ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a conference on Critical Thinking at Christopher Newport College April 11-13, 1986. Some attention will go to problem solving and research in informal logic, but the bearing of work in these areas and critical thinking on teaching will be stressed. Among the speakers will be John McPeck, Trudy Govier, Arthur Whimbey, Ralph Johnson, Anthony Blair, Barry Beyer, Mark Weinstein, and Philip Pecorino.

For details contact:

John Hoaglund (804) 599-7085 Department of Philosophy Christopher Newport College 50 Shoe Lane Newport News, VA 23606

SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHERS 1986 Eastern Regional Meeting Virginia Commonwealth University Richmond, Virginia

We cordially invite you to join us for the Eastern Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers to be held at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia on April 24-26, 1986.

SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHERS (SCP) is a The relatively new professional organization formed to promote fellowship among Christian philosophers and to stimulate study and discussion of issues which arise from their joint Christian and philosophical commitments. Membership in the Society is open to any philosopher, not necessarily professional, who considers himself or herself a Christian, and is not restricted to any particular philosophical orientation or branch of Christianity. Meetings of the society are regularly held in conjunction with the various divisions of the American Philosophical Association, the Canadian Philosophical Association, and the American Catholic Philosophical Association. Independent regional conferences are held as well. The SCP has recently inaugurated the quarterly journal FAITH AND PHILOSOPHY.

The SCP welcomes participation in its meetings by philosophers who are not presently members and who wish to become further acquainted with the Society. The SCP likewise invites participation in its meetings by philosophers who do not share the Christian commitment of its members but who are interested in exploring the philosophical issues raised by Christian Philosophers.

The 1986 Eastern Regional Meeting of the SCP will open on Thursday evening, April 24, with a plenary session. The other plenary sessions are in the planning stage, but will be of the same high quality as in recent years.

For details contact:

Prof. Glenn Pratt (804) 257-1224 Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Virginia Commonwealth University Box 2025 Richmond, VA 23284-0001

The Eighth Annual Graduate Student Philosophy Conference of

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

This year's conference will be held April 4-6 at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Graduate students are asked to submit papers on any philosophically interesting topic. We are pleased to announce that Richard Rorty will be a featured speaker at the conference; thus any papers on Rorty will be especially appreciated. The papers should not exceed 20 minutes reading time (about 15 double-spaced pages). A submitter should place name only on a detachable cover-page.

Papers should be sent in duplicate by January 15, 1986 to:

Vic Reppert Department of Philosophy University of Illinois 105 Gregory Hall 810 South Wright Street Urbana, Illinois 61801

Sponsored by the Graduate Philosophy Organization, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

University of Kansas Department of Philosophy VISITING LECTURERS: SPRING 1986

What follows is an early notice of scheduled spring lectures. The Philosophy Department will also circulate separate information on each lecture at a later time and individuals interested in further information can call the Department (913-864-3976). All interested individuals are cordially invited to attend the lectures.

- Fred Dretske (University of Wisconsin): "Explaining Behavior," Tuesday, February 11, 8 p.m., Pine Room, Kansas Union.
- Jerome Schneewind (Johns Hopkins): "Pufendorf and the Origins of Modern Moral Philosophy," Monday, March 3, 8 p.m., Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union.
- Donald Davidson (Berkeley): Mind and Language Lecture Series, Thursday, March 27, 8 p.m., Big Eight Room, Kansas Union.
- Hilary Putnam (Harvard): Mind and Language Lecture Series, Thursday, April 10, 8 p.m., Big Eight Room, Kansas Union.
- Michael Dummett (Oxford): Mind and Language Lecture Series, Thursday, April 17, 8 p.m., Big Eight Room, Kansas Union.
- Gilbert Harmon (Princeton): 1986 Lindley Lecturer: "Moral Agent and Impartial Spectator," Friday, April 18, 8 p.m., Alderson Room, Kansas Union.

The Hermeneutics Reader Edited by Kurt Mueller-Vollmer

Concern for hermeneutic problems has become quite common in recent decades, and the term hermeneutics has been used more and more frequently in the social and human sciences. What seemed at first a strictly continental affair has come to occupy an important place in the general discussion about the very nature of these disciplines, their methodologies, and their underlying assumptions. Today the term hermeneutics denotes a concern that is shared by members of such diverse fields of knowledge as philosophy, sociology, history, theology, psychology, jurisprudence, literary criticism, and the humanities at large. Yet many of the issues raised today have had a long-standing history on the Continent. This has been true ever since Schleiermacher and Dilthey succeeded in transforming hermeneutics from the study of specialized rules of interpretation for the use of theologians or jurists to that of a genuine philosophical discipline and general theory of the social and human sciences.

The aim of this volume is to make available the principal texts of the modern hermeneutic tradition in the German language. Attention has been focused on those positions that have been or still are significant for the hermeneutic debate. The texts represented here were written by members of different disciplines and fields of inquiry--philosophers, historians, philogists, theologians, social scientists--and constitute significant contributions to their individual disciplines. But at the same time, they transcend the boundaries of these disciplines and raise issues of much larger import and form part of what might be called the mainstream of the hermeneutic tradition. From the twentieth century there are selections from the writings of Dilthey, Husserl, Ingarden, Heidegger, Bult-mann, Gadamer, Habermas, and Apel. Representing the nineteenth century are Schleiermacher, Humboldt, Droysen, and Boeckh. From the eighteenth century, one lone figure has been chosen, Johann Martin Chladenius, to illustrate the state of hermeneutic thought at that time. Introducing the work as a whole is a fifty-odd page "Outline of Hermeneutic Thought since the Enlightenment," and concluding it, a series of bibliographies and indexes.

Kurt Mueller-Vollmer is Professor of German Studies and Humanities at Stanford University. He is the author of monographs on Dilthey and Humboldt, editor of various editions of the works of Humboldt and Goethe, and has contributed numerous articles on various as-Spects of German and European thought from the Enlightenment to the present.

1985 380pp. The Continuum Publishing Company 370 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017 \$27.50

Habermas and Modernity Edited by Richard J. Bernstein

All of these essays focus on the concept of modernity in the philosophical work of Jürgen Habermas--an ambitious and carefully argued intellectual project that invites, indeed demands, rigorous scrutiny. One of the most influential and most challenging social theorists of our time, Habermas has been developing a systematic analysis of contemporary society--its historical origins, present pathologies, and future prospects. Stubbornly resisting those who claim that Western rationality is exhausted, that the Enlightenment legacy is dead, and that the project of modernity is a failure, he has elaborated a comprehensive theory of rationality and rationalization that focuses on the intersubjective character of communicative action.

Following an introductory overview of Habermas's work by Richard Bernstein, Albrecht Wellmer's essay places the philosopher within the tradition of Hegel, Marx, Weber, and Critical Theory. Martin Jay discusses Habermas's views on art and aesthetics, and Joel Whitebook examines his interpretations of Freud and psychoanalysis. Anthony Giddens offers a critical reading of Habermas's major work, The Theory of Communicative Action, Richard Rorty criticizes the whole thrust of his program by way of a comparison with the work of the French philosopher of postmodernity, Jean-Francois Lyotard. And Thomas McCarthy concentrates on the question of the selectivity of rationalization processes in the modern age. Habermas himself has three contributions -- on Marcuse, on neoconservativism, and a reply to the other essayists.

Richard J. Bernstein is T. Wistar Brown Professor of Philosophy at Haverford College. He was editor of the journal <u>Praxis International</u>, in which these essays recently appeared. <u>Habermas and Modernity</u> is included in the series Studies in Contemporary German Social Thought, edited by Thomas McCarthy.

pb. \$8.95

1985243 pp.The MIT PressMassachusetts Institute of TechnologyCambridge, Massachusetts 02142

Marcuse and Freedom by Peter Lind

This comprehensive study of Marcuse's thought concentrates upon his theory of freedom, arguing that it is this which supplies the key to all his writings. This argument is substantiated by a detailed chronological examination of Marcuse's works. The author shows the rigorous logic underlying Marcuse's thinking, which is often obscured in Marcuse's own presentation, and pays particular attention to the influence of Heidegger, and of Marx's notion of human labour. This sympathetic reconstruction of the subject attempts to rescue Marcuse from misunderstanding and superficial criticism, and argues that Marcuse's most famous work, <u>One Dimensional Man</u>, is in fact an aberration from the mainstream of his work.

The book should form one of the most accessible and reliable treatments of Marcuse available.

Peter Lind was formerly a lecturer at the Department of Government, University of Essex.

CONTENTS

List of Tables Preface Acknowledgements 1. Introduction

- 2. Marx, Marxism and Heidegger: Marcuse's First Theory of Human Liberation
- 3. The Second Encounter with Marx: Marcuse's New Theory of Human Liberation
- 4. The Co-operative Society
- 5. The Idea of the Co-operative Society in The Thirties and Forties
- 6. The Idea of the Co-operative Society in the Late American Period
- 7. Freedom and the Dialectic of Liberation
- 8. Freedom and Contemporary Civilization

9. Conclusions

Bibliography of Works by Marcuse Index

305 pp.

\$27.50

1985 St. Martin's Press 175 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10010

<u>Nietzsche</u> <u>Life as Literature</u> by Alexander Nehamas

More than eighty years after his death, Nietzsche's writings and his career remain disquieting, disturbing, obscure. His most famous views--the will to power, the eternal recurrence, the Übermensch, the master morality--often seem incomprehensible or, worse, repugnant. Yet he remains a thinker of singular importance, a great opponent of Hegel and Kant, and the source of much that is powerful in figures as diverse as Wittgenstein, Derrida, Heidegger, and many recent American philosophers.

90

Alexander Nehamas provides the best possible guide for the perplexed. He reveals the single thread running through Nietzsche's views: his thinking of the world on the model of the literary text, of people as if they were literary characters, and of knowledge and science as if they were literary interpretation. Beyond this, he advances the clarity of the concept of textuality, making explicit some of the forces that hold texts together and so hold us together. Nehamas finally allows us to see that Nietzsche is creating a literary character out of himself, that he is, in effect, playing the role of Plato to his own Socrates.

Nehamas discusses a number of opposing views, both American and European, of Nietzsche's texts and general project, and reaches a climactic solving of the main problems of Nietzsche interpretation in a step-by-step argument. In the process he takes up a set of very interesting questions in contemporary philosophy, such as moral relativism and scientific realism. This is a book of considerable breadth and elegance that will appeal to all curious readers of philosophy and literature.

Alexander Nehamas is Professor of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh.

1985

261 pp. \$17.50

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