A

Short History of WESTERN PHILOSOPHY

by

JOHANNES HIRSCHBERGER

Translated from the German by Jeremy Moiser



CONTENTS

Foreword Introduction

PART ONE-THE PHILOSOPHY OF ANTIQUITY

CHAPTER ONE: THE PRE-SOCRATICS

- 1. The Problems of the Pre-Socratics, 2
- 2. The Pre-Socratic Method, 8
- 3. Sophism Words and Distorted Values, 9

CHAPTER TWO: ATTIC PHILOSOPHY

- 1. Socrates Knowledge and Value, 12
- 2. Plato The World of Ideas, 14
 - (a) The Doctrine of Ideas (b) Man (c) The State (d) God
- 3. Aristotle Ideas in the World, 25
 - (a) The Logician (b) The Metaphysician (c) The Ethicist

CHAPTER THREE: THE PHILOSOPHY OF HELLENISM AND THE ROMAN EMPIRE

- 1. The Stoa Realistic Man, 41
- 2. Epicureanism An Ancient Philosophy of Life, 44
- 3. Neo-Platonism Philosophy and Religion, 45

PART TWO - THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE MIDDLE AGES

CHAPTER ONE: PATRISTIC PHILOSOPHY

- 1. Early Christianity and Ancient Philosophy, 51
- 2. The Main Themes of Patristic Philosophy, 52
- Augustine Teacher of the West, 54
 (a) Truth (b) God (c) Creation (d) Soul (e) The Good (f) The City of God
- 4. Boethius the Last Roman, 60
- 5. Pseudo-Dionysius the End of the Patristic Era, 61

CHAPTER TWO: SCHOLASTIC PHILOSOPHY

General Remarks on Scholasticism, 62

- I. Early Scholasticism
- 1. The Beginnings, 63
- 2. Anselm of Canterbury Father of Scholasticism, 64
- 3. Peter Abelard Medieval Subjectivity, 65
- 4. The School of Chartres Medieval Humanism, 66
- 5. Mysticism, 67

II. High Scholasticism

Aristotle, the Universities and the Orders, 68

- 1. Paris in the Early Thirteenth Century, 70
- 2. The School of Oxford Mathematics and the Natural Sciences, 71
- 3. The Older Franciscan School Augustinism, 72
- 4. Albert the Great the Universal Doctor, 75
- 5. Thomas Aquinas Christian Aristotelianism, 76
 - (a) Knowledge (b) Being (c) God (d) Soul (e) Morality (f) Law and the State
- 6. The Arts Faculties and the Averroists the other Aristotle, 85
- 7. The Later Franciscan School a Breakthrough, 86
- 8. Meister Eckhart Mystic and Schoolman, 87
 - (a) The Ontologist (b) The Theologian (c) The Teacher

III. Late Scholasticism

- 1. Ockham and Ockhamism from Metaphysics to Nominalism, 92
- 2. Nicholas of Cusa from the Middle Ages to Modern Times, 94

PART THREE - THE PHILOSOPHY OF MODERN TIMES

CHAPTER ONE: THE RENAISSANCE

CHAPTER TWO: THE GREAT SYSTEMS OF THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES

- I. Rationalism
- 1. Descartes the Father of Modern Philosophy, 101
 - (a) Doubt (b) Method (c) God and the External World (d) Body and Soul
- 2. Spinoza the Philosophy of Identity, 107
 - (a) God-Nature-Substance (b) Individuality-Freedom-Purpose
- 3. Leibniz Timeless Philosophy, 110
 - (a) The Monads and Being (b) The Monads and Spirit

II. Empiricism

- 1. Hobbes Modern Naturalism, 117
 - (a) Things and Thinking (b) Man-Citizenship-the State
- 2. Locke 'British Philosophy', 120
 - (a) The Origin and Significance of Knowledge (b) Practical Philosophy
- 3. Hume Psychologism and Scepticism, 124
 - (a) Human Understanding (b) Moral Principles

III. The Enlightenment

CHAPTER THREE: KANT AND GERMAN IDEALISM

- 1. Kant Critical Idealism, 132
 - (a) The Critique of Pure Reason (b) The Critique of Practical Reason –
 - (c) The Critique of Judgement
- 2. Fichte Subjective Idealism, 148

- 3. Schelling Objective Idealism, 150
- 4. Hegel Absolute Idealism, 153
 - (a) The Basis (b) Dialectics (c) Hegel's Philosophical Home -
 - (d) After Hegel
- 5. Herbart and Schopenhauer the End of Idealism, 159
 - (a) Herbart (b) Schopenhauer

PART FOUR – THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURIES

CHAPTER ONE: FROM THE NINETEENTH TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

- 1. Materialism the Secular Revolution, 164
 - (a) The Materialism of the Hegelian Left (b) Scientific Materialism
- 2. Kierkegaard Christian Subversion, 172
- 3. Nietzsche the Revaluation of Value, 173
 - (a) The development of Nietzsche's thought (b) Down with Morality, up with Life (c) Germanity and Christianity (d) Nietzsche in the Twentieth Century
- 4. Phenomenalism and Variants, 178
 - (a) French and German Positivism (b) British and German Empiricism -
 - (c) Neo-Kantianism and Neo-Hegelianism (d) Pragmatism
- 5. Inductive Metaphysics, 185
- 6. Neo-Aristotelianism and Neo-Scholasticism, 186

CHAPTER TWO: TWENTIETH CENTURY PHILOSOPHY

- 1. Vitalism, 189
 - (a) Bergsonism and Blondelism (b) Vitalism in Germany– (c) Naturalistic Vitalism
- 2. Phenomenology, 193
- 3. Ontology and Metaphysics, 196
 - (a) Phenomenological Ontology (b) Critical Realism and Inductive Metaphysics (c) Ideal Realism
- 4. Existentialism Philosophy, 200
 - (a) German Existentialism (b) French Existentialism
- 5. Logical Philosophy Today, 204
 - (a) Formal Logic (b) Logical Positivism

Index of Names Index of Subjects