

# PHILOSOPHY RESEARCH ARCHIVES

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#### MICROFICHE SUPPLEMENT

(in pocket of inside back cover)

35. **Robert S. Brumbaugh**, Yale University  
*Plato's Parmenides: The Text of Paris B, Vienna W, and Prague*

**ABSTRACT.** In 1983, Robert Brumbaugh published a study of Plato's *Parmenides* in *Philosophy Research Archives*. His crucial concern was to establish the dialogue's serious intention and rigorous deductive logic. But there are enough gaps, anomalies, and apparent fallacies in our current texts to cast some doubt on such a claim. In addition, the reported variant readings of Bekker and Stallbaum are a complex maze that defies simple reorganization into an intelligible stemma, as though some unique complications attended the transmission and correction of the second family manuscripts. However, the author claims that a closer second look at the manuscripts in question supports his interpretation.

The apparent complexity of cross-family variants and hypothetical lost sources of corrections is largely explained by a correction of Bekker's reporting of Paris B, a correction which leads to a simple stemma and largely resolves the maze of post-13th century manuscripts. Among older manuscripts, detailed collation of Vienna W shows a number of cases where W in fact has what is the "serious and correct" text against deviations in B and T. (And the Prague Plato, a 14th century copy of W, contains as corrections some further "good" readings against B, T, and W.)

This is very well, but the supporting evidence is not given in the 1983 article. An intention is expressed to put this material somewhere in the Beinecke Library, but that is all. It would seem a useful service to anyone interested in this particular argument to have the data on which it rests--the actual and reported readings of the relevant manuscripts--somewhat more ready at hand.

The reason for presenting this material in a *philosophy* archive is that its interest is in fact rather more philosophical than philological. If it supports the argument as it is said to, the result is important for the interpretation of one of Plato's most controversial dialogues. Philologically, however, the simplified stemma is a relief, but not one of much editorial importance; and the W and Prague materials give a very modest set of changes.

36. Donald A. Cress, Northern Illinois University  
*Canadian and American Dissertations on Descartes  
and Cartesianism: 1865-1984*

**ABSTRACT.** Gregor Sebba's monumental *Bibliographia Cartesiana: A Critical Guide to the Descartes Literature 1800-1960* (The Hague: Nijhoff, 1964) is the basic bibliographical tool of pre-1960 Descartes scholarship. While somewhat weak in its coverage of twentieth century Anglo-American analytical literature on Descartes, it is outstanding in its coverage of continental scholarship. Willis Doney's "Bibliography", in his *Descartes: A Collection of Critical Essays* (New York: Doubleday, 1967), largely rectifies Sebba's lack of coverage of pre-1960 analytical work on Descartes. Subsequent to Doney's 1967 bibliography, there have been several useful bibliographical updates, including the excellent "Bulletin Cartésien", published annually in the *Archives de Philosophie*. However, Vere Chappell and Willis Doney's *Twenty-Five Years of Descartes Scholarship, 1960-1984: A Bibliography* (forthcoming, New York: Garland, 1987) promises to become the definitive update of Sebba. The present bibliography is designed to supplement the above bibliographies by listing Canadian and American dissertations on Descartes and Cartesianism from 1865 through 1984. It lists dissertations alphabetically by author and provides locations in *Dissertations Abstracts* as well as University Microfilms order numbers, whenever available.