What is Neologicism?

- Second order logic plus…
- Hume's Principle (an abstraction principle)
  - The number of F's is the same as the number of G's if and only if the F's and G's can be put into one-to-one correspondence.
- Frege is alive (by abstraction principles)

Neo-Logicists

- **Crispin Wright (pictured)**
- **Bob Hale**
- **Neil Tennant**

http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~arche/

Problems

- Is second order logic analytic?

- Is Hume's Principle analytic? (see hw #2)

- Are abstraction principles legitimate?

Bad Company

- George Boolos: There is no (non ad-hoc) way to distinguish good abstraction principles from bad ones

- Why is Hume's Principle acceptable when Basic Law V is not?

The Caesar Problem

- What is a number?
  - Neologicians do not follow Frege, Russell or Carnap on this one
- The Caesar problem is alive and kicking in neologicism

One Step Beyond

- What about the rest of mathematics?
  - Neologicism only applies to the natural numbers and basic arithmetic
- The search for richer abstraction principles continues…