



SEMANTOGRAPHY SERIES

June 1952

IN SUPPORT OF MR. A. H. HANDLEY'S EFFORTS

Draft of a Leaflet to support the most praiseworthy efforts of Mr. A.H. Handley of Boston, who has, some time ago, recognized the value of this idea for the defence of the minds of the people of America and all other free countries against totalitarian propaganda, and who is now endeavouring to bring this to the knowledge of the people of America.

This Leaflet comes to you by Courtesy of Mr.

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WHAT TO DO WITH A MAN AND HIS WORK?

Notes to the attached Article of
THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR
Editorial Page May 17, 1952

BLISS AND SEMANTOGRAPHY

by Albert Norman

CHARLES K. BLISS, of Sydney, Australia, industrial research chemist, executive and honorary science lecturer was struck in 1942 by the phantastic possibilities of an idea, known to every mathematician, logician and philosopher for the last 300 years, and known to be impossible to realize.

IN THE 17TH CENTURY, John Locke, the philosopher, and Gottfried W. Leibnitz, the mathematician-philosopher wrote their ESSAYS CONCERNING HUMAN UNDERSTANDING in which both realized that human understanding is blocked not only because of different languages. Even people who speak the same language fail to understand each other, because they use vague and ambiguous highbrow abstractions.

LEIBNITZ, THE INVENTOR OF THE INFINITESIMAL CALCULUS realized the truth-value contained in mathematical statements, and that they, when written in symbols, like $1 + 2 = 3$ have the same meaning in all languages. He realized too, that a vague statement like $x = f(y)$ can be resolved satisfactorily. He therefore speculated about the possibility of inventing

A SIMPLE ALGEBRA OF THOUGHT, operating with symbols, and applicable to any statement in any language to end the War of Words between scholars and between lay people. However Leibnitz anticipated the abstract symbols of 20th century Logic, utterly incomprehensible to the common people, and he stated therefore that

THIS SYMBOLIS UNIVERSALIS must operate with pictorial symbols "....for rendering our conceptions more real", and for being "very popular" and "very agreeable to the people." He realized too that such pictorial symbols could be read in all languages, and he said therefore that "this would be of service for easy communication with distant nations, BUT IF INTRODUCED ALSO AMONG US, WITHOUT HOWEVER RENOUNCING ORDINARY WRITING...WOULD BE USEFUL IN GIVING THOUGHTS LESS ABSURD AND VERBAL THAN WE NOW HAVE."

WHERE IGNORANCE IS BLISS 'TIS FOLLY TO BE WISE. Bliss did not know that the scholars have given up Leibnitz's idea as hopeless. In years of scientific library research he realized that the Babel of scientific Publications is a social Problem of the first Magnitude (Hogben). As a chemist he realized too that in the logical symbols of chemical Semantography H_2O is more meaningful than water, wasser, eau, aqua, agua, voda, etc. As an executive of a radio firm he helped to create the pictorial symbols

CH₃



of modern electronics. And as a captive in totalitarian concentration camps in Europe and Japanese occupied China he realized too that

MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING IS TODAY A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH. And indeed Leibnitz's idea has been realized on the deadly highways of the world. A bent arrow means a CURVE in all languages of the world. And whereas the word CURVE is ambiguous, the pictorial symbol is not. All this gave courage to Bliss. He sat down and in 7 years of work, evolved the idea in detail for science, industry, commerce, communication, semantics, logic, education, linguistics, etc. etc.

OLIVER L. REISER, PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, PA, in his address to the American Association for the Advancement of Science "UNIFIED SYMBOLISM FOR WORLD UNDERSTANDING IN SCIENCE" said: "Bliss...realized the ambition of the great mathematician Leibnitz."

SIR RICHARD PACET, FELLOW OF THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS AND THE PHYSICAL SOCIETY, LONDON wrote: "Bliss's Semantography may fairly claim to be the first attempt to realize Leibnitz's idea of "small figures in the place of words...for rendering our concepts more real."

BERTRAND RUSSELL, EMINENT MATHEMATICIAN AND LOGICIAN, when in Sydney, studied Bliss's 3 Books on Semantography, and then gave him some of the most controversial political and even religious statements to symbolize in Semantography. He was so much satisfied, that he wrote that the men who will make this work known, "will, in my opinion, be performing an important service to Mankind."

THE ADVANTAGES OF SEMANTOGRAPHY

SEMANTOGRAPHY REPRESENTS A SIMPLE SYMBOLIC LOGIC AND SEMANTICS FOR EVERYONE. The most important R is not taught in the primary and secondary schools of the World, for lack of a simple method: The Art of Reasoning.

SEMANTOGRAPHY MAY PROVE THE ANTIDOTE TO THE WAR OF WORDS within the family, within the nation and within the family of nations. A short training in Semantography enables anyone to spot the meanings which can be interpreted differently in speech or writing, in a domestic quarrel or in a business contract, or a treaty.

SEMANTOGRAPHY MAY PROVE THE DOOM OF THE DICTATORS. The free countries of the world are spending billions for defence, yet there is no defence against the billions of missiles, which penetrate every home, and every mind - the fallacious propaganda of Communist doctrine. Semantography can provide this defence (see the attached article)

"SEMANTOGRAPHY...PROVIDES A POWERFUL STIMULUS AND AID TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S "POINT FOUR PROGRAM", said Prof. Oliver L. Reiser. THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR stresses the importance of Semantography for America's foreign policy and as a defence against Communist influence. Prof. Carleton Washburne of New York, and Prof. Joseph A. Lauwerys of London have approached the responsible men of Unesco on behalf of Semantography - so far without any result.

SEMANTOGRAPHY PROVIDES A SIMPLE AUXILIARY PICTOGRAPHIC WRITING for natives, boy-scouts businessmen, technicians, and even scientists, who don't understand each other's language. A LETTER, A PRIMER, A PAPER, EVEN A POEM WRITTEN, TYPED, OR PRINTED IN THIS "ONE WRITING FOR ONE WORLD" can be understood in all languages. This is the "opposite" to Esperanto, as everyone reads it in his comfortable mother-tongue.

SEMANTOGRAPHY FOR AN INTERNATIONAL INEXPENSIVE SCIENCE ABSTRACT, which scientists, doctors, engineers, etc. can read in their mother-tongue. Small filing cards can be issued and exchanged by every university, carrying the research results in the language of the University AND the pictographic symbols above each word. (See the Reiser lecture, Bliss's lectures at the University of Sydney, testimonials of Prof. A.V. Bailey, Physicist, Sydney and others (on application). Even professors don't like to learn French, English, etc. if it's not their mother-tongue.

A SAMPLE OF SEMANTOGRAPHY, LEADING TO A FASCINATING THEORY. Bliss, in analysing language and separating the "elements of meaning" was struck by the fact that very many words in the different languages carry implicitly the attached evaluation of "good" or "bad". A BOARD OF DIRECTORS sounds good, A CONSILIIUM OF TRUSTEES sounds even better. A CLIQUE sounds bad, and a GANG sounds worse. Yet, all these different words and evaluations are often used by different minds to describe the very same group of people, very respectable men, often referred to as PILLARS OF SOCIETY (these words can carry both evaluations of "good" and/or "bad."

IN SEMANTOGRAPHY, THE ABOVE MENTIONED WORDS ARE DEPICTED by 3 symbol elements only: a multitude (multiplication mark) of men (pictograph), go-ordinated in action (two parallel arrows), AND NO EVALUATIONS ATTACHED. Semantography works with about 100 symbol elements only (unbelievable as it may seem). Girls and boys (who have to learn higher mathematics, which most of them never need) have no difficulty in grasping the interpretation of these symbols, (which work like chemical element symbols in combination), and they quickly learn to ask the pertinent questions. The picture of a man means that biological entity which can think, speak and write (mistakenly referred to as homo sapiens). No question. The multiplication mark means many. How many? And the arrow indicates that something is moving. What moves that group of men to move what, where and when?

COMPARE THESE FEW SYMBOL LINES with the jumble of alphabetical lines of the English words BOARD OF DIRECTORS and the other words. Observe that these few symbols have the same meaning in all languages. And realize that all emotive EVALUATIONS, ESPECIALLY AS TO "BAD" have been taken out completely. NOW WE CAN START TO REASON. And this leads to

MAJOR GENERAL DR. G. BROCK CHISHOLM, CANADIAN DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH, now Director General of the World Health Organisation of U.N., and a psychiatrist of world repute, lectured in 1945 under highest Government auspices in Washington about the causes of human warfare, and its prevention. He made the startling announcement that human warfare is a recent mind perversion, an epidemic which we medical men can stop, once we have found the cause. He traced that cause back somewhere prior to 5000 B.C., when primitive man, in evolving articulate language began to invent the abstract meanings of "good" and "bad" and attached them to anything and anyone. The people across any real or fictitious borderline were "bad". War became imminent. And this cause works even today for war between men and between nations.

BUT CHISHOLM HAD NO PROOF THAT HUMAN WARFARE WAS ABSENT PRIOR TO 5000 B.C. Now, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR in referring to Bliss's "gift for penetrating analysis" mentions what Bliss "modestly calls "re-discoveries." Studying the pictorial writings of the early Chinese, Babylonians, Egyptians, etc. he came upon the oldest records of man, the paleolithic cave paintings (ca. 30,000 B.C.). Comparing these records with the records of modern man (from 5000 B.C. till today) he was forcibly struck by one tremendous difference. The records of paleolithic man show animal hunts only, whereas the records of modern man are mostly about man hunts, glorifications of wars and victories.

IF PALEOLITHIC MAN HAD SCORED VICTORIES OVER HIS HUMAN ADVERSARIES, he would surely have glorified it on the walls of his caves, thought Bliss, and he began a frantic search in books on archeology. There he found that archeologists have unearthed (literally) more proofs, for instance that paleolithic man was not a cannibal, but neolithic man (15,000 to 5000 B.C.) became one. Then he found that some archeologists have interpreted these and other finds similarly, but nobody listened to them, because we are all reared in the belief that war is innate to human nature.

PROFESSOR ASHLEY MONTAGU OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, EMINENT AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST, supports Bliss's rediscovery. Montagu has shown with numerous experiments and instances that within the same species of animals, the "highest ethics is supreme law." Lions don't kill lions, tigers don't kill tigers, and wolves will starve together, as no wolf will kill a living fellow brother wolf. But man kills man. It becomes now clear that we have made the grave mistake in identifying the hunt for food (from other species and plants) in the animal world, with the hunt for destruction (of the same species) in the human world.

THE PROOF THAT HUMAN WARFARE IS ONLY A RECENT EPIDEMIC WHICH MEDICAL MEN CAN STOP gives mankind more practical and breath-taking hope than the promises of evangelists. And the world-wide psychological and psychiatric treatment which Chisholm advocates is the very essence of Semantography, indeed its moral and its ethics: that we can with the symbolic logic and semantics of Semantography become aware of those words which contain the meaning element of "bad", and which cause war in almost every family, and every community.

THE READERS DIGEST in realizing that Communist propaganda works mostly with fallacious and ambiguous words, has recently cried out for a better word than "Capitalism" to describe the "way of life" of America and the other countries of the Western World. Bliss, the chemist has the answer. He points out that the word "benzene-derivate" covers compounds which may be medicines, or poisons, or explosives. Girls and boys have learned to operate the Logic and Semantics of chemical Semantography, which describe such complex structures in structural formulas. The words "Factory Organisation"

or "United Nations Organisation" can only be explained by a structural formula, showing how the various men and agencies are co-ordinated. The word "Democracy" is too vague and is being abused all over the world. The Communists have adopted it for their regime and they went one step further. A "New Democracy" must sound very good, because anything "old" is bad and worn out. A "People's Democracy" sounds even better, when compared with the bad "Capitalist Democracy". So flagrant is all this when we realize that Demos means people, and that the words above mean actually a "People's Peoplecracy". The world goes crazy by semantic confusion, and many minds in America and elsewhere fall for it.

STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY who saw Bliss's structural formula of the structure of a society, in Semantography, have agreed that they can never again use the words Capitalism and Socialism in the thoughtless way it is used today all over the world. They remembered their chemistry lessons, and how a chemical "radical" can change the properties of a compound radically. Boys and girls all over the world, after a short training in Semantography will be able to discern in the structural formulas of different "Democracies", whether they contain a dictatorship, a secret police, a concentration camp, forced labour deportation and worse. And they will be able to read all this in their own mother-tongue be it Anglo-American, or French, or Hindustani or any other language, and no vague and ambiguous abstractions.

But inquisitive students will stop at nothing. They made, like Lord Russell, controversial religious statements, and Bliss showed them the semantographic formulas of ethical laws, and that they are to be found in the structural formulas of various religions. He also demonstrated that the great dissension, the many denominations and factions are a direct result of semantic confusion, as different people interpret differently certain words and statements made thousands of years ago. Bliss showed them too, the symbols for Creator and Creation, and the students agreed that these symbols and their interpretation can be accepted by adherents of various religions and even by so-called atheists (unbelievable as it seems).

A GRIM QUESTION TO THE P-MEN OF AMERICA AND OF THE WHOLE WORLD

WHO ARE THE P-MEN ? The P-Men are the Prominent Persons, the People in Power, the Presidents, Premiers and Prime Ministers, the Parliamentarians and Politicians, the Pressmen, Penmen and Publishers, the Professors and Pedagogues, Physicians and Physicists, Psychologists and Psychiatrists, Philosophers and Philologists, the Parsons, Priests and Prelates, the Patricians and Philanthropists. All the Paladins of Progress and all the Professionals who have been given Plein Pouvoir by the People of this Planet. Here is the grim question which you should answer in a way not to be accused later on that you have let a Pioneer go down the sink, whose work is of great value in the fight against the Dictators and Demagogues. Here is the question:

WHAT TO DO WITH A MAN AND HIS WORK ?
WHAT TO DO WITH BLISS AND SEMANTOGRAPHY ?

Shall he get stuck down under, unaided in his pioneer work ? Already he has used up his savings and earnings in printing and posting hundreds of letter and leaflets, brochures and books to hundreds of P-Men. Philanthropists have turned him down. Publishers have turned him down. Typewriter Companies have turned him down. Professors have turned him down. Universities have turned him down. Foundations have turned him down. But after every setback, he turns up, a cheerful chap, notwithstanding the fact that he is up to his neck in mortgages and overdrafts. He had a successful life as an industrialist and lecturer, even as a musician and artist. But now he is 55 years of age, and his mind is the only one, in which this idea is well ordered. He wants to pass it on before he passes out.

THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS LISTEN TO HIM. All Scholars and Lay People who listened to him, support wholeheartedly his work. "Unconditional Eulogy" wrote Prof. Meredith of Leeds about Bliss's work. Other scholars use similar superlatives. Enlightened librarians have bought his hand-made mimeographed books and his evergrowing Semantography Series. THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS has given a standing order to a Sydney bookshop to acquire all writings of Bliss. But every penny he earns he spends on the propagation of this idea. It is little and not enough. More power to him !

GET HIM OVER ON A LECTURE TOUR. Listen to his Listeners: Prof. A.G. Mitchell: "charmed and fascinated". The Student Papers: "You cannot forget having heard Bliss lecturing on Semantography." PEOPLE Magazine: "...spellbound...thunder of applause."

WHETHER YOU ARE A MEMBER OF A PRIVATE CIRCLE, OR A SOCIETY, OR A COLLEGE OR A UNIVERSITY, GET IMMEDIATELY IN TOUCH WITH A.H. HANDLEY, Lecture Management
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