

NEW INTRODUCTIONS, INDEXES AND TYPESETTINGS

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Bertrand Russell. *Routledge Classics* series. London and New York: Routledge, 2004–10. 30 vols. £9.99–£30; US\$19.95–\$31.95. Catalogue at: http://media.routledgeweb.com/catalogs/routledgeclassics_2010_us.pdf.

... close examination shows that the cover illustrates a dark process of enchainment. Are these the mind-forged manacles of man? Or do they represent the freedom that will attend the reader once he has gone beyond them? (Ken Coates¹)

All 30 paperback covers are new for the series, with most not as enigmatic as that for *What I Believe* but suggestive of meaningful aspects of Russell's texts. Still puzzling are the dominoes on *The Philosophy of Logical Atomism*.

But let's not judge editions by their covers. There is new text in some of them. It's not new text by Russell, but new introductions—by A. C. Grayling (*CH*), Anthony Gottlieb (*HWP*, but only in the hardcover edition), Alan Ryan (*WIB*), Thomas Gray (*SE*), Simon Blackburn (*WINC*), and Samuel Brittan (*P*).² The introductions are not bibliographical or textual-historical, but are generally worthy of their subjects. Previous introductions are retained. Titles that still lack introductions are *OE*, *Philosophical Essays*, *Freedom and Organization* and *Education and the Social Order*.

Some titles are altered. The two volumes of *Mortals and Others* have been conveniently combined into one, with slight changes in subtitle. But *PSR* has become *Why Men Fight*, the American title which Russell disliked. *OE* and

¹ Review of above edition of *What I Believe*, *The Spokesman*, no. 87 (2005): 78.

² All such front matter in all editions is listed at <http://russellarchives.mcmaster.ca>.

HWP have been shorn of their subtitles. The titles of *PoM* and *ABC of Relativity* are no longer definite denoting phrases. *The Prospects of Industrial Civilization* now denies title-page credit to its collaborator, Dora Russell. First publication dates are in error in several cases—by 35 years in the case of *Prospects*.

The series employs a similar typographical page design. The text is set in Joanna, displayed quotations and running heads are in Gill Sans, and notes are usually, but inexplicably not always, still placed at the bottom of the page. Sometimes, especially in the large volumes, the text type is set small; indexes, however, are set generously.

All of the titles can be purchased as e-books and thus are potentially searchable. It is a welcome development in the present day that many have still been provided with indexes. Some already had indexes but lost them over time in various paperback editions. Titles that were never before published with indexes are *Fact and Fiction*, *Human Society in Ethics and Politics*, *Philosophical Essays*, *IPI*, *SE*, *BW* (a mammoth job), *UE* and *WIB*. These indexes are new, although several of the titles had been professionally indexed in *Russell* by Roma Hutchinson. These indexes do not cover all of Routledge's investment in the series, for several other indexes are new (despite their existence in the first editions), and still others appear to be revised versions of original indexes. This is not always a welcome intervention. The original index to *PoM* was compiled by Russell himself, who bolded definition references. Still unindexed in the series are *Mortals and Others* (but *Russell* 29 (2009) provides one), *Marriage and Morals* and *OE* (but their first editions were indexed), *AI* (but *Russell* 19 (1999) has one), and *Common Sense and Nuclear Warfare*. All these indexes need to be collected and unified, just as those to the *Collected Papers* have been in the Russell Research Centre, to enhance access for Russell studies.

For scholars the main question will be: are the texts reliable? Original paginations are not preserved, so all of scholarship's previous references have to be approximated. *HWP*'s new pagination is different in the paperback and hardcover editions, though the electronic *Ur*-text may be the same. In *PoM*, assistance originally provided to the reader in the form of section numbers in the running heads has been discarded, and the numbers are no longer bolded in the text. An opportunity to expand *BW* wasn't taken (the editors, Denonn and Egner, left instructions for a new edition). Comparisons with the manuscripts weren't made. Were errors introduced into the texts? Were Russell's revisions of the text from first edition to the last printing in his lifetime found and reported? No. We have no idea what care was taken in proofreading the new texts (some electronic files may have been available from previous posthumous editions, but we have no idea what care was taken *then*). Critical editions are still needed.

It's good to have 30 of Russell's books freshly available in attractive and inexpensive editions. However, despite the new introductions and new or revised indexes, they do not satisfy scholars' hunger for reliable, complete, historical texts.
