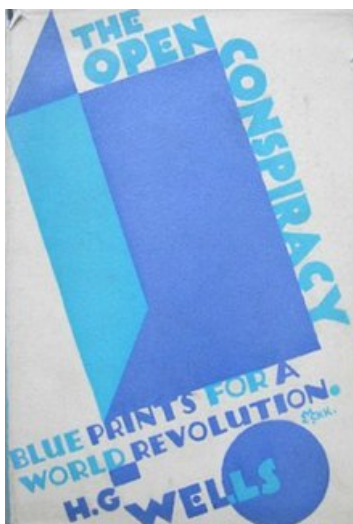


The Open Conspiracy ▶ i



The Open Conspiracy



First edition

Author	H. G. Wells
Original title	<i>The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution</i>
Country	United Kingdom
Language	English
Genre	Manifesto, Credo
Publisher	Gollancz
Publication date	1928
Media type	Print (hardback)
Pages	200

The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution was published in 1928 by H. G. Wells, when he was 62 years old. It was revised and expanded in 1930 with the additional subtitle *A Second Version of This Faith of a Modern Man Made More Explicit and Plain*. In 1931 a further revised edition appeared titled *What Are We to Do with Our Lives?* A final version appeared in 1933 under its original title. Many of its ideas are anticipated in Wells's 1926 novel *The World of William Clissold*.

The book is, in Wells's words, a "scheme to thrust forward and establish a human control over the destinies of life and liberate it from its present dangers, uncertainties and miseries."^[1] It proposes that largely as the result of scientific progress, a common vision of a world "politically, socially and economically unified" is emerging among educated and influential people, and that this can be the basis of "a world revolution aiming at universal peace, welfare and happy activity" that can result in the establishment of a "world commonwealth."^[2] This is to be achieved by "drawing together a proportion of all or nearly all the functional classes in contemporary communities in order to weave the beginnings of a world community out of their selection."^[3] This will ultimately "be a world religion."^[4]

Summary

In the original edition, Wells begins by discussing religion, arguing that its essence is the subordination of self. "Modern religion," according to Wells, is the application of this human characteristic to the realisation of "better order in human affairs."^[5] What is contemplated is not a stable order, but rather a dynamic, changing state of affairs in which scientific research and creative activity become the chief preoccupations of a humanity that has solved the problems of subsistence, population control, and the suppression of war.

Wells analyses anticipated sources of resistance to his Open Conspiracy in three lengthy chapters, and takes a hostile stance against the "false loyalties, false standards of honour, false religious associations" that are "vestiges of the ancient order" with which there can be no compromise.^[6]

The Open Conspiracy's initial tasks are to be (1) explanation and propaganda, and (2) the organisation of open and explicit "refusal to serve in any war".^[7] Beyond that, he advocates the formation of thousands of *ad hoc* groups of all kinds, and anticipates that adherents of the movement will gradually separate themselves from existing society by forming their own schools and social life.

Wells proposes the following "broad essential requirements" for "independent initiatives in the Open Conspiracy": "(1) The complete assertion . . . of the provision nature of existing governments . . . ; (2) The resolve to minimise . . . the conflicts of these governments; (3) The determination to replace private local or national ownership of at least credit, transport and staple production by a responsible world directorate . . . ; (4) The practical recognition of the necessity for world biological controls, for example, of population and disease; (5) The support of a minimum standard of individual freedom and welfare in the world; and (6) The supreme duty of subordinating the personal life to the creation of a world directorate capable of these tasks and to the general advancement of human knowledge, capacity and power."^[8]

While hoping that the progress of the movement can be pacifistic, Wells expresses a willingness to accept hardship and martyrdom if need be: "The vision of a world at peace and liberated for an unending growth of knowledge and power is worth every danger of the way."^[9]

Reception

The Open Conspiracy sold well and was well received by friends like **Bertrand Russell**, who said he read it "with the most complete sympathy."^[10] Some Open Conspiracy organisations were formed in a number of countries and a common newsletter was published. Wells discussed the ideas at luncheons with some leading British politicians, including **Lloyd George**, **Harold Macmillan**, and **Harold Nicolson**. The **H. G. Wells Society** set up by **Gerald Heard** in 1934 to promote Wells' ideas at one point changed its name to "The Open Conspiracy".^{[11] [12]}

Both the book's form and content were criticised by **George Bernard Shaw**, who thought that Wells dismissed **Karl Marx** too readily and wrote in the style of an editorialist.^[13] **G. K. Chesterton** was also critical. Wells' biographer Michael Sherborne notes that while Wells' critics have described *The Open Conspiracy* as **anti-democratic** and **elitist**, his supporters have argued the book is "a boost for a civil society realized today by bodies such as **Greenpeace** and **Amnesty International**."^[14]

References

- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), p. 198.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), pp. 28 & 44.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), p. 65.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), p. 163.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), p. 24.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), p. 122.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), p. 134.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), pp. 142–44.
- ↑ H.G. Wells, *The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution*(Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1928), p. 193.
- ↑ David C. Smith, *H. G. Wells: Desperately Mortal: A Biography*(New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1986), pp. 291–92.
- ↑ David C. Smith, *H.G. Wells: Desperately Mortal : A Biography*. Yale University Press, 1988 (p. 332-333).
- ↑ John S. Partington, *The Wellsian: selected essays on H. G. Wells* Equilibris Publishing, 2003.**ISBN 9059760018**, (p. 10-12).
- ↑ Norman and Jeanne Mackenzie, *H.G. Wells: A Biography*(New York: Simon and Schuster, 1973), p. 355.
- ↑ Michael Sherborne, *H.G. Wells: Another Kind of Life*(London: Peter Owen, 2010) p. 286.

External links

- What Are We To Do With Our Lives?*at **Project Gutenberg Australia**
- H. G. Wells, The Open Conspiracy** Passages from the text.

- v
- t
- e

H. G. Wells

Bibliography

Novels

- *The Time Machine* (1895)
- *The Wonderful Visit* (1895)
- *The Island of Doctor Moreau* (1896)
- *The Wheels of Chance* (1896)
- *The Invisible Man* (1897)
- *The War of the Worlds* (1898)
- *When the Sleeper Wakes* (1899)
- *Love and Mr Lewisham* (1900)
- *The First Men in the Moon* (1901)
- *The Sea Lady* (1902)
- *The Food of the Gods and How It Came to Earth* (1904)
- *Kipps* (1905)
- *A Modern Utopia* (1905)
- *In the Days of the Comet* (1906)
- *The War in the Air* (1908)
- *Tono-Bungay* (1909)
- *Ann Veronica* (1909)
- *The History of Mr Polly* (1910)
- *The Sleeper Awakes* (1910)
- *The New Machiavelli* (1911)
- *Marriage* (1912)
- *The Passionate Friends* (1913)
- *The Wife of Sir Isaac Harman* (1914)
- *The World Set Free* (1914)
- *Bealby: A Holiday* (1915)
- *Boon* (1915)
- *The Research Magnificent* (1915)
- *Mr. Britling Sees It Through* (1916)
- *The Soul of a Bishop* (1917)
- *Joan and Peter: The Story of an Education* (1918)
- *The Undying Fire* (1919)
- *The Secret Places of the Heart* (1922)
- *Men Like Gods* (1923)
- *The Dream* (1924)
- *Christina Alberta's Father* (1925)
- *The World of William Clissold* (1926)
- *Meanwhile* (1927)
- *Mr. Blettsworthy on Rampole Island* (1928)
- *The Autocracy of Mr. Parham* (1930)
- *The Bulpington of Blup* (1932)
- *The Shape of Things to Come* (1933)
- *The Croquet Player* (1936)
- *Brynhild* (1937)
- *Star Begotten* (1937)
- *The Camford Visitation* (1937)
- *Apropos of Dolores* (1938)
- *The Brothers* (1938)
- *The Holy Terror* (1939)
- *Babes in the Darkling Wood* (1940)
- *All Aboard for Ararat* (1940)
- *You Can't Be Too Careful* (1941)

Nonfiction

- *Anticipations*
- *Certain Personal Matters*
- *Crux Ansata*
- *The Discovery of the Future*
- *An Englishman Looks at the World*
- *Experiment in Autobiography*
- *The Fate of Man*
- *First and Last Things*
- *Floor Games*
- *The Future in America: A Search After Realities*
- *God the Invisible King*
- *In the Fourth Year*
- *Little Wars*
- *Mankind in the Making*
- *Mind at the End of Its Tether*
- *Mr. Belloc Objects to "The Outline of History"*
- *The New America: The New World*
- *The New World Order*
- *New Worlds for Old*
- *The Open Conspiracy*
- *The Outline of History*
- *Russia in the Shadows*
- *The Science of Life*
- *A Short History of the World*
- *The Story of a Great Schoolmaster*
- *This Misery of Boots*
- *Travels of a Republican Radical in Search of Hot Water*
- *War and the Future*
- *The Way the World is Going*
- *The Work, Wealth and Happiness of Mankind*
- *World Brain*
- *A Year of Prophesying*

Collections

- *The Country of the Blind and Other Stories*
- *The Plattner Story and Others*
- *Select Conversations with an Uncle*
- *The Stolen Bacillus and Other Incidents*
- *Tales of Space and Time*
- *Twelve Stories and a Dream*

Short stories

- "Æpyornis Island"
- "The Argonauts of the Air"
- "The Beautiful Suit"
- "The Chronic Argonauts"
- "The Cone"
- "The Country of the Blind"
- "The Crystal Egg"
- "A Deal in Ostriches"
- "The Diamond Maker"
- "A Dream of Armageddon"
- "The Empire of the Ants"
- "In the Abyss"
- "The Land Ironclads"
- "Mr. Ledbetter's Vacation"
- "The Lord of the Dynamos"
- "The Man Who Could Work Miracles"
- "The New Accelerator"
- "The Pearl of Love"
- "The Plattner Story"
- "The Queer Story of Brownlow's Newspaper"
- "The Red Room"
- "The Sea Raiders"
- "The Star"
- "The Stolen Body"
- "A Story of the Days to Come"
- "A Story of the Stone Age"
- "Triumphs of a Taxidermist"
- "The Truth About Pyecraft"
- "A Vision of Judgment"

Screenplays

- *Things to Come* (1936)
- *The Man Who Could Work Miracles* (1937)

Related

- [Political views](#)
- [G. P. Wells \(son\)](#)
- [Anthony West \(son\)](#)
- [Joseph Wells \(father\)](#)
- [Simon Wells \(great-grandson\)](#)
- [H. G. Wells Society](#)
- [Lunar crater](#)
- [Time After Time \(1979 film\)](#)

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=The_Open_Conspiracy&oldid=926727064"

file:///OS%209/openconspiracy.txt THE OPEN CONSPIRACY BLUE PRINTS FOR A WORLD REVOLUTION A Second Version of this faith of a modern man made more explicit and plain. Category: All View Text Version Copyright Report. Tags: world open open conspiracy the open conspiracy. Related publications. loading loading The open conspiracy for a world revolution h.g. wells. click to open popover. Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App. Then you can start reading Kindle books on your smartphone, tablet, or computer - no Kindle device required. Apple. This item: The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution by H. G. Wells Paperback \$5.95. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. The New World Order by H. G. Wells Paperback \$14.00. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. The Open Conspiracy: What Are We To Do With Our Lives? by H. G. Wells Paperback \$14.95. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. The Open Conspiracy book. Read 7 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. This is a guidebook on world control & management, a program tha... Goodreads helps you keep track of books you want to read. Start by marking "The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution" as Want to Read: Want to Read saving... Want to Read. The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution was published in 1928 by H.G.Wells, when he was 62 years old. It was revised and expanded in 1930 with the additional subtitle A Second Version of This Faith of a Modern Man Made More Explicit and Plain. This channel is dedicated to make Wikipedia, one of the biggest knowledge databases in the world available to people with limited vision. Share this: Print. Email. Tweet. Summary: 'The Open Conspiracy' was Wells' 'Blue print for a world revolution'; he regarded this book as his finished statement on the way the world ought to be ordered. Possibly he underestimated, or ignored, the fact that it is often in the interest of subsets of the human race to act



WWW ▲

The Open Conspiracy book. Read 7 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. This is a guidebook on world control & management, a program tha...Â Goodreads helps you keep track of books you want to read. Start by marking "The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution" as Want to Read: Want to Read savingâ€¦| Want to Read. click to open popover. Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App. Then you can start reading Kindle books on your smartphone, tablet, or computer - no Kindle device required. Apple.Â This item:The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution by H. G. Wells Paperback \$5.95. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. The New World Order by H. G. Wells Paperback \$14.00. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. The Open Conspiracy: What Are We To Do With Our Lives? by H. G. Wells Paperback \$14.95. In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. However, it does represent an "open conspiracy," as described by noted Fabian Socialist H.G. Wells in The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution (1928). In 1913, prior to the passage of the Federal Reserve Act President Wilson's The New Freedom was published, in which he revealed: "Since I entered politics, I have chiefly had men's views confided to me privately. The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution was published in 1928 by H. G. Wells, when he was 62 years old. It was revised and expanded in 1930 with the additional subtitle A Second Version of This Faith of a Modern Man Made More Explicit and Plain. In 1931 a further revised edition appeared titled What Are We to Do with Our Lives? A final version appeared in 1933 under its original title. After reading this, I also read: The Aquarian Conspiracy: Personal and Social Transformation in Our Time. Called "an The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution was published in 1928 by H.G.Wells, when he was 62 years old.It was revised and expanded in 1930 with the additional subtitle A Second Version of This Faith of a Modern Man Made More Explicit and Plain. This channel is dedicated to make Wikipedia, one of the biggest knowledge databases in the world available to people with limited vision. Share this: Print. Email. Tweet.