

Selected Logic Papers, Enlarged Edition by W. V. Quine. Cambridge, Mass., Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1995. xii + 307 pp., paperback.

Reviewed by

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Quine's updated text is remarkable in its ability to fulfill the traditions of two noble styles of exposition at once. *Selected Logic Papers* is both a retrospective of a century of hot and heady development in logic and a work that is valuable for a practitioner in the field.

In its first rôle, as a compilation of some of the century's best published opinions and proofs in formal logic, this work shines. And it shines more brightly than the 1966 edition of *Selected Logic Papers* in virtue of its extension, composed of eight added essays representing ideas communicated since 1982. "MacHale on Boole" first appeared in the *Times Literary Supplement*; "Free Logic, Description, and Virtual Classes" was, writes Quine, written for a celebration of Hugues Leblanc's seventieth birthday.

The first essay of the work, unchanged from a shorter edition, is "Whitehead and the Rise of Modern Logic". It dates from 1941, but remains an artfully constructed introduction to logic as it grew out of notions of universal algebra. Quine is a philosopher and does not shy from philosophical opinions of others. Early in "Wittgenstein and Modern Logic" he cites Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*: "Roughly speaking: to say of two things that they are identical is nonsense, and to say of one thing that it is identical with itself is to say nothing" [1922, 139]. He works to undercut this sentiment in a manner reminiscent of that in "New Foundations for Mathematical Logic" [1937], which is absent, still, from this compendium. Quine addresses this omission, noting that