



SEMANTOGRAPHY SERIES NO. 96

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TO THE LIBRARIANS
OF THE GREAT LIBRARIES OF GREAT BRITAIN

Dear Sirs,

This unconventional and unusual approach comes from the author of an unusual work, of which Bertrand Russell wrote: "I think very highly of it...Any man or men who will spend the money necessary to get your work printed will, in my opinion, be performing an important service to mankind." In using such words Earl Russell thought of the tragedies which befall authors whose work is not a novel, but too novel an idea to find a large public and a publisher. The history of new ideas shows that many innovators were outsiders who found neither recognition nor a publisher during their life-time.

SEMANTOGRAPHY by C.K.BLISS 3 volumes, over 700 pages 9 x 11 inch.

I am an industrial research worker, too practical not to realize the handicaps mentioned above. I made therefore 100 mimeographed copies of my work. They inspired Earl Russell to his appeal. Prof. G.P.Meredith (Leeds) classed his review (The New Era, London, Nov. 1950) as next to an "unconditional eulogy." I approached libraries, offering these volumes, together with a recommendation of the Principal Librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales and informative literature. Here however I encountered another handicap. Libraries are swamped with publishers' prospectuses. A great publishing house offering a book by a professor of a great university has an infinite greater chance than the unknown author of an unknown idea no matter how great.

Nevertheless a number of librarians took the time to study the idea and found that it deserves help. They bought my work. Apart from a number of libraries in Australia and South East Asia, most active help came from libraries in the United States. Now the available copies of my book are dwindling down and I am writing this letter, being distressed that not one great library in Great Britain has this work. I have set aside 10 copies for Great Britain and I ask you to consider the purchase of one, and also of the publications described below.

THE SEMANTOGRAPHY SERIES The Story of the Struggle for Semantography

My work has aroused interest and inspired studies and articles in various papers. This has led to an unusual honour. The Library of Congress in Washington and the Library of Harvard have given a standing advance order to a Sydney book company to acquire all my writings (including the future ones). Inspired and encouraged by this recognition I have assembled my leaflets and brochures, the text of my lectures at Sydney University and my correspondence courses, articles, approaches, controversies, etc. in the SEMANTOGRAPHY SERIES. More than 100 numbers are already available and I attach a few for your perusal. Most numbers are mimeographed and the price of one foolscap sheet (like this one) is 3 d, much below self-cost. Most of these numbers are extensions of my work, others are of historic significance. Scholars think them invaluable in the study of my work and my struggle.

My second approach to you is the suggestion that you help a new idea along by subscribing to the Semantography Series. If enough enlightened librarians do this, then my self-cost for stencils, typing, printing and mailing will be met, and great encouragement will be given to me and my voluntary co-workers. Your readers will be inspired to continue a work which one day will become an important tool of humanity. For £st 1 you may purchase the first 31 leaflets and brochures. (reduced from £ 1.3.5) No. 1 - No. 84 cost £ 4.5.5

In spending a few pounds on this new world-embracing idea you will indeed, in the words of Earl Russell, "be performing an important service to Mankind."

Encl. Semantography Series No. 5,6,8,43
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Yours sincerely
C.K. Bliss
C.K.Bliss, B.Sc.