

Real Science?

Paper I: *A Patchwork of Parts or a coherent, indivisible Whole?*

I. To Conquer the World, First Invent It!

Crucial questions about Science need clarification.

The recent phase of my work wherein the major philosophical flaws of current scientific methods were revealed is coming to a close, and task of outlining its future must begin. Most of my recent papers about Plurality in both Thought and Science have not as yet revealed exactly what the consequences will be on our view of the World, and why it is untenable for the future. You have to start somewhere, so for some time I emphasized the ever more evident limitations of ALL derived equations, which were clearly only effective within certain well defined Domains of Applicability, outside of which they were, quite simply, **wrong**.

But, though that line of reasoning was perfectly sound, it did not reveal exactly how such an approach had transformed the World. In spite of its flaws, Science was still the most remarkable approach that Mankind has ever invented and developed in tackling the World around him.

The counter-argument to my criticisms implied, even if it was not clearly and overtly stated, the response that:-

“What’s wrong with that? As long as we can continue to both construct and control such Domains, surely we can also deliver our objectives?”

And it is perfectly true that such an approach has delivered the man-made World which we currently inhabit.

But, let us be clear what it is that we have, AND what we don’t have!

Effectively, the “World”, as delivered by pluralist Science is composed of millions of “fenced and maintained enclosures”, within each of which separate extracted laws pertain. Yet, the illusion we have is that our achievements are universal, and our laws are applicable everywhere. That is certainly NOT the actual situation. So why do we get this view, and get away with it?

It seems that as long as what we “require” is evidently available in each such “field”, all is well.

We carefully establish and maintain the given Domain and use our derivations to deliver our objectives. What’s the problem?

The problem is that when we require anything at all complicated, no single Domain is ever sufficient to deliver for the full, overall purpose, and we have to create a whole series of such defined Domains – a Farms of special Fields, or perhaps more accurately, a Horticultural Latifundia of carefully controlled greenhouses, each with the appropriate conditions maintained for its particular purpose. And to produce our objective, we have to traverse a whole sequence of these maintained “climates” carrying over the products from one into another to tackle the next stage. Mankind has devised and delivered considerable numbers of such controlled expanses and arranged appropriate traverses through such sequences to deliver some planned outcome, so that we very easily forget the underlying fragmentary layout of our “horticultural Farm”, and consider it as a unified and continuous Whole.

It is, of course, no such thing!

It is a patchwork of separate “micro-climates”, NOT an intrinsically connected and continuous Whole. It amounts to a set of “stepping stones” across a seemingly impassable torrent. We invariably see such traverses as miraculous achievements (and so they are), but they are also very clearly artificial paths to our objectives. They are certainly NOT unfettered interventions into Reality as is, towards our desired objectives. We build each yard of our path as we go.

Each and every stepping stone is a man-devised, man-made and man-maintained artificially constructed paving towards our required ends.

Let us think about the implications of this remarkable scheme.

Such a World, if it is continued to be extended, will involve more and more Control and Maintenance. The already necessary acres of greenhouses, with their artificial environments, and vast power consumption, will deliver an ever more narrow range of products or collapse under its own demanding diversity.

Let us compare it with Nature's unconstrained abundance and variety!

Compare the "horticultural farm" with an acre of virgin rain forest.

Very soon our man-made means will require undeliverable overheads and will increasingly fail to deliver economically. Think about the cost and complexity of delivering an eggcup to the moon, where the biggest building on the face of the planet is necessary to erect the transport for such a task, and thousands of tons are expended – burned to dust, in the exercise.

What are the differences between our two contrasted systems?

The rain forest is unconstrained. Everything is happening simultaneously, and "on the fly". Its population of Living Things is decided by Natural Selection – a simple yet infinitely variable and entirely appropriate shaper of things, and its products are the "most fit", and maintain a rich flourishing fabric in spite of continuous contention and even consumption.

It is a holistic World with NO evident overheads. It is self-sufficient! It survives and even thrives on FREE sunlight and FREE rain!

In contrast, we have our pluralist, man-made "farm", wherein everything requires the rigid maintenance of a multitude of separate, yet essential conditions. The energy overheads are prodigious and unavoidable, and the necessary transport from each Domain to the next is vital. It resembles a 19th century farming landscape packed with workers to maintain productivity, except we have replaced man-power by other means, but it is still "packed"

And in addition to its enormous appetite for Domain Maintenance and use, it also cannot ever cope with Change! As stated earlier, it is a landscape of rigidly fixed Domains. Real natural Change where one thing becomes another is anathema in this World. Prodigious efforts are continually necessary to prevent such changes occurring. The landscape is locked into a constant process of Change Prevention.

For, if the control was dropped the Domains would vanish and the traversing of them to purposive ends would perish too.

To effectively marshal the man-made stepping stones into sequences that can produce what is wanted, it requires that they are juxtaposed one next to the other, so closely packed as to give the illusion of complete continuity. The model for such necessary engineering of Reality must be the Oil Refinery, where metal forests of columns and boilers, of filters and distillation units is constructed to produce the lifeblood of the modern, energy-hungry World – petroleum.

Such landscapes involve a "concreting-over" of the real World to produce one more conducive to its sequences of adjacent Domains, and its consummate control of environment.

Now this NOT an invented Dystopia! It is the way things are!

And it is not infinitely extendable using the same methods. It is, in the end, unsustainable, not only practically, but also *conceptually*!

It increasingly concentrates its efforts upon its own navel – its necessary system of maintained Domains, and meanwhile it turns its back on the Real World as it is. Indeed, most people would even deny that this unconstrained World actually exists.

The most amazing result of this pluralist approach is that the most widespread view of the World is that our carefully isolated, extracted and abstracted relations are NOT man-arranged and maintained stepping stones, but actually THE underlying Essences of Reality. The conception of Reality as a whole has become the Summation of our Abstracted Relations and their Domains. Instead of our "produced" World being a man-made crust on top of Reality, it is conceived of as being an almost spiritual Essence. The real Truth which IS Reality has been turned into its exact opposite, and the World is deemed to be guided and indeed driven by abstract relations.

Idealism is now the philosophy of modern Science.

So, apart from the practical insupportability of this World View, it is also conceptually barren and idealistic. Quite apart from everything else that is inadequate about a pluralist World, the most crucial is that it is profoundly WRONG in its conceptions and methodology to do what is required to understand it.

So what must be necessary to remedy the situation?

(1,321 words)