

Contents

Translators' preface	<i>Page</i> vii
Preface	xix

Introduction

Theory of knowledge, metaphysics and other philosophical disciplines	i
---	---

Part I The theory of knowledge

1	Classical problems of the theory of knowledge	7
2	The problem of truth	9
	The classical definition of truth and objections to it	9
	Truth as agreement with criteria	11
	Nonclassical definitions of truth	12
	A proper formulation of the classical concept of truth	17
	Scepticism and its refutation	18
	Nonclassical definitions of truth as leading to idealism	21
3	Problems of the source of knowledge	22
	Psychological and epistemological versions of this problem	22
	Apriorism and empiricism	25
	Radical apriorism	26

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-09993-6 - Problems and Theories of Philosophy

Kazimierz Ajdukiewicz

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

	<i>Page</i>
Radical empiricism	27
Moderate empiricism	27
Moderate apriorism	29
The dispute between empiricism and apriorism about the character of mathematical assertions	30
Pure and applied mathematics	31
A view of moderate empiricism	35
A view of radical empiricism	36
Conventionalism	36
A view of moderate apriorism: the teaching of Kant	38
The essence of <i>a priori</i> cognition according to phenomenologists	42
Rationalism and irrationalism	45
 4 <i>The problem of the limits of knowledge</i>	 50
Two meanings of transcendence	50
Immanent epistemological idealism	52
Perception and its object	54
Transcendental epistemological idealism	56
Kant as representative of transcendental idealism	59
Realism	61
Positivism	62
Neopositivism	65
 5 <i>The relation of the theory of knowledge to the other philosophical sciences</i>	 69

Part II Metaphysics

6 <i>The origin of the term 'metaphysics' and the division of problems</i>	73
The origin of the word 'metaphysics'	73
The division of metaphysical problems	74
 7 <i>Ontology</i>	 76
The tasks of ontology	76
Examples of concepts analysed by ontology	78
Ontological assertions	80

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-09993-6 - Problems and Theories of Philosophy

Kazimierz Ajdukiewicz

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

	<i>Page</i>
8 <i>Metaphysical inferences from reflections on knowledge</i>	82
The problem of ideal objects: the controversy about universals	82
Platonic ideas, Universals, The contemporary form of the dispute about universals	
The problem of metaphysical idealism	85
(a) Subjective idealism, The consequences of epistemological idealism, The thesis of subjective idealism, Reality and its appearance in the light of subjective idealism	
(b) Objective idealism, The inadequacies of subjective idealism, Judgements in the psychological sense and judgements in the logical sense, The world of objective spirit, The thesis of objective idealism, Representatives of objective idealism, Hegel's dialectic, The dialectic of Hegel and the dialectic of Marx	
(c) Metaphysical realism, Naive and critical realism	
9 <i>Metaphysical problems arising from the investigation of nature</i>	101
The problem of the substance and structure of the world	101
The problem of soul and body	102
What substances exist in nature?, Dualism, Extreme and moderate dualism, Monism and its varieties, Materialism, Mechanical materialism, Dialectical materialism, Materialism in conflict with idealism, Materialism in conflict with dualism, A general characterisation of materialism, The relation of physical to mental phenomena, Emotional sources of opposition to materialism, Spiritualism, Monism proper: the identity theory, Immanent monism	
Determinism and indeterminism	128
The controversy about the causal constitution of nature, Analysis and criticism of the concept of cause, The problem of prediction, Are the laws of nature only statistical laws?, Freedom of the will, The problem of the existence of the future	
Mechanism and finalism	137
The controversy about the purposive arrangement of the world, Anthropomorphic purposiveness, Biological mechanism and vitalism, A non-anthropomorphic concept	

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-09993-6 - Problems and Theories of Philosophy

Kazimierz Ajdukiewicz

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

	<i>Page</i>
of purposive constitution, Neovitalists, Holism, Utilitarian purposiveness, Optimism and pessimism	
10 <i>Metaphysical problems arising from religion</i>	151
The religious concept of deity	151
The immortality of the soul	152
Religious metaphysics	152
The philosophical concept of deity	153
Proofs of the existence of God	154
God and the world	155
Atheism	156
The problem of the immortality of the soul among philosophers	157
Religious metaphysics and ethics	158
11 <i>Metaphysics as the attempt to achieve an ultimate world-outlook</i>	160
<i>Concluding remarks</i>	169