*THE PHILOSOPHY OF MR. B*R** REPRINTED

KENNETH BLACKWELL
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Philip E. B. Jourdain. *Selected Essays on the History of Set Theory and Logics (1906–1918).* Ed. Ivor Grattan-Guinness. (Instrumenta Rationis: Sources for the History of Logic in the Modern Age, Vol. 6.) Bologna: Editrice CLUEB, 1991. Pp. xlii, 352. 70,000 lire.

Three of Jourdain's most important publications are here reprinted, with a scholarly introduction, bibliographies and indexes. Besides *The Philosophy of Mr. B*rtr*nd R*ss*ll* (1918) the pieces are "The Development of the Theory of Transfinite Numbers" (1906–10) and "The Development of Theories of Mathematical Logic and the Principles of Mathematics" (1910–13). The latter is important not least because Russell commented on the drafts concerning MacColl, Frege and Peano. Although Jourdain made use of Russell's suggestions, they cannot be identified. It is less difficult to discern Russell's hand (or mouth) in *The Philosophy of B*R**. The serious work of Jourdain—who, as the editor points out, attended Russell's, and Britain's, first university course in mathematical logic—is of bibliographical importance for the history of logic and mathematics. His long footnotes (of which he was master—or slave) testify to this.

The edition is well done. The original pagination is retained, to which a continuous editorial pagination is added. To preserve Jourdain's fiction of Mr. Russell and Mr. R*ss*ll, even the author index distinguishes them. Grattan-Guinness does remark that Jourdain did not notice "the striking physical resemblance between Russell and [Sir John Tennial's] Mad Hatter" (p. xxxix). However, a cartoon on the rare dust-jacket (but in the Slater collection) of the American issue of *The Philosophy of B*R** came close: Russell is cast as the March Hare. The editor notes Jourdain's failure to continue the series of articles on the development of logic to include Russell (p. xxv). The fact is, Jourdain wrote a good deal on Russell, beginning with articles in *The Monist* in 1910 and 1912 (which he saw as a series) and continuing with separate, multiple reviews of all volumes of *Principia, Our Knowledge of the External World, Mysticism and Logic* and *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy.* I commend the collection of these writings to Grattan-Guinness and Editrice CLUEB for, given Russell's close connections with Jourdain and the latter's eye for the history of his subject, his interpretations have a privileged position.