

Announcements and Reports

1986 Conference of the Hegel Society of Great Britain

The Eighth Annual Conference of the HSGB was held at Pembroke College, Oxford on 11-13 September 1986. It was a joint conference of the HSGB and the Hegel-Archiv der Ruhr-Universität, Bochum and its theme was 'History - Philosophy - Politics'. About 55 persons attended, of whom 15 came from Germany. Five papers were given by British and five by German participants, and each paper was formally commented on. The Conference's joint chairmen were Professors Raymond Plant and Otto Pöggeler; the joint organizing secretaries were Drs. Zbigniew Pelczynski and Hans-Christian Lucas. The financial support of the Fritz-Thyssen-Stift and the British Academy made the international character of the September conference possible.

At the AGM of the HSGB, Professor H.S. Harris was elected Joint Honorary President of the Society. Z.A. Pelczynski was elected Chairman to fill the vacancy created by Professor W.H. Walsh's death; Stephen Houlgate was elected Secretary/Treasurer and became ex officio member of the HSGB Council. David Lamb and Sue Easton were elected to the Council following their resignation as Secretary/Treasurer and Associate Secretary/Treasurer. It was agreed to draw up a constitution for approval at the next AGM. The theme of the 1987 annual conference will be Hegel's philosophy of religion.

A full report on the 1986 Joint Conference will appear in issue no. 13 of the Bulletin.

In Memoriam W.H. Walsh

Editor's Note: W.H. Walsh, Professor Emeritus of the University of Edinburgh and Emeritus Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, President of the Hegel Society of Great Britain since September 1985 and member of its Council since the Society's formation, died in April 1986, aged 72. Characteristically, up to the last few days before his death, he was preoccupied with preparations for the Joint Conference of the HSGB and the Hegel-Archiv Bochum of which he had been elected Joint Chairman. The sad and unexpected death of this distinguished philosopher and Hegelian scholar is a tragic loss to British philosophy and to the HSGB and has deeply saddened the latter's members.

As a tribute to the man and the philosopher the Bulletin publishes two commemorative pieces. The Editor wishes to thank John Lucas for agreeing to the publication of his tribute in the Bulletin and John Llewelyn for writing his assessment of W.H. Walsh's philosophical position especially for the Bulletin.

Attention of the Bulletin's readers is also drawn to the obituary in The Times of 12 April 1986, and to the comprehensive bibliography of W.H. Walsh's publications in Leon Pompa (ed.), Substance and Form in History: Essays for W.H. Walsh (1981).

Richard Walsh

A tribute delivered in Merton Chapel on June 21st, 1986

It was Richard Walsh's fortune to be a philosopher at a time when the traditional concerns and approaches of philosophy were at a low ebb. He felt it as a misfortune. To be unfashionable as a philosopher is as hard as to be unpopular as a