

Note on Russell's anticipations

Mention has been made in *Russell* of an anticipation by Russell of Quine's existence criterion, and of a possible anticipation of Lewis's definition of "strict implication". Although Russell did not, strictly speaking, anticipate Nelson Goodman's famous "grue-bleen paradox", first published in a brief note in 1946, Russell did, I believe, publish a discussion of what is, in all essentials, the same problem in *Human Knowledge* in 1948. Goodman's and Russell's discoveries of this paradox were evidently quite independent of one another. What is quite remarkable, however, is that Russell, in contrast to Goodman, also provided a resolution of the problem -- one which I believe to be quite satisfactory. I have discussed this matter in some detail in "Russell on Scientific Inference or Will the Real Deductivist Please Stand Up?" section 3, in *Bertrand Russell's Philosophy*, ed. George Nakhnikian (London: Duckworth, 1974), pp. 188-92. In Goodman's better known presentation, *Fact, Fiction and Forecast* (1st ed., 1955; 2nd ed. 1965), he seems unaware of the relevance of Russell's solution to his paradox. This strikes me as another example of a widely unappreciated important accomplishment to be found in Russell's work.

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