the German kaiser. It was most regrettable that later on the other side a second appeared. No one gained thereby: respect for God was not increased.” Freud’s observations may now be generalized from President Wilson into remarks about a lowbrow President not yet born, George W. Bush, who, we know, has made similar self-privileging assertions.

“There is only one way to accept America and that is in hate; one must be close to one’s land, passionately close in some way or other, and the only way to be close to America is to hate it; it is the only way to love America.”

— Lionel Trilling
December 10, Friday: President Woodrow Wilson, the architect of the Treaty of Versailles that had brought World War I to its sad conclusion, was the unanimous choice of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee. —Isn’t it a pity that no member of the committee had read John Maynard Keynes’s The Economic Consequences of the Peace, in which the economist was predicting that as a result of the terms of this treaty all hell was going to break loose again? —Isn’t it a pity that no member of the award committee was paying attention to Dr. Sigmund Freud?

What navy officers said was one of the largest and most powerful fleets ever in an American Pacific port had been assembled under Rear Admiral Jayne along nearly 4 miles of the main harbor channel in the port of San Diego, California. It was comprised of 93 American and British war vessels, including 72 destroyers, 5 armored and protected cruisers, 5 mine-sweepers, and nearly a score of tenders and other craft. This Pacific fleet would be accompanied by 11 tankers, supply ships, and tugs, and was scheduled to embark for Central and South America during the month of January. First to leave would be the oil tenders Kanawha and Cuyama, which were to carry along several thousand gallons of fuel oil, and also a large quantity of gasoline for the refueling of the aircraft force, which was to attempt to fly from San Diego to Balboa in the Canal Zone.
Dr. Sigmund Freud wrote a warning to us all, by way of Lytton Stratchey:

"It is impossible to understand the past with certainty, because we cannot divine men’s motives and the essence of their minds and so cannot interpret their actions. Our psychological analysis does not suffice even with those who are near us in space and time, unless we can make them the object of years of the closest investigation, and even then it breaks down before the incompleteness of our knowledge and the clumsiness of our synthesis."
A Geneva Convention agreed to a set of principles on the decent treatment of Prisoners of War. (Citizens in prison for refusing military conscription weren’t regarded as prisoners of war — maybe they were “enemy noncombatants” or something.)

Germany formally ratified the Geneva Protocol we had all agreed to in principle in 1925 renouncing first use of biological weapons. Isn’t that nice? (Gee, what were they up to?)

Oh, wait a minute. Our diplomat had agreed in principle, but our Senate hadn’t yet approved his signature. Our Senate wouldn’t approve his signature for half a century. (Gee, what are we up to?)

Dr. Sigmund Freud’s Civilization and Its Discontents (Das Unbehagen in der Kultur). “I have not the courage to rise up before my fellow-men as a prophet, and I bow to their reproach that I can offer them no consolation: for at bottom, that is what they are all demanding — the wildest revolutionaries no less passionately than the most virtuous believers.”

It was announced that penicillin had been discovered by Alexander Fleming on a September morning in the previous year. We were going to need that, as soon as we realized what it might accomplish and as soon as we would become able to produce enough of it.

One could be elsewhere, as elsewhere does exist. One cannot be elsewhen since elsewhen does not. (To the willing many things can be explained, that for the unwilling will remain forever mysterious.)
October 27, Monday: The Golden Age, a ballet by Dmitri Shostakovich to a scenario by Ivanovsky, was performed publicly for the first time, at the Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet, Leningrad. Two days ago there was a matinée preview and yesterday a private performance. It was extremely successful.

On the island of Taiwan, indigenous Seediq rebels raided Japanese police substations to obtain weapons, and then killed anyone they supposed to be Japanese at an athletic event at an elementary school — including women and children (they were protesting having been, as aboriginals, mistreated).

Duce Benito Mussolini spoke in the hall of the Palazzo Venezia in central Rome about his vision of a “Europe which seeks the inspiration for its doctrines and its practices from Fascism.” He described European political leaders as hypocritically babbling about peace at Geneva while preparing for war everywhere, and asserted that by way of radical contrast his Italy was arming itself merely in self-defense.
Dr. Sigmund Freud and one of his former patients, William Christian Bullitt, Jr. began to collaborate on a psychobiography of President Woodrow Wilson. This psychobiography would not appear until 28 years after Freud’s death, in 1967, as THOMAS WOODROW WILSON: A PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY, and would not then be well received — this attempt at long-distance dissection of a plaster saint would in fact be characterized by a reviewer as “Freudulence.”

Only in 2007, when manuscript evidence first became available, would critics be persuaded that Freud himself actually had played an active part in the creation of such nonsense (the manuscript evidence revealed that it had been Freud himself who had originated a number of the paragraphs that had outraged reviewers). One of the problems had been that Freud had had an excessively negative attitude toward all Americans: “What is the use of Americans, if they bring no money? They are not good for anything else.”

Saw Freud this evening at 6. He was seated in his study at his desk, dressed in pajamas & a dressing gown. He jumped up and seemed genuinely glad to see me. He looked well—eyes sparkling—but he told me he was just recovering from an attack of pneumonia. It was the first time he had been out of bed...he had seen no one but his family for some weeks. “I think I recovered more quickly,” he said, “because I wanted so much to see you and the material you have brought.”
November 7, Friday: It was the 13th anniversary of the Communist Revolution in Russia. Everyone was just ecstatic as the mausoleum of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin in Moscow was dedicated. Line up, folks, for a lookie-loo.

As the Bank of Tennessee went into federal receivership, a chain reaction of bank closures began in and around the American South as over the following 2 weeks more and more depositors would be attempting to withdraw all their funds.

William Christian Bullitt, Jr. recorded the following exchange with Dr. Sigmund Freud, his co-author for a new psychological biography of President Woodrow Wilson:

While working today with Freud, he said—"You and I know that Wilson was a passive homosexual but we won't dare say it."
I said "Certainly we'll say it but subtly."
Freud answered: "That's the equivalent of not saying it at all."

Freud’s contribution to Thomas Woodrow Wilson: A Psychological Study would include various arm’s-distance elaborations in regard to this American President whom he had never met, arm’s-distance elaborations such as “The introduction of the superego of course does not resolve all the difficulties associated with the Oedipus complex, but it does provide a location for a certain part of the libido flow, which originally appeared as activity toward the father.”
Spring: Writing partners William Christian Bullitt, Jr. and Dr. Sigmund Freud had agreed that Bullitt was to receive 2/3ds of any royalties on *Thomas Woodrow Wilson: A Psychological Study* and Freud the remainder. At the same time Bullitt had provided his financially strapped co-author with an advance of $2,500 (which would be more than $40,000 in today’s money — a substantial sum during the Depression years). However, no publication plan would ensue, for at this point Freud had begun to make changes in the text that Bullitt regarded as not only unfounded and unnecessary but also indecent. Bullitt would remember: “After several arguments we decided to forget the book, and to attempt then to agree. When we met, we continued to disagree.” Among the passages that Bullitt vetoed were speculation that Wilson had masturbated excessively and that, obviously, he had had a castration complex. He removed a passage in which his Jewish co-author had directly linked the Christian religion with homosexuality.
December: Dr. Sigmund Freud complained to Marie Bonaparte (a great-granddaughter of Napoleon’s younger brother Lucien): “From [co-author William Christian Bullitt, Jr.] no direct news. Our book [Thomas Woodrow Wilson: A Psychological Study] will never see the light of day.” Dr. Freud would predict to a friend that the book would never be issued “as long as a Democratic administration was in office.” Bullitt’s foreword would contain a revealing explanation for the delays: “Both Freud and I were stubborn, and our beliefs were dissimilar. He was a Jew who had become an agnostic. I have always been a believing Christian.”
February 28, Wednesday: For the past 11 years or thereabouts, Charles Ramsay, a resident of Niuafoʻou Island (the name means “many new coconuts”), a volcanic rim island in the central Pacific also known as “Tin Can Island,” an island lacking a landing point at which deep-water vessels might approach its shoreline, had been in the practice of swimming out through the constant breakers any time a steamer might pass in the vicinity, in order to retrieve packages of mail. Knowing of this, passengers aboard such vessels had been in the practice of addressing letters to relatives, or to famous personages who were known to be avid stamp collectors such as President Roosevelt in the White House and King George in Buckingham Palace. They would include a $5 bill in the mail packet to reward this “swimming postman,” and he would forward their envelopes with the prized local “Tin Can Island Canoe Mail” postmark. However, when the S.S. Mariposa had passed, Charles “Swimming Postman” Ramsay had not managed to retrieve its packet. The packet had later been picked up on a beach of Naitauba in the Fiji group, from whence it had been forwarded to Suva Island, and the forwarded envelopes would on this day bear that nonfamous postmark rather than “Tin Can Island Canoe Mail.” Too bad, how sad!

In 1920, borrowing his phrasing directly from Isaac Newton, Dr. Sigmund Freud had commented that “we do not feel justified in framing any hypotheses” on the “excitatory processes” in the mind. However, Freud had remained confident that much could nevertheless be understood about mental functioning. In this year when American psychologist Saul Rosenzweig sent along some experimental studies designed to test the validity of several psychoanalytic propositions, Dr. Freud replied politely on this day but a little curtly, in German, that while he found such investigations interesting, he saw little value in them “because the wealth of dependable observations” on which his assertions rested “make them independent of experimental verification. Still, it can do no harm.”
June 4, Saturday: His daughter Anna having undergone interrogation by the Gestapo, Dr. Sigmund Freud packed up some of his relatives (leaving behind 4 sisters who would be killed), and fled Vienna aboard the Orient Express.

He was helped in this by American diplomat William Christian Bullitt, Jr., a former patient with whom he had begun a book project. Visiting him in London after this rescue, Bullitt would be “delighted when he [Dr. Freud] agreed to eliminate the additions he had written at the last minute [to their book manuscript THOMAS WOODROW WILSON: A PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY], and we were both happy that we found no difficulty in agreeing on certain changes in the text.” The primary difficulty was that Wilson’s 2d wife Edith Wilson remained alive, and obviously would be hurt at such an evisceration of her beloved deceased husband the incessant masturbator with an Oedipus complex in regard to his minister father. After both authors had signed the final page of each chapter, Bullitt provided a hand-tooled leather folder with Freud’s initials engraved on the front, in which to store the manuscript.
June 5, Sunday: In flight from persecution by the Nazis in their homeland of Austria, Dr. Sigmund Freud, 82 and frail, with his immediate family, arrived aboard the Orient Express at Paris. After a few hours of rest the family would continue on his way to London, where they had been granted asylum.

June 6, Monday: In flight from persecution by the Nazis in their homeland of Austria, Dr. Sigmund Freud, 82 and frail, with his immediate family, arrived at a rented home near Regent’s Park in London, where they had been granted asylum.

June 7, Tuesday: Waiving a 5-year residency requirement, the British government granted immediate citizenship to Dr. Sigmund Freud.

New York’s W2XBS broadcast the 1st televised Broadway production, Rachel Crothers’s “Susan and God.”
January 28, Saturday: Dr. Sigmund Freud had found refuge near London, in Hampstead, in the home that has since become the Freud Museum. On this day the founders and owners of the Hogarth Press, Freud’s publishers Virginia and Leonard Woolf, stopped by for tea. Freud presented Virginia with a narcissus (this would be their only encounter with their author).

The Spanish Nationalists captured Arenys de Mar and began 2 days of air raids on La Garriga.

William Butler Yeats died at the Hôtel Idéal Séjour, in Menton, France at the age of 73.

Cast a cold Eye
On Life, on Death.
Horseman, pass by!

September 23, Saturday: Sigmund Freud died at about 3AM from a requested overdose of morphine administered by his physician or by a colleague of his daughter Anna Freud. He was in great pain due to advanced cancer of the mouth, caused by his habit of sucking on big fat stogies (sometimes a cancer is just a cancer). The ashes would be placed in an ancient Greek krater painted with Dionysian scenes, and when his wife Martha Bernays Freud would die in 1951, her ashes also would be placed in that krater.

Between them Hitler and Stalin would drive Freudianism out of such venues as Vienna, Berlin, Budapest, and Moscow, but it would be finding new venues in both London and New York City. After World War II it would be Freudian psychoanalysts who would create the 1st couple of editions of Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) — by 1955 fully half the hospital patients in the United States would be ones who were diagnosed as harboring mental disorders. Freudianism would operate like a flashlight in a candle factory: it would be considered to be the only real way to figure out anything at all. These postwar decades would be the boom years of this new therapy. In 1954, 12½% of American medical students would choose psychiatry as their specialty! You could talk to people on the street, who knew all about repression and cathexis, who had never read a word of Freud’s writings.

The Polish forces won at Krasnobród.

The Panama Conference began, with 21 countries of the Americas in attendance.

The German Nazis confiscated radios owned by Jews.

The commissioning of German submarine U-54 under its initial commander, Kapitänleutnant Georg-Heinz Michel.
LOLITA by Vladimir Nabokov.

Frederick Campbell Crews received his Ph.D. from Princeton University for a dissertation in which he explained E.M. Forster on the basis of what this author had written. Boring! Since professors in English departments are always on the lookout for a theoretical apparatus that will provide coherence and consistency for their enterprise of decoding the subtexts of a text, and exposing its implicit meaning or ideology, and since decoding and exposing are what psychoanalysis is all about, it is natural that they would begin to soar around it like so many moths around a flame. Crews had as an undergrad been enamored of the writings of Friedrich Nietzsche, and as an extension of this he would soon begin to rethink what he had written in terms of this newly popular Freudianism.
John Steinbeck received a Nobel Prize.

Professor Frederick Campbell Crews of the University of California – Berkeley published his 1958 Princeton University dissertation on E.M. Forster as a book. Of course, he needed this for his publish-or-perish academic career, but already he was disenchanted with what he had written and was rethinking it in terms of the new Freudian approach, of which he was becoming enamored.
DuPont researcher Stephanie Kwolek invented a polyaramid fiber that would come to be known as “Kevlar.” It would find its 1st use in steel-belted radial tires but would, in 1971, as “Kevlar-29,” be found to resist penetration by handgun bullets, and this would lead to the introduction, in 1974, of soft body armor resistant to pistol and shotgun fire. During December 1975 an off-duty Seattle police officer, Ray Johnson, would apparently become the 1st person to survive a shooting on account of such armor, and by 2000, the plastic would reportedly have saved about 2,500 US police officers from death or serious injury. The US military was following these developments, and so in 1982 it began to replace its steel helmets and nylon ballistic vests with Kevlar helmets and vests. Research would continue and, during the 1990s, lighter, stronger, and more flexible vests would be introduced that had pockets in front and back to hold ceramic boron carbide armor plates. These plates would be capable of absorbing even direct hits from rifle fire, and so their use in Afghanistan and Iraq would be credited with saving the lives of British and American soldiers. Unfortunately, such helmets, vests, and plates still do not provide any protection for limbs, and so the next research goal would become to develop a flexible cloth that would rigidify its molecular structure when struck by a projectile (but none of this will protect you from a bacteria-filled light bulb).

William Christian Bullitt, Jr., who was approaching the age of 75 and had been retired or dismissed from the American diplomatic service, wrote to Henry A. Laughlin, recently retired as chairman of the board of the Houghton-Mifflin publishing company, to offer for publication an old manuscript of his and Dr. Sigmund Freud’s, Thomas Woodrow Wilson: A Psychological Study. There appeared to be no further rationale to keep this inflammatory long-distance psychobiography in the closet, as President Wilson’s surviving widow Edith Wilson had deceased.
Thomas Pynchon’s *The Crying of Lot 49*.

Professor Frederick Campbell Crews’s *The Sins of the Fathers*, a psychoanalytic study of Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Norman Holland’s *Psychoanalysis and Shakespeare*, a work in a similar vein.

Hans Mommsen’s *Beamtentum im Dritten Reich* (Civil Servants in the Third Reich) appealed to the German sense of collective responsibility. To focus on *Führer Adolf Hitler* would amount to an evasion, he reasoned, for Nazism had not been merely something some particularly evil person had brought upon us. He outlined a “cumulative radicalization” of the Nazi state in which the *Führer* had functioned as a “weak dictator,” allowing policy-making to be dominated by competing bureaucratic agencies (abroad, this *Sonderweg* theory would take on an anti-German edge, indicting that nation’s entire history and culture). This *Sonderweg* argument was attacked in what would come to be known as the *Historikerstreit* (“Historians’ Dispute”): German right-wingers would insist that their nation end all this ceaseless ritual self-flagellation, end it by reframing Nazism as merely a reaction to Bolshevism and by coming to understand that the Holocaust had amounted to merely another genocide among numerous such unfortunate historical happenings.
February 15, Wednesday: Japanese correspondents reported that anti-Mao forces were in control of Lhasa.

In general elections in the Netherlands, smaller parties made gains at the expense of the 2 largest parties.

Mutations II for piano by Ralph Shapey was performed for the initial time, at Bowling Green State University, Ohio.

J.A. Sandford of Wallingford, Connecticut observed an orange-and-white longhaired winged cat that was “positively waddling due to large wing-like growths hanging from its midsection.” The fur was matted forming rectangular pads about 5 inches long by 4 inches wide.

Professor Frederick Campbell Crews’s anthology of essays PSYCHOANALYSIS AND LITERARY PROCESS. He had begun to notice that psychoanalysis was of limited usefulness in his classroom: his students could wax wise by offering contradictory psychoanalytic readings all of which would sound most impressive, but these seminars were boiling down to mere ingenuity contests. Psychoanalysis was beginning to appear to amount to a circular methodology of self-justification. No matter how wise they waxed, his grad students were entirely unable to persuade one another that their interpretation was more worthy than some alternate interpretation. Professor Crews wondered whether what was going on in the psychoanalyst’s office might similarly boil down to this sort of game of interpretive freelancing.
Nobel Prize-winning medical biologist Peter Medawar termed Freudian psychoanalytic theory “the most stupendous intellectual confidence trick of the twentieth century.”

Professor Frederick Campbell Crews’s collection of essays Out of My System, a 1st attempt to get such Freudianism out of his system.

Members of the United Farm Workers union would no longer need to use the short-handled hoe while working in lettuce cultivation.
Erving Goffman’s final papers, “The Interaction Order” and “Felicity’s Condition,” were published posthumously.

E.M. Thornton’s Freud and Cocaine offered that Dr. Freud, who had begun as a champion of the medical uses of the then-legal drug cocaine, had become an addict before authoring The Interpretation of Dreams.
Indira Gandhi was assassinated.

Janet Malcolm reported on the Sigmund Freud debunkers, IN THE FREUD ARCHIVES.
Kurt Vonnegut’s GALÁPAGOS was published by Delacorte/Seymour Lawrence, and then the author attempted suicide by a combination of sleeping pills and alcohol — but there was a light at the end of his tunnel.

Professor Adolf Grünbaum’s THE FOUNDATIONS OF PSYCHOANALYSIS offered that, whatever these foundations amounted to, they had never amounted to science. They had amounted to, perhaps, storytelling? (storytelling beneath a veneer of science-talk).

Professor Freeman J. Dyson’s ORIGINS OF LIFE (Cambridge UP).

(“Origins” is intentionally plural. Professor Dyson argues for a “dual origin” model in which the stage of hereditary reproductive replication had been preceded by a stage in which metabolism was already occurring, but lacked anything other than mathematical probability to cause the preservation of evolutionary improvements.)
A medical study discovered that many of the men renewing professional boxing licenses in New York City were attempting to conceal vision-threatening injuries such as posterior subcapsular cataracts and retinal tears. While no statistical correlation was found between handedness and prevalence of right and left eye injuries, there was a direct correlation between the number of bouts, with the risk of injury jumping noticeably every six bouts, and there was also a direct correlation between the number of losses, with the risk of injury jumping noticeably every two losses.

Professor Frederick Campbell Crews’s collection of essays SKEPTICAL ENGAGEMENTS, a 2d attempt to get Freudianism out of his system.
Peter Gay’s *Freud: A Life for Our Time* (W.W. Norton & Company):
By offering “The Unknown Freud,” an analysis of several books by revisionists, in The New York Review of Books, Professor Frederick Campbell Crews enlisted in the army of the Freud-bashers. Freud had been no scientist, no medical expert, no truthful reporter, but had been merely a charlatan, an opportunistic self-dramatizer scribbling under the influence of cocaine whatever fancies came into his mind. Adults were being falsely charged nowadays with forgotten sexual abuse, on the basis of supposedly repressed memories elicited through suggestion from children, and it was Freud who was the culprit, because of his theory of the unconscious.


3. The relationship between Nathaniel Hawthorne and Sophia Peabody Hawthorne has been characterized as a model loving relationship. That’s not the way I reconstruct it. I see the two of them as inveterate game-players, dancing around in very tight and lifelong circles of one-uppance the obvious payoff for which was that everyone, literally everyone, in their lives had to wait on them hand and foot, while meanwhile they manipulatively struggled to protect themselves from becoming utterly subservient to each other’s manipulations. In the husband’s case, of course, the scam was that he being the family breadwinner, his writing came first, and also, it was ever so important to defer to him, to put his person always first, because his was such an artistic sensitive soul and such sensitivities might so readily be bruised by reality. He was so shy, he was so solitary, he was so perceptive — except when he was out drinking with his buddies and could let his shyness, his solitude, his perceptiveness, and his other self-serving poses slip away. In the wife’s case, on the other hand, she obviously needed to sit around in the parlor and have plural maidservants to run errands for her, because anytime anything disagreeable would come up, such as a household chore or some distressingly atiose idea, or a sudden noise, she could acquire the most splitting of headaches. Nathaniel was denying himself so totally for his lovey-lovey Sophia, and Sophia was denying herself so totally for her lovey-lovey Nathaniel, it must have been a total pain to hear them go at it! The chickens would come home to roost in the next generation after this self-legitimating and self-deceiving co-conspiracy, in the warped and spoiled self-indulgent lives of their offspring Una and Julian and in the exceedingly difficult life of Rose.
Mad cow disease became suspected of causing disease in humans.

Professor Emeritus Frederick Campbell Crews’s *The Memory Wars: Freud’s Legacy in Dispute.* This was made up of a number of encounters with indignant letter-to-the-editor writers in the pages of the *New York Review of Books.*
38,000,000 new vehicles were sold worldwide (4,500,000 workers, revenues of $1,500,000,000). Of these vehicles a very large proportion were of Japanese manufacture.

Professor Emeritus Frederick Campbell Crews’s Unauthorized Freud: Doubters Confront a Legend, an anthology of criticism of the writings of Sigmund Freud. When the author was asked whether he was ready to give up on Freudian psychoanalysis, he responded: “After almost twenty years of explaining and illustrating the same basic critique, I will just refer interested parties to Skeptical Engagements, The Memory Wars, and Unauthorized Freud.”

Peter J. Swales’s most spectacular claim in the pages of The New Republic and elsewhere was that Sigmund Freud not only impregnated his sister-in-law Minna Bernays and then arranged for her to have an abortion, but also encoded this entire sordid affair as a fictitious case history. That sort of tabloid journalism to the side, Swales was able to convincingly demonstrate that this researcher had consistently misrepresented the outcomes of the treatments on the basis of which he had originated his psychoanalytic theories. A survey of all 43 of the treatments on which information has survived demonstrates that Freud had been utterly consistent in ignoring his own rules for how to conduct an analysis.

Ron Rosenbaum, in Explaining Hitler: The Search for the Origins of His Evil, made a truly unique gesture toward good humor by taking us on an omnibus tour of the more outre theories about Führer Adolf Hitler. How about his having had an abusive father? Had he been too close to his mother? Did he have a Jewish grandfather? Was all this an undiagnosed case of encephalitis? Had the young man contracted syphilis from a Jewish prostitute? Had he blamed a Jewish doctor for his mother’s death? Did he have only a single testicle? Had he been the unfortunate subject of a wayward hypnosis treatment? Maybe he was a deeply closeted gay guy! Had he harbored coprophilic fantasies about his niece? Had his mind been addled by drugs? Was this all due to his having briefly attended the same Linz school as Ludwig Wittgenstein? Rosenbaum critiqued what he referred to as a “lost safe-deposit box” mentality, a mentality that might give rise to some fantasy such as by diligent sleuthing to resolve historical mystery, in one Sherlockian cocktail-party moment.
Professor Emeritus Frederick Campbell Crews’s FREUD: THE MAKING OF AN ILLUSION (Metropolitan). The illusion, in this book, is not Freudianism, but Freud himself. Freud’s pseudoscientific case studies may have by now become mere metaphors, but as metaphors they do perversely influence us still. A reviewer has commented that this yes-he’s-dead-but-he’s-not-dead-enough-yet book ought to be offered with a bulb of garlic, with which the reader might protect himself or herself against vampires. Crews makes much of a revelation in a letter from a youthful Sigmund Freud: “I intend to exploit science instead of allowing myself to be exploited by it.”

According to James Q. Whitman’s HITLER’S AMERICAN MODEL: THE UNITED STATES AND THE MAKING OF NAZI RACE LAW (Princeton UP), in MEIN KAMPF, Führer Adolf Hitler had praised the United States of America as the only nation that had made progress toward a primarily racial conception of citizenship by “excluding certain races from naturalization.” Whitman also pointed out, however, that in spite of the obvious fact that the kind of genocidal hatred that erupted in Germany had been seen before, and in spite of the obvious fact that the kind of genocidal hatred that erupted in Germany has been seen since, this is a topic that is almost taboo for us to discuss among ourselves. We are being required to defer to a consensus reality according to which the crimes of the 3d Reich were unprecedented and unparalleled: “the nefandum, the unspeakable descent into what we often call ‘radical evil.’”

Thomas Weber again recounted Adolf Hitler’s experiences during and after the First World War in WIE ADOLF HITLER ZUM NAZI WURDE (BECOMING HITLER: THE MAKING OF A NAZI).

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“It’s all now you see. Yesterday won’t be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago.”

- Remark by character “Garin Stevens” in William Faulkner’s INTRUDER IN THE DUST
Prepared: December 19, 2018
This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot “Laura” (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in
the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology — but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.