

CONTENTS

Preface to the Second Edition	vii
Introduction to the Second Edition	ix
'Different Worlds'	ix
The Legacy of Empiricism	xii
Scientific Realism	xviii
A 'God's Eye' View?	xxiii
1 THE OBJECTIVITY OF REALITY	1
Reality and Mind	1
Conceptual Idealism	5
Peirce's 'Final Agreement'	13
Objectivity and Intersubjectivity	19
2 REALISM VERSUS ANTI-REALISM	27
The Distinction between Materialism and Realism	27
Anthropological Realism	37
Verification and Truth	39
Realism and Language	51
3 SCIENCE, REALISM AND QUINE	60
Realism in Science	60
Quine's View of Scientific Theory	67
Quine's Predicament	72
The Deficiencies of Quine's Realism	77
The Possibility of a Unique Description of the World	85

Equivalent Descriptions and Relativity	89
4 REALITY AND ALTERNATIVE CONCEPTUAL SCHEMES	93
The Dualism of Subject and Object	93
Davidson's 'Principle of Charity'	99
Alternative Conceptual Frameworks	106
The Definite Character of Reality	111
Reality and Concepts	117
5 THE SOCIOLOGY OF KNOWLEDGE	124
Sociology of Knowledge or Sociology of Belief?	124
The Sociology of Science	131
Sociology's Challenge to the Authority of Science	136
Significant Causal Chains	142
Reasons, Causes and Truth	144
Caused Belief	147
6 REALITY AND QUANTUM MECHANICS	153
The Attraction of Idealism	153
Objectivity and Instruments	160
Einstein's View of the Incompleteness of Quantum Mechanics	165
The Limitations of Classical Physics	169
The Strangeness of Reality	174
7 KNOWLEDGE AND REALITY	183
Is Realism an Empirical Hypothesis?	183
Existence and Knowledge	190
Reality and Rationality	196
8 CONCLUSION	201
Metaphysical Realism	201
Reality as Constraint	206
The Intelligibility of Reality	210
The Order of the World	214
The Undermining of Rationality	218
Notes to Text	221
Bibliography	229
Index	235