

INTRODUCTION

This volume of Studies in Logic, Grammar and Rhetoric, entitled *Philosophical Trends in the 17th Century from the Modern Perspective* is a continuation of the problematic undertaken in the 15th (28) issue of the magazine concerning philosophical and social thought of the 17th century. We found it appropriate this time to present the analysis and evaluation of ancient knowledge from the contemporary perspective, accentuating the dynamic and evolutionary character of scientific cognition. It can also be assumed that, with the benefit to historical knowledge, we could consider implications of philosophy of this and other periods of development of philosophic thought, not only in the context of its reference to the present day, but also juxtaposed to the period, when new quality of philosophy and scientific cognition were formed. When we begin studying Descartes, we find amazingly strong influence of his thought on the knowledge and practical life of that time, which was proved by all authors of articles in the volume. The same, even though, to a smaller degree, concerns reformatory projects of Bacon, Petrycy of Pilzno or Leibniz analysed here. Deliberations on contemporary continuation of Thomas Hobbes's anthropology and theology fits in the concept of the volume.

I hope the adopted order of texts renders their subject interrelation. The issue starts with the article of A. Krupska *The so-called Cartesian and Newtonian Rationalism in the Contemporary Natural Sciences* superbly harmonizing with its title, and is ended with a text by J. Doomen *The Current Position of Philosophy*.

Even though the majority of texts featured in the present volume do not need justification, the article of P. Stecewicz and A. Włodarczyk *Modeling in the Context of Computer Science* does require a few sentences of comment from the editor. The text relates to computer models of mind against a background of a more broad methodological concept, in which the authors' original input defines differences between model and metaphor, as

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well as shows the rules of valuable cognitive transformation of metaphor into model. It is worth adding that evolution line of contemporary computers leads to the 17th century calculators and machines. The notion of machine appeared then as a philosophical category, and it was also consciously used as metaphor in this role. It could be then, under certain assumptions, called a model. Interesting is the fact, that two diametrically different understandings appeared in the same trend of rationalism. In Descartes and Pascal, machine was the model of a body and in Leibniz's, the model of mind. Therefore, despite the fact that authors relate in their research solely to the present day, it is not difficult to indicate an important historical perspective for them.

The issue undertaken by U. Wybraniec-Skardowska appears as universal for philosophical problematic. U. Wybraniec-Skardowska presents in her text an attempt to answer the question "does the lie contradict the truth". Then, despite the lack of direct reference to the 17th century analysis in this scope, yet thanks to a presentation of wide historical context of the problem, the article completes well the wide thematic scope of this volume.

Finally, I would like to thank heartily all the authors who took part in realization of this publishing project and invite all interested to further cooperation. I also thank the reviewer of this volume Prof. W. Marciszewski for extremely thorough reviews of articles and argumentation justifying their appearance in print, which I have adopted above. Professor Marciszewski is also the author of the final version of the title of the present volume.

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