David Lake replies:

In the second part of my article I express considerable dismay to have to accept Wells's final American version of *First Men*. But Roger Stearn is butting his head against a firm editorial dogma - an editor is bound to accept an author’s final thoughts. Otherwise he’s not an editor, but a ‘corrector,’ doing unto his author as Bentley did unto Milton. When an earlier version has considerable merit, then the only way out is to print both versions - as is commonly done with Keats' *La Belle Dame*, Wordsworth's *Prelude* 1805, 1850, and now latterly *King Lear* 1608, 1623. In fact this is my real solution for *First Men*: today I have been using, for literary purposes, both the final American version and the Newnes 1901 - Penguin 1986 ....

Michael Draper adds:

Clearly Dr Lake is the expert, yet I have to confess my own sympathies lie with neither party in this dispute. If the aim of editing is to produce the most accurate and rewarding piece of reading matter possible, then it seems to me that literary rather than chronological criteria should guide the editor’s choice of which version to work from, and the goal of a definitive text is a pedantic distraction from this decision, no matter whether it takes the form of the ‘earliest’ or ‘final’ version. Such a liberal policy may be accused of opening the flood gates of subjectivity, but the editor can after all state which version he or she is using and why it was chosen, giving an account of alternative readings in an appendix and leaving scholars with dissenting views to produce their own editions if they wish to. In the case of a Collected Works of Wells, an editorial committee could thrash out a consensus view on the best edition to offer the public - though, thinking of the likely members of such a committee, this could prove a lengthy business!

I am delighted to see that neither Dr Lake nor Dr Stearn has time for the presently fashionable pseudo-linguistic approach to literature which dismisses the author’s intentions as ‘irrecoverable,’ and on this pretext treats all books as samples of the inauthenticity of language, to be played with and pulled apart as a dyspeptic infant plays with its food. Even the Mad Mullahs allow Salman Rushdie the dignity of meaning something, and something capable of arousing passion, even if one might quarrel with other aspects of their ‘critical practice’.

Patrick Parrinder

A List of Contemporary Reviews and Articles on Wells

This list should be used as a supplement to that given by Ingvald Rak nem, *H.G. Wells and his Critics* (1962), pp. 446-471. I have adopted the same format as Rak nem, but items already listed by him are not included here. For a select list of writings about Wells, including a number of articles and reviews not listed below, see *H.G. Wells: A Reference Guide* ed. Scheik & Cox (Boston: G.K. Hall & Co) 1988.

1. Reviews

**Textbook of Biology**
*Nature* vol 47, 605 (Vol 1); vol 49, 148 (Vol 2).

**Select Conversations with an Uncle**
*Academy; Bookman* (London) viii (ly 1895) 118; *Critic* xxv ns (11 Apr 1896) 253;
*Publishers' Circular* lxii (15 Jn 1895) 662; *Literary World* xxvi (5 Oct 1895) 334.

**The Time Machine**
*Nature* lii (18 Jy 1895) 268; *Publishers' Circular* lxii (22 Jn 1895) 685; *Pall Mall Magazine* vii (Sept 1895) 153-5 (Israel Zangwill); *Observer* (3 Mar 1895) 7; *Sunday Times* 3 Mar 1895 2; (28 Apr 1895) 2; *Literary World* xxvi (13 Jy 1895) 217; *L'Ermitage* xviii (May 1899) 3 81-2.

**The Wonderful Visit**

**The Stolen Bacillus**

**The Island of Dr Moreau**
*Academy* xlix (30 May 1896) 433-4 (Grant Richards); *Lit. World* xxvii (Aug 1896) 252; *Speaker* xii (18 Apr 1896) 429-30; *Idler* ix (Jn 1896) 724 (Richard le Gallienne); Teodoro de Wyzewa, *Le Roman contemporain a l'étranger* (Paris, 1900) 145-56; [For a letter from HGW to de Wyzewa, see Elga Liverman Duval, Teodoro de Wyzewa: *Critic without a Country* (Geneva & Paris 1961), 150.]

**The Wheels of Chance**
*Lit. World* xxviii (23 Jan 1897) 28.

**Thirty Strange Stories**
*Lit. World* xxix (15 Oct 1898) 342-3; *L' Ermitage* xxv (Dec 1902) 464 (Henri Ghéon).
The Invisible Man

Literature l (30 Oct 1897) 50-1; Pub. Circ. lxvii (2 Oct 1897) 397-8; Woman (29 Sep 1897) 9 (Arnold Bennett); Lit. World xxviii (25 Dec 1897) 479; Speaker xvi (20 Nov 1897) 571.

Certain Personal Matters

Bookman (London) xiii (Nov 1897) 51.

The War of the Worlds

Speaker xvii (5 Feb 1898) 174; Nature lvii (10 Feb 1898) 339-40 (R.A. Gregory); Cosmopolis ix (Mar 1898) 705-6; Literature ii (5 Feb 1898) 145-6, iii (31 Dec 1898) 626; Pub. Circ. lxvii (29 Jan 1898) 130; Lit. World xxix (14 May 1898) 154; L’Ermitage xx (May 1900) 387.

When the Sleeper Wakes

Lit. World xxx (22 Jy 1899) 236; Literature iv (27 May 1899) 555; Speaker xix (3 Jun 1899) 639.

Tales of Space and Time

Speaker ns i (25 Nov 1899) 219; Literature v (25 Nov 1899) 518; L’Ermitage xxii (Apr 1901) 317 (Henri Ghéon).

Love and Mr Lewisham

Academy lviii (23 Jun 1900) 535-6; Speaker ns ii (16 Jun 1900) 312-3; Speaker ns v (15 Feb 1900) 563-5 (C.F.G. Masterman); Literature ix (16 Nov 1900) 463-6; Lit. World xxxii (1 Aug 1902) 118; L’Ermitage xxx (May 1904) 66-7 (Henri Ghéon); Morning Leader (8 Mar 1902) 4 (William Archer); Westminster Gazette xviii (12 Nov 1901) 1.

The First Men in the Moon

Speaker ns v (11 Jan 1902) 430; L’Ermitage xxiii (Dec 1901) 471-2 (Henri Ghéon).

Anticipations

Fabian News xxi (Feb 1902) 7 (L. Haden Guest); Critic xlii (Nov 1902) 479-80; Speaker ns v (15 Feb 1900) 563-5 (C.F.G. Masterman); Literature ix (16 Nov 1900) 465-6; Lit. World xxxii (1 Aug 1902) 118; L’Ermitage xxx (May 1904) 66-7 (Henri Ghéon); Morning Leader (8 Mar 1902) 4 (William Archer); Westminster Gazette xviii (12 Nov 1901) 1.

The Sea Lady

Nation (N.Y.) lxvii (6 Nov 1902) 369; Speaker ns vi (30 Aug 1902) 586; Pilot vi (9 Aug 1902) 148-9.

Mankind in the Making

Fabian News xxxi (Dec 1903) 47 (Hubert Bland); Speaker ns ix (17 Oct 1903) 61-2; New Age xvii (29 Oct 1903) 694-5; TLS (25 Sept 1903) 270; Pilot viii (24 Oct 1903) 403-4.

Twelve Stories and a Dream

Speaker ns ix (12 Dec 1903) 278-80 (Alfred Noyes); Revue du Mois vii (10 April 1909) 510; Pilot viii (26 Dec 1903) 630.

The Food of the Gods

Speaker ns xi (29 Oct 1904) 111-2; Critic xiv (Dec 1904) 543-4; Lit. World xxxv (Nov 1904) 328; Mercure de France (Nov 1904) (H. Davray).

A Modern Utopia

Dial xl (1 May 1906) 296-7; Fabian News xv (Aug 1905) 38-9 (Sidney Olivier); Speaker ns xi (1 Jy 1905) 325-6 (G.K. Chesterton); Lit. World ns lxvi (15 Apr 1905) 117-8; Clarion (21 Apr 1905) 1; Nature lxixii (10 Aug 1905) 337-8 (F.C.S. Schiller); Contemporary Review lxxvii (Jun 1905) 901-3; Revue du Mois vi (10 Oct 1908) 506.

Kipps

Cambridge Review xxvii (15 Feb 1906) 246; Speaker ns xii (25 Nov 1905) 184-5 (Sidney Olivier); Lit. World ns lxvi (15 Nov 1905) 443; North American Review cxxxvii (31 Oct 1906) 795-8 (W.D. Howells).

In the Days of the Comet

Fabian News xvii (Jan 1907) 13-14 (L. Haden Guest); Speaker ns xv (13 Oct 1906) 58-9; Daily Express (15 Sept 1906) 4, (19 Sept) 1, (20 Sept) 1; Lit. World ns lxvii (15 Oct 1906) 441; Clarion (21 Sept 1906) 4; R. du Mois x (10 Sept 1910) 377; Tribune (14 Sept 1906) 2; New Age.

Socialism and the Family

TLS; Spectator (1906).

The Future in America

Bookman (N.Y.) xxiv (Jan 1907) 482-4; Journal of Political Economy xv (Mar 1907) 174-7; Nation (N.Y.) lxxxiii (20 Dec 1906) 537-8; Speaker ns xv (1 Dec 1906) 261-2 (G. Lowes Dickinson); Lit. World ns lxvi (15 Nov 1906) 510; New Age xix (22 Nov 1906) 117; TLS.

New Worlds for Old

Fabian News xix (Apr 1908) 41 (L. Haden Guest); Nation (L.) ii (21 Mar 1908) 910-1; Nation (N.Y.) lxvii (28 May 1908) 491; Clarion (27 Mar 1908) 2; Optimist iv (Oct 1908) 342-4; Positivist Review vi (1 Jun 1910) 131-4.

The War in the Air

Nation (L.) iv (31 Oct 1908) 178-9; Nation (N.Y.) lxxxiii (31 Dec 1908) 655.

Tono-Bungay

Everyman iii (20 Mar 1914) 759-60 (A.B. Clinkscale); Nation (L.) iv (13 Feb 1909) 758-62; Nation (N.Y.) lxxxviiii (18 Feb 1909) 170-1; N. Am. Rev. cxxxiix (Jun 1909) 921-1; Atlantic Monthly iii (May 1909) 705-6; Westminster Review cxxii (Apr 1909) 473-4; Chicago Evening Post (26 Mar 1909) (Francis Hackett; repr. in his Horizons, New York 1918); Smart Set (N.Y.) (Apr 1909) 154-5 (H.L. Mencken); Vanity Fair lxxxiii (3 Mar 1909) 263 (Frank Harris).

Ann Veronica

Nation (L.) vi (23 Oct 1909) 167-70; Nation (N.Y.) lxxxvii (6 Jan 1910) 12-13; N. Am. Rev. cxxxiix (Dec 1909) 837-8; Observer (10 Oct 1909) 6; Positivist Review xixii (1 Mar 1910) 64-5; Smart Set (N.Y.) (Feb 1910) 153-4 (H.L. Mencken).

The History of Mr Polly

English Review v (Jy 1910) 760-1; New Age ns vii (23 Jun 1910) Lit. Supp. 1-2; N. Am. Rev. exci (Jy 1910) 136-7; Literary Post (20 Apr 1910) 79; Smart Set (N.Y.) (Jy 1910)
153-5 (H.L. Mencken); Field cvx (23 Apr 1910) 721.

The New Machiavelli
*Nation* (L.) viii (21 Jan 1911) 690-2; *Nation* (N.Y.) lxxxi (9 Mar 1911) 244; *Clarion* (20 Jan 1911) 2; *Eng. Rev.* vii (Feb 1911) 579-80; *Atl. My.* cviii (Oct 1911) 563-4 (Margaret Sherwood); *Chicago Ev. Post* (20 Jan 1911) (Francis Hackett; repr. in *Horizons*); *Wishire's Magazine* xv (Feb 1911) 4-5 (Upton Sinclair); *N. Am. Rev.* ccxiv (May 1911) 155-4; *Smart Set* (N.Y.) (Apr 1911) 161-3 (H.L. Mencken).

The Country of the Blind
*Daily News* (25 Aug 1911) 7 (Robert Lynd); *Nation* (L.) ix (23 Sept 1911) 916-7.

Marriage
*Nation* (L.) xii (19 Oct 1912) 152-4; *Freewoman* ii (19 Sept 1912) 346-8 (Rebecca West); *Atl. My.* cxxi (May 1913) 697-9; *Eye Witness* iii (19 Sept 1912) 440-2; *Smart Set* (N.Y.) (H.L. Mencken).

The Discovery of the Future
*New Age* ns xiii (23 Oct 1913) 762 (A.R. Orage); *Fabian News* xii (Jun 1902) 23-4 (E.R. Pease).

The Passionate Friends
*Clarion* (10 Oct 1913) 5 (Rebecca West); *New Freewoman* i (1 Oct 1913) 147-9 (Rebecca West); *Eng. Rev.* xv (Oct 1913) 475-6; *Atl. My.* cxiii (Apr 1914) 496-8; *New Age* ns xiii (16 Oct 1913) 730 (A.R. Orage); *New Witness* ii (25 Sept 1913) 661-2; *Smart Set* (N.Y.) (H.L. Mencken).

An Englishman Looks at the World
*T.P.'s Weekly* xxii (20 Mar 1914) 359.

The World Set Free
*Clarion* (12 Jun 1914) 2; *Egoist* i (1 Jun 1914) 203-7; *New Age* ns xiv (18 Dec 1913) 209 (A.R. Orage), ns xv (21 May 1914) 66 (A.E. Randall); *New Witness* iv (14 May 1914) 50-4 (Cecil Chesterton).

The Wife of Sir Isaac Harman
*New Republic* i (7 Nov 1914) 27 (Walter Lippman); *Eng. Rev.* xxx (Dec 1914) 123; *Atl. My.* ccxxv (Apr 1915) 509-510; *New Witness* iv (12 Nov 1914) 664-5 (Cecil Chesterton); *Smart Set* (N.Y.) (H.L. Mencken).

Boon
*Atl. My.* ccxii (May 1916) 640; *TLS* (13 May 1915) 159.

Bealby
*Atheneum* 01 (July 1915) 76; *New Rep.* iii (8 May 1915) 22; *New Witness* vi (15 Jul 1915) 225-6.

The Research Magnificent

What Is Coming

Mr Britling Sees It Through

The Soul of a Bishop
*New Rep.* (Francis Hackett, repr. in *Horizons*).

The Outline of History
*New Rep.* xxiii (1 Aug 1920) 309-12; *Liberator* (Jan 1921) 27-31 (Floyd Dell); *Dublin Review* cxiv (Oct-Dec 1921) 222-36; *Smart Set* (N.Y.) (H.L. Mencken) (March 1921).

The Open Conspiracy
*Living Age* cccxxxiv (Jul 1928) 1005-7; *Life & Letters* i (Jun 1928) 54-5; *New Adelphi* i (Jun 1928) 293-5 (John Middleton Murry).

The Work, Wealth and Happiness of Mankind
*19th Century & After* cxi (Apr 1932) 500-12; *Scrutiny* i (May 1932) 80-3 (F.R. Leavis).

The Bulpington of Blup
*Virginia Quarterly Review* ix (Apr 1933) 317-8; BLM.

Experiment in Autobiography

The New World Order
*TLS* (6 Jan 1940) 6.

2. Essays and Articles 1895-1946
(excluding essays and chapters in books)
'An Invasion from Mars', *Spectator* lxxix (25 Sept 1897) 398-9.
I.S. Low  

Opinion: H.G. Wells and the Stock Exchange Crash of 1987  

The Stock Market crash of autumn 1987 revealed dramatically a truth that had been becoming evident for some time: no one really knows how to run the world economically. The pro-capitalists think they know how: so do the socialists; consequently neither thinks about it. And the events of last autumn showed that, fifty-eight years after the crash of 1929, the statesmen of the world had not found out how to prevent such a catastrophe. H.G. Wells had warned the pro-capitalists that their ideas were out of date and he warned the socialists that their ideas were not properly thought out. He has been proved right.

To understand the world’s economic problems (and the relevance of Wells’s ideas about them) it is a good thing to think about that earlier crash, the 1929 one. It brought out clearly the effects of extreme uncontrolled private enterprise: the tendency of slumps to follow booms, the existence of masses of poverty-stricken people in a world with power to produce boundless goods, and not enough money being spent on social services. All