

RUSSELL STUDIES EPITOMIZED

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A. D. Irvine, ed. *Bertrand Russell: Critical Assessments*. 4 vols. London and New York: Routledge, 1999. Pp. lxxvi, 1,224. £399.00. US\$655.00. CDN\$983.00. ISBN: 0 415 13054 9 (boxed set). Vol. 1: *Life, Work and Influence*. Vol. 2: *Logic and Mathematics*. Vol. 3: *Language, Knowledge and the World*. Vol. 4: *History of Philosophy, Ethics, Education, Religion and Politics*.

From the vast literature in Russell studies, Andrew Irvine has selected 67 papers to represent the field. The selection is judicious. While everyone's selection would be different, Irvine sought advice widely in addition to exercising his own scholarly judgment. The papers are accompanied by the Prologue (in manuscript and type) and Epilogue to Russell's autobiography, critical introductions, a chronology of Russell's life, a chronological table of the reprints, a digest of Volume 1 of *A Bibliography of Bertrand Russell* with tables of contents for all of Russell's books (including the *Collected Papers*), and, comprising some 1,800 items, the most extensive secondary bibliography yet published on Russell. The Internet is covered, though other media, such as paintings, videos, manuscript collections, theses and other languages, are not. It should be part of the collections policy for the Russell Archives to have each item in Irvine's secondary bibliography.

Other collections supporting Russell studies, both institutional and private, would do well to acquire the volumes. Some of the selections are from noted anthologies, but others are from elusive periodicals. Some were entirely new to me. With the continuing large advance of Russell studies in the humanities, in due course a supplementary volume will be warranted.
