

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE American Philosophical Association has received a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation for a Commission on the Function of Philosophy in Liberal Education. The task of the Commission is "to re-examine thoroughly the nature and function of philosophy in higher education and in general culture, and to study ways and means of reorganizing the teaching of philosophy in order to make the contribution of philosophy to the post-war world most effective." The Board of Officers of the Association selected for membership on the Commission the following:

Brand Blanshard, Swarthmore College
Curt J. Ducasse, Brown University
Max C. Otto, University of Wisconsin
Arthur E. Murphy, University of Illinois, Chairman
Charles W. Hendel, Yale University, Secretary.

In the terms of the grant liberal education is conceived very broadly. It includes not only education in college and university but also the development of a free and reflective life in the community at large. Thus the work of the Commission is to inquire into the general function of philosophy in the life of the individual and society.

The Commission can best perform so extensive and important a task if it is able to marshal to its aid the combined wisdom of all concerned. It is therefore seeking the views of scholars and teachers in philosophy and wishes especially to get testimony from the various schools of thought. A number of meetings is planned in different parts of the country where not only members of the profession but also others from different walks of life may discuss what philosophy means at present to the community and what it should mean, especially in the days to come. Both the needs of the plain man and citizen and the demands of scholarship are to be considered. Studies will also be made of the following questions: recent trends in professional philosophy during the past twenty-five years; the philosophy that reaches the general public through non-professional channels and literature; the relations of philosophy, science and religion; the rôle of philosophy in schools of education; the content and method of graduate instruction and training in philosophy; the place of philosophy in proposed reconstructions of the liberal arts curriculum. The Commission will bring together the results of all these studies and consultations into a report that should yield a clearer view of the objectives of philosophical study and teaching today.

All who are in any way concerned are invited to give the Commission the benefit of their views on any of these questions. The Commission will be particularly interested in learning about courses of study presently offered or planned, special methods of instruction, the nature and extent of collaboration between scholars in philosophy and those in other disciplines, and ways in which philosophy is given a practical bearing on human affairs.

The address of the Secretary is 327 Hall of Graduate Studies, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

C. W. HENDEL,
Secretary.