The first of The Early Works of John Dewey will be published by the Southern Illinois University Press in the fall of 1967. It is Psychology, Volume 2 of the series. Volume 2 is appearing before Volume 1 because as Dewey's first full-length book, it exemplifies many of the features of the other volumes.

This year seems an appropriate time to launch a Newsletter to communicate with persons and institutions interested in the Works of John Dewey. We expect to have four numbers of the Newsletter each year, and we will number the volumes of the Newsletter to correspond with the years issued. The volumes will be paged consecutively.

Organizing and planning the complete edition of Dewey's works has been a monumental task. Dewey published his first article before his twenty-third birthday, in 1882. In 1952, the year of his death at the age of ninety-two, he published a major contribution to a book of collected articles. During each of the seventy intervening years, he published from one to more than thirty items. Most of his books went through many printings; his nearly seven hundred articles were published in some one hundred forty journals.

The Dewey Project (Co-operative Research on Dewey Publications), a unit in the Office of Research and Projects at Southern Illinois University, began in 1961 to collect and prepare for publication all the previously published work of John Dewey. The collecting of basic versions of each item is near completion but the task of gathering all different printings and variant versions of these items continues. The Project will welcome the opportunity to purchase or to copy Dewey materials owned by Dewey students and we are always grateful for information about Dewey or about Dewey publications.

Now all the volumes in the collected edition have been planned in detail—content, typography, internal arrangement of parts, amount and kind of apparatus. Each of the more than forty (the exact number depends on the length of the final index)
VOLUMES PLANNED

VOLUMES will have comprehensive indexes, introductory essays, and textual notes. The writings are arranged in approximately chronological order.

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DEFINITIVE EDITION

In the "Preface" to the Psychology, the editors say, "We decided that the extraordinary effort and expense of publishing the collected works would be best justified if we developed definitive texts. Therefore, in this edition, we have applied the principles and techniques of modern textual criticism. This approach, developed primarily in connection with editing the works of literary figures like Hawthorne, was used here for the first time in editing the works of an American philosopher."

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DEFINITIVE TEXT

A "definitive" text is described by the Consulting Textual Editor, Predson Bowers, as follows:

A text may be called "definitive" or "established" (a) when an editor has exhaustively determined the authority, in whole and in part, of all preserved documents containing the work under examination; (b) when the text is then based on the most authoritative documents produced in the work's publishing history; and (c) when the complete textual data of all appropriate documents is recorded, together with a full account of all divergences from the edition chosen as copy-text (the basis for the edited text) so that the student may recover the meaningful (substantive) readings of any document used in the preparation of the edited text.

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CRITICAL TEXT

Dr. Bowers also writes in the "Textual Principles" for Psychology that:

A text may be called "critical" when an editor does not content himself with faithfully reprinting any single edition without modification but instead intervenes to correct the faults or aberrations of the copy-text on his own authority or by reference to the corrections and revisions of some authoritative edition later than the edition chosen as copy-text.

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NEED FOR TEXTUAL CRITICISM

Modern scholars have found it virtually impossible to trace the development of Dewey's thought because of inadequate previous revisions, text corruptions, printers' errors, and a deplorable scarcity of the various editions and printings of these works. In addition to establishing the text of Dewey's writings precisely as he intended them, and free from the errors that often make interpretation of difficult passages suspect, this edition enables scholars to follow changes in Dewey's thought through alterations he himself made in the successive editions and printings of his works.
To illustrate—Psychology was first published in 1886. It was reprinted twenty-five times, finally going out of print in 1946. Throughout this long history, the original plates were used to print the book—with repairs, resetting of type, and various kinds of modification. By strict definition, even though the publishers label a "second edition" (1889) and "third edition" (1891), the book had only one true "edition." All the revisions which Dewey made in the content were written "to space" so that the expense of making new plates would be avoided. Of the book's 427 pages, 203 had some or all of the type reset after the first printing.

It is fascinating, and illuminating, to follow the changes Dewey made in the content of the Psychology as they are listed in the textual apparatus. What was identified as "form" and "content" in the first version was changed to "knower" and "the known" (italics are Dewey's) in 1889. As psychological knowledge increased, Dewey found it necessary to modify numbers—"twenty" became "fourteen" and was revised again to "nineteen" in the last version of the book. All changes are tabulated in the forthcoming edition of Psychology and will furnish material for many future studies of Dewey's thought.


The Japanese journal Kaiso, now defunct, published in 1921 five articles in Japanese by Dewey. The English manuscript for four of these articles now appears to have been lost; however, the item listed above was published in both English and Japanese.


We are indebted again to M. H. Thomas for his lead on a set of ten lectures, entitled Educational Lectures, delivered "before the Brigham Young Academy Summer School," printed from reports by Alice Young and edited by N. L. Nelson. These lectures are dated only "June," but the name of the institution was changed to Brigham Young University in 1894 and the document appeared before that change.
CORRESPONDENCE

The references in the two preceding paragraphs were cited not only to help Dewey scholars but to emphasize the point that there are undoubtedly a number of items as yet unknown to Dewey bibliographers. When a man writes and publishes for seventy years, especially a man as active and alert as John Dewey, the corpus is inevitably quite large. We welcome your queries, hints, leads, even requests for assistance. If you are interested in the writings of Dewey, we will be pleased to hear from you and will--within the limits of our energies and resources--give help in your work on Dewey.

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UNPUBLISHED

In addition to the Brigham Young Lectures mentioned above, there are several sets of previously unpublished class lecture notes from Dewey's courses similar in form to those edited by Reginald D. Archam-bault and published last year by Random House as Lectures in the Philosophy of Education: 1899. The third issue of this Newsletter has been set aside to summarize the information now available about those notes.

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DEWEY STAMP

The Postmaster General has announced a series of "Prominent Americans" stamps selling at 30¢ and issued over a period of three or four years. John Dewey is one of the prominent Americans included in the group but the exact date of the issuance of the Dewey stamp is not yet known.

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JOHN DEWEY AND

THE WORLD VIEW

Southern Illinois University Press has re-issued its 1964 publication, John Dewey and the World View, as a paperback in its Arcturus Books series. The book includes articles by John L. Childs, Harold Benjamin, Arthur Lean, George Axtelle and William W. Brickman. The essays were developed from lectures presented in 1959 on the occasion of the John Dewey Centennial anniversary. The new printing is priced at $2.25.

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NEXT NEWSLETTER

In the next Newsletter, we will describe in detail the companion volume to the Works, a book tentatively entitled a Guide to the Works of John Dewey.

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