Contents

Prefatory Note vii

Acknowledgments ix

The Attack on Literature 3

Literature, Fiction, and Literariness 19

Poetics, Interpretation, and Criticism 33

Criticism as Evaluation 48

The Fall of Literary History 64

Science, Pseudoscience, and Intuition in Recent Criticism 78

The New Criticism: Pro and Contra 87

American Criticism of the Sixties 104

Russian Formalism 119

Reflections on my History of Modern Criticism 135

Prospect and Retrospect 146

Notes 159

Bibliography of the Writings of René Wellek from 1 January 1970 to 1 January 1982 171

Index of Names 181

Index of Topics 194