THE WELLSIAN

NEW SERIES No. 5

The Journal of the H.G. Wells Society 1982

EDITOR Patrick Parrinder

Copyright 1982 © The H.G. Wells Society,
The H.G. Wells Centre,
Department of Language and Literature,
The Polytechnic of North London,
Prince of Wales Road,
London NW5 3LB, England

ISSN 0263 1776

Contents

Editorial: Jean-Pierre Vernier	1
W.M.S. Russell — Folk-Tales and H.G. Wells	2
J. Kagarlitski — Wells's Short Stories	19
Leon Stover — Spade House Dialectic: Theme and Theory in 'Things to Come'	23
Christopher Rolfe — From Puttenhanger to Polly: A Note on H.G. Wells's Comic Masterpiece	33
Michael Draper — The Martians in Ecuador	35
Book review The War of the Worlds Vier Hörspiele	37

Editorial: Jean-Pierre Vernier

Readers will be saddened to hear of the untimely death of Jean-Pierre Vernier. Professor Vernier, who edited this journal from 1976 to 1980, died on 31 January 1982 at the age of 49. He had held a number of posts at the University of Rouen, becoming a full professor there in 1977. His doctoral thesis was published in 1971 as H.G. Wells et son temps and, through the medium of essays, book reviews and conference papers, he did much to make Wells's work better known and to sustain an already distinguished tradition of Wells studies in France. He had fought a long struggle with ill-health, and his genial good humour, as well as his generous services to the H.G. Wells Society and its members, will be greatly missed.

Among the work that he left unfinished were two promised contributions to this year's *Wellsian*. In place of one of these — a check-list of recent scholarly work in our field — we print, as a token of our respect and affection, the following list of Professor Vernier's own ample contributions to Wellsian studies.

'H.G. Wells critique'. Etudes Anglaises, xix, 4 (1966) 424-438.

'The New Machiavelli, roman de la confusion'. Etudes Anglaises, xxiii, 1 (1970) 62-71.

H.G. Wells et son temps. Publications de l'Université de Rouen & Didier, Paris, 1971, 557 pp.

H.G. Wells. *Deux nouvelles d'anticipation* (en collaboration avec J. Gattegno). Chronologie, introduction, bibliographie. Paris, Aubier, 1973.

'H.G. Wells at the Turn of the Century'. Supplement to *The Journal of the H.G. Wells Society*, 1973.

'H.G. Wells'. Ecrivains anglais et irlandais. Recueil 1, Tournai, Casterman, 1973.

'H.G. Wells'. Encyclopaedia Universalis, 1973.

'Tono-Bungay et la crépuscule des nations'. Etudes Anglaises, xxviii, 4 (1975) 409-419.

'Remington as Time-Traveller: Wells's Treatment of Time in *The New Machiavelli*'. *The Wellsian*, n.s. 1 (1976) 6-10.

'The History of Mr Polly et la quête du bonheur'. Communication faite au 17e congrès de la S.A.E.S., Tours, 30 avril 1977.

'Evolution as a Literary Theme in H.G. Wells's Science Fiction', D. Suvin and R. Philmus ed., H.G. Wells and Modern Science Fiction. Bucknell U.P., 1977, 70-89.

'H.G. Wells, Writer or Thinker? From Science Fiction to Social Prophecy', *The Wellsian*, n.s. 3 (Spring 1980) 24-34.