

The Portland Institute

Announces

Two Day Conferences on Philosophy in

Toronto, March 12-13,

and

New York, May 7-8

Speakers and Topics

David Kelley

Universals and Induction (two lectures)

The fundamental processes by which we integrate the material provided by our senses are concept-formation and inductive generalization. The first lecture will discuss Ayn Rand's theory of concepts, contrasting it with the major historical alternatives, realism and nominalism. The second lecture will discuss the validation of induction, showing why a full validation requires a proper theory of concepts.

David Kelley has published articles on perception, concepts, and property rights in professional journals of philosophy. He is the author of The Evidence of the Senses and The Art of Reasoning.

George Walsh

Protestant Fundamentalism (two lectures)

Religion serves for millions of people as a substitute for philosophy. It serves as the guide of their private and public lives, and impinges, sometimes powerfully, upon the lives of their non-religious fellow citizens. The last few decades have witnessed a world-wide revival of forms of religion undiluted by the influences of the Enlightenment period. In the Western World the main example of this regressive trend is a movement in Protestant Christianity known as Fundamentalism. These two lectures are concerned with the origins and nature of this religious ideology, its sense of life, its deep psychological appeal, and its threat to the lives of non-religious people.

George Walsh is Professor of philosophy at Salisbury State College, Salisbury Maryland. He received his Ph.D. from Princeton University. He was for many years professor and chairman of the department of philosophy at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, New York, and was also professor of philosophy at Eisenhower college, Seneca Falls, New York. He is the author of "Herbert Marcuse, philosopher of the New Left" in The Objectivist, September to December 1970. He is the co-translator and Editor of Alfred Schutz's Phenomenology of the Social World, Northwestern University Press, 1967.

Allan Gotthelf

Love and Philosophy: Aristotelian vs. Platonic (one lecture)

The theme of this lecture is that a person's view of love - and his romantic choices - depends on his metaphysics (his fundamental view of man and of existence). Dr. Gotthelf will illustrate this theme with a discussion of the contrasting conceptions of love of the Greek philosophers Plato and Aristotle. A central feature of the talk will be a definition of "Aristotelian love", a conception of the nature and source of love which has remained largely unnoticed in the history of philosophy. (While aimed at a general audience, this part of the lecture will offer a new interpretation of the theory of friendship and love in Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*.) Dr. Gotthelf will show that Platonic love and Aristotelian love represent two antithetical approaches to love, expressing two basically different views of man and existence. After identifying the role of self-esteem in love, he will demonstrate that a number of apparently different views of love and sex are actually versions of either the Platonic or Aristotelian view. Spotlighted here will be the essentially Platonic character of a promiscuous attitude towards sex, and the essentially Aristotelian character of the view of love and sex of Ayn Rand.

Teaching "Introduction to Philosophy" in College (one lecture)

In this lecture Dr. Gotthelf will explain how he teaches his course on Introduction to Philosophy at Trenton State College. Topics include: motivating poorly educated, not especially intellectual students to the study of philosophy; aims of the course; overall structure of the course in view of those aims; topics included in the course and how treatment of each of those topics is structured; inclusion of Objectivism in the course, and reactions to this of his students and of other professors at the college; successes and failures.

Allan Gotthelf is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Trenton State College (New Jersey) and Life Member, Clare Hall, Cambridge University. A distinguished Aristotelian Scholar of international reputation, he has edited or co-edited two books, and organized several international conferences, devoted to the philosophical implications of Aristotle's biological works.

John Ridpath

Gorbachov's Policies: Real Change or Surface Illusion (two lectures)

These lectures assess Gorbachov's policies of Glasnost and Perestroika within the context of the basic Marxist-Leninist doctrine underlying Soviet tyranny. The question to be answered is, does Gorbachov represent genuine change in the Soviet Union, or is he just another velvet glove over the same steel fist.

John Ridpath is an Associate Professor of Economics and Intellectual History at York University. He is the author of "Nietzsche and Individualism" in The Objectivist Forum, February and April 1986.

Locations

Toronto: The Constellation Hotel, 900 Dixon Road, Rexdale, Ont., the Aquarius Room. The Hotel is located one mile west of HWY. 401, on the north side of Dixon Road, five minutes from the Toronto airport.

New York: The Roosevelt Hotel, Madison Avenue at 45th Street, New York, the Terrace Room.

Time

Registration will begin at 8:30 A.M. The first lecture will begin at 9:00 A.M. The conference will conclude each day at 5:00 P.M.

Prices

Toronto: \$120, if received prior to February 26, and \$135 if received after February 26 and prior to March 12. A fee of \$150 will apply at the door, subject to space availability. The price in Toronto includes a buffet luncheon .

New York: \$110, if received prior to April 15; \$125 if received after April 15 and prior to May 7; \$140 at the door.

Reservations

To take advantage of discounts being offered, please fill out the form below, and send along with your check or money order in U.S. funds.

Enclosed is my payment for the Spring 1988 Conference of the Portland Institute. Please reserve a place for me at the following location:

Toronto early registration fee of \$120, regular registration fee of \$135

New York early registration fee of \$110, regular registration fee of \$125

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