

30 November, 1971

Dr. G. S. Bell
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My dear Bell,

Many thanks for the preprint of your last paper which I did read because you are one of the very few heretics from whom I always expect to learn something, and, indeed, I found this new paper of yours exceedingly instructive. To begin with, it is no mean achievement to have given Everett's damned nonsense^{*} an air of respectability by presenting it as a refurbishing of the idea of preestablished harmony. On this point I may claim priority, as you will see from the enclosed preprint of a sketch I wrote for the entertainment of the relativists last summer (only the prelude is relevant).

What I liked still more, however, is your successful attempt to instill logic into the pilot wave idea. In view of the stringency of your analysis, I feel one may conclude that the only alternative to the "complacent" attitude of the pragmatists is a return to a theological view of the world fully as solid as that of Newton. As you may see from the enclosed preprint, this fits in quite well with the conclusions I tried to draw from a careful study of

* I am here using a convenient terminology which I learned from Teller, who had it from the eminent English physical chemist Donnan. The latter always made a point of distinguishing between plain nonsense and damned nonsense. For instance, materialism is plain nonsense, idealism is damned nonsense.

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of the empirical basis of epistemology. In the book, I contemplate to write about those problems, I shall now be able, with your permission (or without it), to quote you in strong support of my own conclusions. However, my dear Bell, is it not a bit complacent of you to think that you can contemplate the world from the point of view of God?

With heartiest wishes,

Yours

L. Rosenfeld

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