The Complete Correspondence of
SIGMUND FREUD
and
ERNEST JONES
1908–1939

Edited by
R. Andrew Paskauskas

Introduction by
Ricardo Steiner
Dear Professor,

6 March 1926

477

Yours always affectionately,

With kindest regards

[Signature]

6 March 1926

477

Yours always affectionately,

With kindest regards

[Signature]
Dear Professor,

It was very delightful, and gave me great pleasure, to gather from your semi-humoristic Rundbrief that you are in good spirits. It was like a ray of sunshine, which in these last years has not been too frequent—thus all the more welcome.

You are doubtless right, as usual, when you say that I am too much oppressed by the telepathy matter, for in time we shall overcome the resistance it evokes just as we do all others. But you are lucky to live in a country where "Christian Science", all forms of "psych. research", mingled with hocus-pocus and palmistry do not prevail as they do here to heighten opposition to all psychology. Two books were written here trying to discredit \( \psi \alpha \) on this ground alone. You also forget sometimes in what a special position you are personally. When so many things pass under the name of \( \psi \alpha \), our great answer to inquirers is "\( \psi \alpha \) is Freud", so now the statement that \( \psi \alpha \) leads logically to telepathy etc. is more difficult to meet.

In your private political opinions you might be a Bolshevik, but you would not help the spread of \( \psi \alpha \) to announce it. So when "Rücksichten der äusseren Politik" [considerations of external policy] kept you silent before, I do not know how the situation should have changed in this respect. Your first communication on the subject in Imago seemed to me to cover the ground adequately,\(^1\) to defend the Traumtheorie from being altered even if telepathy were proved, so the second one seemed to me only irrelevant and harmful.\(^2\) At all events it gave me a new and unexpected experience in life, that of reading a paper of yours without a thrill of pleasure and agreement.\(^3\)

Incidentally, the consolation you offered me was no news, for it was I who got you made an Honorary Member of the British Psychological Society, and you may be sure it was not done as a reward for your telepathy paper which had not then appeared. Other members of the Council had offered opposition on two previous occasions, but I kept insisting till they felt ashamed of their attitude.

You may be sure I am writing Abraham's biography\(^4\) with the greatest care, but before it is published I should be grateful if you would read it through, for it raises in places delicate questions of taste or judgement where your opinion would be decisive. The bibliography Rado sent me proved of little value, as it was full of inaccuracies and omissions, so I have spent a fortnight getting it into proper form.

I have been indisposed for a fortnight with painful rectal trouble and was four days in bed, but today it shows good signs of mending again. Yesterday I saw Money-Kyrle on his way to you and thought the auspices looked favourable for a final result. What became of Dr. Power, the American lady?

I am greatly looking forward to May. My wife will also seize the opportunity to visit her family in Vienna, and on account of these arrangements as well as several others it would be a great convenience if you could indicate to me which days and how many you will make use of for the Committee gathering, etc. Shall you be in Vienna or Semmering at the time?

With kindest regards

Yours always affectionately

Ernest Jones.

1. Freud (1922a).
3. This episode and Freud's position on telepathy are dealt with more fully in Jones (1957a, pp. 394–396; 1957b, pp. 422–424).

Dear Professor,

Very many thanks for the latest book.\(^1\) It will create general gratitude to you for writing it and joy at the proof of your continued energy. I have read it through rapidly and will record a few of my first impressions, which will of course be deepened later.

I do not think I ever enjoyed a book of yours more, which is saying very much indeed, as you must know. It is exactly the kind of book of yours that gives me a special pleasure, with that fine dissection of clinical findings, the constant clarifying of confused issues, and the repeated emerging of useful generalisations. I could not refrain from thinking also how Abraham would similarly have delighted in it. One misses him at every moment.

Have you noticed how your last four or five books have regularly alternated in style? One very abstruse and difficult is followed by one easy and
Vienna
17 May 1943

[postcard]

359

Dear Jones,

I am very glad to hear from you and to know that you are doing well. I have been thinking about your situation and I think it would be wise if you contacted the [name redacted] in India. He has been very helpful to many people in similar situations. I hope you will be able to reach him soon.

Yours affectionately,

John

[Handwritten note:]

359

Dear Professor,

I received your letter dated [date]. I hope this finds you well. I am writing to follow up on our recent discussion about the research project. I have made some progress on the data analysis and would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the next steps.

Best regards,

Jane

[Handwritten note:]

359

Dear Professor,

I am pleased to hear that you will be able to attend the conference. I am looking forward to our discussions on the project.

Best wishes,

John
Dear Professor,

At last I come to write, though I wish there were a wireless telephone between London and Vienna. My secretary has left suddenly and I have in her place a congenital imbecile, which involves double work. I hope the indisposition of which you speak was a slight one and now over, though I am sure you are eagerly looking forward to the holidays. It is too bad that you should be troubled over all these business matters, but you would plunge into them instead of entrusting them to me. You are eager to relieve me, and I, it seems. But you have worked enough otherwise to be able to leave such matters to your representatives, and I should like to take you at your word as you put it in your letter that you are willing to drop the matter of the Press.

This brings me to a matter I am very loth to speak of, and I will tell you why. I wanted to leave Mrs. Riviere in peace to her analysis without disturbance; also I did not want to risk a further discord being sown between us by your quoting passages from my letters, which has already happened. But it seems impossible to avoid the subject, for she has cleverly managed to introduce into her analysis with you the same difficulty as happened with me, namely the intermixture of analytical considerations with external actual ones; perhaps it was unavoidable on her part. Now, however, it seems impossible to postpone, as I had hoped, the latter set of considerations until her analysis was over. Otherwise it may be too late to remedy matters.

First a few words on the analytic side. Her story of my unkindness is, so far as I can see, a pure myth. She is known in the Society as my favourite, people wonder why I endure her behaviour, and I have never treated any other patient with such consideration, in both feeling and conduct. But every proof of kindness on my part was always ignored or taken as her natural right as a matter-of-course, or even regarded as an insult. One example of the latter out of dozens. When she was ill in a nursing home I called and left her some books to read. This she found to be insulting, for it showed that that was all I was willing to give her. This, of course, after the critical ninth month when the expected child did not arrive. After this time she regressed to identification with her father and treated me [with some exceptions, of course] like her younger brother, whose sole function in life was to admit that he was nothing by the side of her greatness. This attitude continued and, now that she feels sure of your support in all her views and wishes, her letters have become more intolerably dictatorial and harsh than ever. Coming now to the practical effects.

If her position is that of an assistant to me she will never find me, and has never found me, lacking in gratitude for her help, in generosity towards her wishes, and in admiration for her gifts. But it depends on this proviso. When I was thirty I had the experience of cooperating with a domineering woman, you know whom I mean, whose one idea was that every act and opinion of mine was in all details to be dictated by her.¹ I could not endure it then, and I am 13 years older now. It is not easy for anyone to get on well with her unless either he is in a position of acknowledged supremacy, as you are, or else is effeminate like Strachey. Even Hiller, who has more capacity than I have for getting on with hectoring women, writes that he has almost reached the breaking-point, is counting the days before he leaves Vienna, and begs me to come to Vienna to help him. The saying here is that her visit to Vienna will be the final and most severe test of PsA, and people are most curious to see if her disdainful way of treating other people like dirt beneath her feet will undergo any modification.

Why I write this is to indicate that the future path may after all be not so smooth and easy as one could wish, and by no means only in regard to myself. She is put at the head of a translating staff, but the important question of capacity to work with other people is not yet proved. For this reason I am strongly in favour of not extending her position, at least officially, until we see how the present one will work.

With regard to helping in other work, e.g. the Sammlungen, I have written to ask her if she would like to undertake the correction of the translations prior to my final revision. I hope she will, for I could then do my part much quicker. She sent me some suggestions about the re-arrangement of the Sammlung volumes. They struck me as very good, but I did not think them out carefully because I must first know whether you are prepared to reopen this question. You may remember that I also made a number of suggestions when the list was first sent to me, and that they were nearly all vetoed by yourself and Rank, so I had assumed that the matter was closed. Would you prefer it to remain so, or would you like me to revise it with Mrs. R’s assistance? In the latter event I could of course submit a final list to you if necessary.

I had not heard about the death in Frink’s environment and am glad to think that his problems will be simplified. Like you, I have great hopes of his future, for he seems to be quite the best man in America. On the other hand he has not fulfilled a single one of the promises he made last year, about abstracting articles there or even writing letters, but one must make allowances for his internal turmoil.

I have to write to you about three people who are going to apply to you for a vacancy in October. One at least is valuable. Money-Kyrie,² aged 23, an aristocrat of the highest family and, what is better a first class brain. Young as he is I regard him as a powerful thinker with a very clear grasp
Dear Professor [Name]

I am writing to express my concern about the recent issue of the [Journal Name]. I have been a subscriber for several years and I have noticed a significant decline in the quality of the journal recently. The articles seem to lack depth and originality, and the editing quality has also decreased. I am writing to urge you to take necessary steps to improve the journal's standards.

I understand that publishing a journal requires a lot of effort and resources, and I am willing to support the journal if certain changes are made. However, I believe that the current state of the journal is not acceptable and it is important to take action to address this issue.

I would be grateful if you could provide me with an update on the steps you are taking to improve the journal's standards. I look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
5. James Glover [1888–1926], M.B., Ch.B. 1903 Glasgow, elder brother of Edward Glover [1888–1973], M.B., Ch.B. 1909, M.D. 1915 Glasgow. The two had been in analysis with Abraham at various times during the period 1920–1921 in Berlin. James Glover played a key role in directing the Medico-Psychological Clinic, Brunswick Square, and was an associate member of the British Psycho-Analytical Society; both brothers were elected full members of the Society on 4 October 1922.
7. “Happiness at being a mother.”

360
[telegram]

26 May 1922
London

writing today about sammlungen

jones

361

The International Psycho-Analytical Press

26 May 1922

Dear Professor,
I received your postcard concerning the Sammlungen, and also a number of heated letters from Mrs. Riviere.
It looks as if, unless the matter is grasped with a firm hand, we may drift into a condition of anarchy about it. At present no one knows from whom to take instructions and different plans keep evolving about the arranging of the volumes, the order of printing and all sorts of technical points. You, Rank, Mrs. R., and I all have our own views, many of which are constantly changing. It is plain that the only satisfactory way of working is to institute one definite head to be responsible for the editing and publishing, the unifying of style and terminology, and for the arrangements that make for order. Otherwise there will reign unterminable uncertainty and delay. We have a saying in English: “Too many cooks spoil the broth”.

I had assumed that this role would fall to my part, both as editor of the Press and because I am probably the best position to form an allround...
4. My memory was correct here. For I was in correspondence with opposition well-begun from Wharton. Identified with Abraham in the opposition to June 1st. Indeed, our party, though small, was growing. An enemy, I was conscious, showed some of those very things were against us. The London press was influenced. It was my fate to see an impossibility, and, as our leader, I must face this fact. The East Coast, where the opposition was fiercest, was where I lived. The larger the press, the harder it was to dominate. As you can well imagine, and can well be imagined,

2. The record of April 1st during which Abraham was President, is as you know, notorious.

3. I regret that the President of the American Group when he was

![Image](https://example.com/first-image.png)

4. Professor

![Image](https://example.com/second-image.png)

5. The record of April 1st during which Abraham was President, is as you know, notorious.

Dear Professor,

25 March 1996

International Journal of Psycho-Analyst 1996

I found your questions quite to the point (1996).

Friend,

Yours,

In haste and with cordial regret.

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