1983.11.01

Herrn Dr Herbert Spengler
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8132 Tutzing
DBR

Dear Dr Spengler

Thank you for your letter of October 23 and your translation of THE MIND-BODY PROBLEM.

I found the latter excellent. It sounds much more convincing in your German than in my English, among other reasons because your German is far better than my English. I am very grateful to you for having undertaken this job, and am flattered that it was done by a man of your background.

I found only a few mistakes in my quick Übersicht, and you had not many queries either. You will find them all in the attached sheet.

On the other hand I have introduced several corrections in my own copy, which I would appreciate your incopprating into your translation. You will find them in another sheets.

Since you express interest in my SCIENTIFIC MATERIALISM I am ordering a copy of if for you from the publisher. Yes, that little book contains something about my own version of materialism, and it has a more detailed criticism of Popper's "world 3", as well as a chapter on the evolution of mind (or rather the evolutionary approach to mind).

I will arrive in Hannover on November 10th and will ring you up. I will be attending the Leibniz congress and will come back to Montreal on the 19th. I'll be staying at the Hotel am Rathaus.

Cordially

Mario Bunge
Frothingham Professor of Logic & Metaphysics

P.D. The Japanese translation of MBP came out last year, and the Spanish translation is scheduled to be published in a few months.

DAS LEIB-SEELE PROBLEM

Ubersetzung von Dr Herbert Spengler ⎤ ←——— This should occur in the title page!
Epilog von Prof. Donald O. Hebb ⎦

S. V,Z. 12   Rodomin   Rudomín

S 18, ZZ 13-14   'Hemmung' anstatt 'Inhibition' ?
S. 18a, ZZ 1,6   "   "   "

S. 161, Fig. 4.1   Chemorezepto ——→ Chemorezeptor

S. 166, Z. 9   Letvinna ——→ Lettvin et al.

S. 174   Z -9   Russel ——→ Russell

?? S. 186 k ist die räumliche Frequenz, die in der Integrale

$$g(k) = (1/2\pi) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} f(x) \, dx \quad \text{steckt.}$$

?? S. 187   Perhaps add, for the sake of clarity: die wirklich an den selben
             Zeitpunkt erregt werden.

? S. 213, Z. -10: ✗ ——→ ✗

?? S. 235, Fig. 6.5, Z. 3: 'Moore-graph' ist OK. Aber man kann 'Moore' weg lassen

?? S. 266 Ich verstehe nicht.

?? S. 274, Sicher später, aber in sein Principles of Psychology he recognized
   only novelty of the combinatorial kind.

?? S. 276 Depends on the definition of "determinism". I include probabilistic
           lawfulness in determinism, and suspect (but only suspect) that the
           laws of creativity will turn out to be probabilistic.

?? S. 299 Ich verstehe nicht.

S. 324   Formel : nicht $|G(a,b) \cap |N(b)|$ sondern $|G(a,b) \cap N(b)|$,
          wobei '$|X|$' bedeutet die Zahl der Mitglieder der Menge X.

?? S. 326   OK

AUTHOR'S NOTE TO THE GERMAN EDITION

I have taken this opportunity to make a number of improvements on the original English edition. In particular, some sentences have been made clearer or more accurate, and some references to recent work in psychobiology have been added.

I feel honored by the fact that Professor Hans Albert, a veteran crusader for rationalism and the scientific approach, has recommended that this book be translated into German. And the reader and myself are very fortunate that Dr Herbert Spengler has undertaken to do this job. His scientific background and his sympathy for the scientific approach to the problem of mind guarantee fidelity, and his mastery of the two languages involved guarantees literary quality.

It is a pleasure to note that this translation appears at about the same time as the Spanish translation. The Japanese version was published in 1982.