

Chapter 1 : A History of the School of GeoSciences | The University of Edinburgh

Originally published in , as part of The School and World Community Series, this book presents a series of accounts regarding the teaching of geography in the context of a global community.

H J Fleure was Gregynog Professor of Geography and Anthropology at the University College of Wales. Get daily updates directly to your inbox [Subscribe](#) Thank you for subscribing We have more newsletters [Show me](#) See our [privacy notice](#) Could not subscribe, try again later Invalid Email During the early years of the 20th century, whether they knew it or not, the people of rural Wales were participants in a project that sought to rewrite the story of prehistoric Europe. In , H J Fleure, Gregynog Professor of Geography and Anthropology at the University College of Wales Aberystwyth initiated a survey of the physical characteristics and family genealogies of the inhabitants of Cardiganshire and Merionethshire, a survey that would eventually stretch across the principality, from Anglesey down to Gower, reaching east to Corwen, Caersws and across the Black Mountains. Fleure wanted to look at how place influenced people, and the way that geography affected identity. There were several reasons for doing this. Inspired by the novel biological theories and concepts that were circulating at the turn of the century, Fleure wanted to study how human evolution worked, physically, socially and intellectually. In particular, he wanted to look at how place influenced people, and the way that geography affected identity. He was suspicious of the belief that the Welsh were the remnants of the pre-Saxon population of Britain, forced to the western margins by the invading Angles. He mistrusted the assumption that speakers of different languages must come from different racial backgrounds, and disliked the pernicious presumption of Teutonic cultural and technological superiority a resentment that was to become more pronounced with each World War that he lived through. At the beginning of the 20th century, the inhabitants of rural south-west, mid and north Wales were usually the descendants of families that had lived in those areas for hundreds – in some cases, perhaps thousands – of years. In his study of the Welsh, Fleure pioneered a new approach to physical anthropology. Fleure also realised that advances in the understanding of genetics meant that anthropologists and archaeologists needed to change the way they studied the physical characters of the population past and present. H J Fleure So, in his study of the Welsh, Fleure pioneered a new approach to physical anthropology, one that he thought would make a more coherent and accurate contribution to prehistory, and one that avoided assuming a link between overt stereotypical physical appearance and ancestry. In this way, Fleure was not only able to see which physical characteristics were actually occurring frequently in combination, but crucially, where they were appearing. This, he argued, revealed a key pattern of early migration and habitation within the British Isles – one that had to be thought of in relation to how the land looked and was used in the past. Particularly important, he emphasised, was to remember that geographical features that serve as lines of communication between communities or as refuges in the present – such as rivers or valleys – would in the past have presented themselves as barriers. The heavily wooded valleys, populated by predators and pests, would have shown a particularly inhospitable face to early humans, armed only with stones and bones. In contrast, the uplands – despite being colder and more exposed – would have been a much safer home. It was on the high land and in the mountains – specifically, Plynlymon and Mynydd Hiraethog – that Fleure was able to identify the oldest element in the Welsh British population. This was a tall dark type with a very long head, accompanied by a prominent brow-ridge and a low receding forehead. J James, from the Plynlymon district, showing features akin to those of a man of the later Palaeolithic age. He did, however, believe that he had isolated a physical type that was extremely ancient, especially given the degree to which it resembled the Combe Capelle skull, found in France in and the Galley Hill Kent skull, then thought to be around , years old. Returning to Wales, far more common than these possible Palaeoliths was a very much larger group of smaller, dark individuals with heads not quite as long as those of the men of Plynlymon, and another group with heads rather broader. Most intriguing, however, were the broad-headed men of the Welsh coast. Other writers had previously identified a group that looked very like this one, in a pattern of distinct coastal settlement, linked with megaliths, stretching from Ireland far down the Iberian coast round to the eastern Mediterranean. Fleure used the presence of clusters of physical traits to

demonstrate key points in European prehistory This suggested, Fleure suggested, a later movement of early traders, seeking out the economic prospects of the West, in a development quite unconnected with any ventures from the Rhineland or the Low Countries, where equally round-headed folk were investigating the eastern aspects of the British Isles during roughly the same period. In these three instances then, Fleure was able to use the presence of clusters of particular physical traits amongst the modern day Welsh population to demonstrate key points in European prehistory. First, the persistence of certain very ancient traits in the Welsh mountains showed that instead of there being a clear distinction between the Palaeolithic and Neolithic inhabitants of Britain as people like Sir William Boyd Dawkins, the original excavator of Wookey Hole, had emphatically argued there had been a continuity of population from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic – if not in present-day Britain itself, then somewhere very close to it. Second, that even in England, there had been no wholesale replacement of that Neolithic population: Third, that – particularly in combination with archaeological excavations – tracing particular clusters of traits in the present population could reveal hitherto unsuspected migration routes – in particular, the fact that there was an Atlantic, coastal route of settlement to the west of Britain complementing the over-land route from central Europe to the eastern shores. Both Galley Hill and Combe Capelle skulls are, for example, now known to be much younger than was thought in the s. But these are not the claims of a crackpot: Fleure was an enormously influential figure, whose interests and intellectual contribution spanned a number of academic disciplines. Over the course of his career at Aberystwyth and later at Manchester University, he headed departments of anthropology, zoology, geology and geography. He was esteemed as a pioneer in the development and teaching of British geography. He was elected President of the Geography and Anthropology sections of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in and , and over the same period, with the archaeologist Harold Peake, wrote the remarkable ten-volume series *Corridors of Time* for the Oxford University Press, summarising for the general public what was then known about the physical, social and cultural evolution of humanity. Even after his retirement in , he remained active in geographical and anthropological societies, constantly seeking new sources of information about the composition and movements of the prehistoric peoples of Europe – particularly, in the s, in relation to the work on human blood groups that was to contribute to the DNA based-revelations regarding human ancestry at the turn of the century. And, in collaboration with new colleagues, he continued his work on the physical anthropology of the Welsh. Normal height and weight for a child of Welsh moorland parentage might well be abnormal for a child of the Kentish coast. National resilience in the face of disaster – whether economic, military, medical or climatological in nature – could only be ensured through the existence of a population that was both racially and culturally diverse. And even in peaceful times, regular contact between groups of different backgrounds was essential, he argued, for the maintenance of social and industrial innovation and progress. In his Frazer Lecture of , he was emphatic: British unity originated in diversity and in decentralism – central government had always to take account of local custom and be prepared to compromise. Unlike France and Germany, he argued, in Britain one could disagree with authority without being shot for it. And it was his work in Wales – in the data provided by the physical bodies of the Welsh people and their collective genealogical memories – that enabled him to demonstrate the significance of cultural difference borne on repeated waves of immigration to such good effect. What did the Welsh do for the world? In the hands of Fleure, they provided the empirical proof that civilisation and civilised behaviour were built on the foundations of migration, diversity and technological innovation. Amanda Rees is a historian of science in the sociology department at the University of York, UK, and was a visiting research fellow at Aberystwyth University in She has studied at Cambridge and Harvard, and was most recently awarded a prestigious British Academy research fellowship, when much of the research on which this article is based was carried out. She has published widely on the history of the field sciences and the relationships between human and animal histories, and is extending her expertise into the field of prehistory.

Chapter 2 : The modern teacher : essays on educational aims and methods / - CORE

Home The Teaching of Geography in Relation to the World Community The Teaching of Geography in Relation to the World Community H. J. Fleure George Herbert Green.

Ramsay Macdonald on 28 January, In the s the John Murray Laboratories were annexed. The building houses staff and equipment involved in research in oceanography, climate change, fluid flow in porous media, pollution and similar environmental problems. Additional staff in these disciplines, are housed in the nearby Crew Building. Geography, marked a centenary of formal teaching of Geography in the University of Edinburgh. George Goudie Chisholm was appointed by the University Senate in to teach geography as a general subject beginning in academic year , his teaching effectively established the Department of Geography, albeit as a one-man affair with mere handfuls of students. However, prior to Geography, in the form of chorographie, regional study, was part of the teaching remit of the first Principal of the University, Robert Rollok, upon his appointment in James Pillans, Professor of Humanity in Edinburgh between and , included geography as part of his classes in ancient history. He and his department, , should all be seen as significant moments in a longer history. When George Chisholm began his teaching in October , there were 48 students in his classes. Chisholm taught it all. By , students were attending the geography classes. The curriculum was further changed in with additional lectures on cartography and the institution of a Diploma programme. Unsurprisingly, additional staff were needed, and, in , Miss Alice Lennie joined the department as a junior lecturer she had been assistant to Chisholm since In the year in which Chisholm retired, the University recognising his work with the award of an Honorary LL. Regional geography assumed greater significance. By , courses had expanded so much and student numbers were so strong that for the first time Geography could be taken as an Honours Degree. In , in recognition of his own scholarship and international reputation, his promotion of the curriculum and his teaching, Ogilvie was appointed to the first Chair in Geography in Edinburgh. That year, the staff numbered three: In that year too, Geography moved to accommodation in High School Yards, ironically to rooms where, years before, James Pillans had taught geography classes in the High School. Although David Linton was on war service from , the teaching courses in geography continued to expand principally with the addition of further regional geography courses. By , the staff had increased to four: But other staff came and went: Swanzie Agnew, for example, a student from one of the first Honours classes, who taught in the war years, and who later became a professor of geography in Malawi; Elizabeth Grieve, lecturer; T. Walter Freeman, later professor in Manchester and in Dublin. And further adjustments to the Honours curriculum appeared with the establishment of the Dissertation, whose focus then was the regional geography of a selected square mile area of Britain. This was then, as it still is, a means to promote that collegial social activity that is such a distinguishing and welcome feature of departments of geography, in Edinburgh and elsewhere. And the Society was always keen to promote academic discussions outwith the formal curriculum. Fleure, zoologist-geographer-ethnologist, and Gordon Manley, the leading ecologist. John was a graduate of the class in Edinburgh. With the death of Alan Ogilvie in , one era for the Department in terms of a direct connection with the years of foundation closed. With the appointment of his successor, James Wreford Watson, another period of expansion and development began. Wreford Watson, a student in the Department under Ogilvie, where he had taken the lead in establishing the student Geographical Society in , oversaw further growth in staff numbers and a stronger research culture as he also secured an international reputation for work in social geography, in Canadian studies and in cartography. By , the department had 20 staff. Over the same period, student numbers rose from students in in first ordinary first year in more recent parlance , 38 in second ordinary, 23 in third year Junior Honours , and 24 in fourth or final year, with one postgraduate, to students by Edinburgh Geography has been distinguished by changes in the undergraduate curriculum, developments in research, a thriving Geographical Society, new staff, distinctions in scholarship and challenges in teaching, field excursions, a long-running programme of research in Belize, pioneering research in Iceland, in the Antarctic, in the development of Geographical Information Science, in feminist geography, in social geography, in geomorphology. Geography has changed

much since The work of George Chisholm, Alice Lennie, Alan Ogilvie and others might not sit easily in the curriculum of the early twenty-first century with its classes in embodied geographies, the historical geography of geographical knowledge and in the geography of wine. Where students once did a square mile regional dissertation, undergraduate dissertations now embrace interviews, the study of glacial processes, soil systems and biodiversity, employ sophisticated GIS and technologies and other techniques of geographical representation. But they would be delighted, surely, that Geography continues so well. Cook as the first Professor of Geophysics. He was succeeded by Ken Creer in Professor Kathy Whaler, the current holder of the Chair of Geophysics, joined the Department in Geology and Geophysics, The formerly separate Departments of Geology and Geophysics amalgamated in The new wing allowed accommodation of all staff and research facilities in one building. There were 34 full-time academic members of staff, 41 Research Fellows and Associates, 30 support staff and 38 full-time PhD students. Meteorology, Meteorology was studied and taught as part of Chemistry, Natural Philosophy and Natural History at the University of Edinburgh throughout the nineteenth century and for the first half of the twentieth century. James Paton was appointed the first Lecturer in Meteorology within the Department of Natural Philosophy in , where he had been a Lecturer since The first undergraduate course in Meteorology at any British university was instituted the following year, followed by a short Honours level course in Atmospheric Physics. He was co-author with Alasdair Thom of *Essentials of Meteorology*, which was for many years a standard teaching text, and his research interest was the physics and dynamics of the upper atmosphere, a tradition later continued by Prof Robert Harwood. In the one-year taught MSc was added to the undergraduate courses and strong PhD tradition. After Douglas McIntosh retired in , the position of Head of Department was held by senior academic staff in three-yearly rotation. The last Head of Department was Prof Harwood, who relinquished the position on 1st August when the Department became the Institute for Meteorology. This article was published on Jun 8,

Chapter 3 : Fleure, H. J. | theinnatdunvilla.com

Fleure, noted also as a zoologist and anthropologist, was secretary of the Geographical Association, editor of Geography, and recipient of numerous geographical awards and honors. He made his reputation largely by writing about race; his books included The Races of Mankind (), Racial Evolution and Archaeology (), and The Races of England and Wales ().

He suffered from poor health as a child, and therefore received his education at home. By his health had improved sufficiently to allow him to take up an open scholarship to the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, where he read zoology, geography and botany. He graduated with a first class degree in zoology in . The following year, he received a scholarship to study abroad, and attended the Zurich Zoological Institute, where he focused upon anthropology and marine biology. For his work in this area, he was awarded a DSc from the University of Wales. In , Fleure returned to Aberystwyth to take up the post of assistant lecturer in zoology, gology and botany. In , he became lecturer in geology, zoology and geography, and was made head of the Department of Zoology and interim head of the Department of Geology the following year. He became Professor of Zoology in , and in was appointed first Professor of Anthropology and Geography at Aberystwyth. Fleure left Aberystwyth in , when he was offered the first chair of geography at the University of Manchester. He remained in Manchester until his retirement in . He also received similar honours in subsequent years from the Universities of Alexandria and Cairo, Egypt, and University College, London. Fleure published his first work in , Human Geography in Western Europe. This was followed by many other books, essays and scientific studies, including his Natural History of Man in Britain . Fleure also worked untiringly for the advancement of his chosen subjects. From to he acted as Honorary Secretary and Honorary Editor of Publications for the Geographical Association, and became its President in . In , he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society - the first geographer to receive this honour. Fleure also maintained his links with the Channel Islands. Together they had three children. He died at his Surrey home on July 1st .

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Chapter 4 : Professor H J Fleure Archive - Archives Hub

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He vigorously championed this subject at a time when it was not generally recognized as a university discipline in Britain. Fleure grew up in Guernsey. In 1881, when he was 20, a scholarship to the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, enabled him to take courses in the natural sciences; he specialized in marine zoology. He spent the year studying at the University of Zurich, where Rudolf Martin stimulated his interest in anthropology. The following year he returned to Wales and received the degree of D. He then began to teach courses in zoology, geology, and botany at Aberystwyth and in 1887 was elected to a newly established lectureship in geography. His intellectual development was influenced by Darwinism and by the works of such German earth scientists as Eduard Suess and Ferdinand von Richthofen. Fleure became professor of zoology in 1891 but continued to teach geography, and in his persistent advocacy of this subject was rewarded by his appointment to the endowed Gregynog chair of geography and anthropology. In the same year he became honorary secretary of the Geographical Association and editor of its journal now *Geography*, and through these agencies he worked strenuously to advance the cause of human geography in education. From 1895 until his retirement in 1928, Fleure was professor of geography in the University of Manchester. He has been president of three sections of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and of many learned societies. In 1901 he was elected fellow of the Royal Society. He first outlined a scheme of world regions, defined by the quality of life within them, in an article published in 1895. In his *Human Geography in Western Europe* he first presented his conception of that discipline. The first of the ten volumes of *The Corridors of Time*, written in collaboration with Harold Peake, appeared in 1908, and the last volume appeared in 1928. A balanced judgment on such issues as diffusion and independent development springs from a broad training in the sciences of man. Fleure has stressed the significance of culture contacts in all periods of human history as leading to the questioning of routine, the cross-fertilization of ideas, objective thought, and the release of innovative effort. Always guarded in his conclusions, Fleure has been chary of general laws in human geography, where the likelihood prevails that different responses will arise in different regions at different times. In addition to the works mentioned, Fleure has contributed extensively to encyclopedias and also to journals of geography, anthropology, sociology, folklore, and archeology. *Geographical Distribution of Anthropological Types in Wales*. *Scottish Geographical Magazine*. *A Study in Appreciation*. *A Survey of Recent Research*. *The Corridors of Time*. *Apes and Men*, *Hunters and Artists*, *Peasants and Potters*, *Priests and Kings*, *The Steppe and the Sown*, *The Way of the Sea*, *Merchant Venturers in Bronze*, *The Horse and the Sword*, *The Law and the Prophets*, *Times and Places*, Cite this article Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.

Chapter 5 : H. J. Fleure - Wikipedia

H.J. Fleure Herbert John Fleure, FRS [1] (6 June - 1 July), was a zoologist and geographer. He was secretary of the Geographical Association, editor of Geography, and President of the Cambrian Archaeological Association.

Chapter 6 : Welsh History Month: Fleure and the prehistory of European civilisation - Wales Online

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Fleure became professor of zoology in 1891 but continued to teach geography, and in his persistent advocacy of this subject

was rewarded by his appointment to the endowed (Gregynog) chair of geography and anthropology.

Chapter 8 : H.J. Fleure (Author of A Natural History Of Man In Britain)

H.J. Fleure is the author of A Natural History Of Man In Britain (avg rating, 3 ratings, 1 review, published), The Peoples of Europe (avg r.