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Külpe's affective psychology. The making of a science of feeling (1887-1910)

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Külpe's contribution to affective psychology (*Gefühlspsychologie*) is nowadays largely disregarded. Yet he was one of the most important affective psychologists of his time, who did much to make feeling (*Gefühl*) a subject of scientific study. In addition to discussing the basic tenets of Külpe's affective psychology, I analyze its main outcomes regarding the theory of feelings (nature of feeling, pleasure/displeasure model, psychological conditions of appearance of affective states, taxonomy, neural substrates of feelings). Moreover, I show how instrumental Külpe was in elaborating and systematizing the methods of experimental psychology. As a conclusion, I revisit the place of feeling and affective psychology in Külpe's thought in general.