A COGITO-BEHAVIORO-SUMMING UP.

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Ergo:

In scrimmages over images we may not see eye to eye.
Dichotomies make me ill at ease and dualism makes me sigh.
I speak of mind, oft redefined, with visage sometimes wry
(While wishin' that cognition as behavior could get by),
But were mental incidental then I wouldn't even try.
I'm not leery of a theory if it helps to show us why,
Corresponding to responding, there are thoughts we can't deny.
But respecting introspecting on whose say can we rely?
And what guarantees that processes won't always multiply?
Expectations, attributions, social fields (with radii),
Attitudes, ideas and moods, ego concepts many-ply,
Nervous states and brain templates, psychic forces, incubi.
These creations are way-stations. Do they really clarify?
No such laws'll e'er be causal. Merely to personify
Is not explaining; it's sustaining theoretic alibi.
Mental reference gets no deference. It can hardly edify
If to arrive at something private it must use homunculi.
(Ah, must we anguish over language? Different meanings still defy
Our demanding understanding as into the mind we pry.)
We discovered that things covert come in memory to lie
Through rehearsal. Controversial? I've an operant reply.
These memory stores are metaphors; let us not misclassify.
We're pursuing subject's doing. There's no need to reify.
The state-dependence of remembrance might be caused by
 gin or rye,
And if experiments confirm inferred events on such theory
 we'll vote, "Aye,"
But don't distract us from the practice of trying hard to nullify,
When first we're coming on some phenomenon,
 the verbal biases that belie
The simple facts (let's call them tacts) that come before our oculi.
Degrees of freedom, if we need 'em in the fit of x to y ,
Shape a function in conjunction with controlling stimuli.
It's not reflexes that perplex us (The respondent rules apply);
In volition's the condition that makes verbal feathers fly.
Yet instead you'll find a schedule (DRL, or just FI)
Provides the drive for which we strive, as when we
 watch rats satisfy

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Some contingency (say VR33) and then call them bold or shy.
 Thus we address learned helplessness, and thus we verify
 That in autoshaping, like escaping, organisms can espy
 Events conditional; we know a pigeon'll.
 Some may end up high and dry,
 But adapting creatures learn which features of their world
 to modify.
 Reinforcement gets endorsement even from the rat, bait-shy,
 That learns avoidance of the poisons that would otherwise
 make it die.
 There's no doubt that it's the outcomes that must always justify
 Behavior changes of great ranges: Walden Two (*Box populi*);
 Economies token; Follow Through in Hoboken;
 The Keller system, PSI.
 Another case? Achievement Place. Each of these should typify
 Aspirations to applications that our science can supply.
 Common sense says consequences give the way to unify.
 The differential's what's essential; that's what operants imply.
 So comes to pass behavior class to then diversify.
 The solution's evolution: Just some survive of those that vie.
 Yet our own teaching isn't reaching far enough. Some prophesy
 Our swift demise (Do you hear cries of censors: "Crucify!").
 Behavior science's too few alliances within cognition's syllabi
 Prompt programs specialized, with fervor undisguised,
 at just a few far-flung loci,
 With staffs unshirking. But are they working?
 Are they enough, these nuclei?
 Without descendants—well-trained students—our whole field
 may ossify.
 To academe's where some must stream to explicate and clarify.
 Our science breeds through student seeds, so we must keep
 our standards high.
 Thus, selection gives direction. Here psychology's rallying cry?
 Yes. Our behaving is worth saving. Now, dear colleagues all,
 goodbye.

—Signed by Ψ .