Notes and Queries:

Jo Ann Boydston Library of American Philosophical Naturalism Announced

AMHERST, NY -- The Center for Inquiry (adjacent to the State University of New York at Buffalo, Amherst Campus) wishes to announce the establishment of the "Jo Ann Boydston Library of American Philosophical Naturalism." The purpose of the library is to collect books, articles, and papers by or about America's leading naturalistic philosophers, such as John Dewey, George Santayana, Sidney Hook, and Ernest Nagel, among others. It was made possible by a grant from Jo Ann Boydston, director emeritus of the Center for Dewey Studies at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. To donate materials or to receive further details about the library, please contact the Center for Inquiry, PO Box 664, Amherst NY 14226; tel. 716-636-7571.

How Should We Cite the Writings of John Dewey?

The Collected Works of John Dewey, published by Southern Illinois University Press, are a monumental achievement and also extremely useful. Appropriately, more and more editors and publishers are requiring that, in identifying quotations from Dewey, we cite the volumes and pages of this edition. But must we cite only these? Working on a paper in which I discuss Dewey, I have been consulting books and articles by some of my respected colleagues in the field. Lo and behold! It appears that Dewey wrote only EW, MW, and LW. A reader coming to some of these commentaries without prior knowledge of Dewey's works -- a student perhaps -- would never know, without going to a library that contains CW and looking up the volumes cited (and there may be three or four different volumes referred to on a single page) that he wrote such works as Reconstruction in Philosophy, The Public and its Problems, Individualism Old and New or Democracy and Education, let alone innumerable articles published in magazines and professional journals. Even a scholar like myself must repeatedly stop reading to determine the original source of a particular statement or view. One is lucky if one owns the volume in question and does not have to defer the search until the next trip to the library. Aside from the fact that not finding the information in the work one is reading is infuriating, failure to cite them along with CW shows an unscholarly disregard -- not to say contempt -- for the original contexts.

Beth J. Singer
THE COSS DIALOGUES: INTRODUCTION

This is a truly significant occasion, marking the inauguration of this Society's new program, the Coss Dialogues. Funded by the John Jacob Coss Fund, the Coss Dialogues are designed to promote communication across boundaries, whether these be disciplinary, cultural, geographic, or between the profession and the wider public. The boundaries in question are not barriers to be demolished but challenges to inquiry. Defining different perspectives, they call not only for comparisons but also for joint exploration of relevant topics and of the mutual import of different frames of reference. The conversations we hope to promote will focus on these tasks in the hope of establishing new lines of communication and affording new insights.

Our belief is that hearing well-reasoned voices from the "other" side will enrich all the participants. But these dialogues are also intended to have a wider impact and stimulate further dialogue. For instance, the videotape that results from this conference will be made available, not only to college and university classes, but also to other audiences, academic and non-academic. The central topic of this year's meetings, Law, Economy, and Democracy, reflects the broad concerns of American philosophy and is an invitation to legal, economic, and political theorists to participate with us in further exchanges.

The Coss Dialogues are funded by an endowment provided by the estates of Herbert W. Schneider and his friend, Albert Redpath, both of whom were students of Professor Coss's at Columbia University. That the Fund was given to the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy is singularly appropriate, since it contains royalties from Professor Schneider's landmark work, A History of American Philosophy. We are grateful to the executors of both estates for entrusting it to us, and to Dr. Edward Schneider in particular for helping us set the course for what we trust will be an ongoing and developing enterprise.

It is most appropriate that we have a distinguished economist as the first to engage with us in an interdisciplinary dialogue. I welcome you all and turn the meeting over to Professor Petry, who will introduce our speaker.

B.J. Singer

(Editor's note: here reprinted is Beth Singer's Introduction of the first Coss Dialogue speaker, Robert L. Heilbroner (New School for Social Research) at the opening Plenary Session of the 22 Annual Meeting of SAAP at Bentley College, 2 March 1995). Her remarks explain the generous endowment SAAP was fortunate to receive).
Reference biographies sought:

Bruccoli Clark Layman, Inc. has plans to publish a three volume reference guide to British and American philosophers. Entries are needed for the following American philosophers:

- Hannah Arendt (1906-1975)
- Max Black (1909 - )
- Rudolf Carnap (1891-1970)
- Morris R. Cohen (1880-1947)
- C.J. Ducasse (1881-1969)
- Jonathan Edwards (1703-1754)
- Nelson Goodman (1906- )
- H. Paul Grice (1913-1988)
- Carl G. Hempel (1905- )
- Sidney Hook (1902-1989)
- William James (1842-1910)
- Saul Kripke (1940- )
- Thomas Kuhn (1922- )

Contact: Philip B. Dematteis
Editor, Dictionary of Literary Biography
2006 Sumpter Street
Columbia, S.C. 29201-2157
803/771-4642
Fax 803/799-6953

(Note: This opportunity was passed along by Kathleen Wheeler who is doing the Justus Buchler entry. I have spoken to Mr. Dematteis who informs me: entries will range from 3,000 to 12,000 words, more for "the giants"; the deadline will be about six months from the time entry authors have been agreed upon and there will be a modest honorarium ($50.00 to $125.00) plus a bound copy of the volume.)

SAAP Posters and T shirts:

Silkscreened, three color posters (13 x 26) "The Herbert Schneider Reading Room" (the cover of the annual book review issue of the SAAP Newsletter) are available for $10.00 postpaid. Also a few three color t-shirts "American Philosophy in Space" the cartoon cover for the 1994 SAAP meeting in Houston are still left ($12.00 postpaid). This year's shirts "The American Philosophy Picnic at Walden Pond" are sold out.

Write Patrick K. Dooley, SAAP Newsletter editor, Box 7, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY 14778 (h) 716-968-2516 or (o) 716-375-2279.