

THE GREAT IDEAS ONLINE

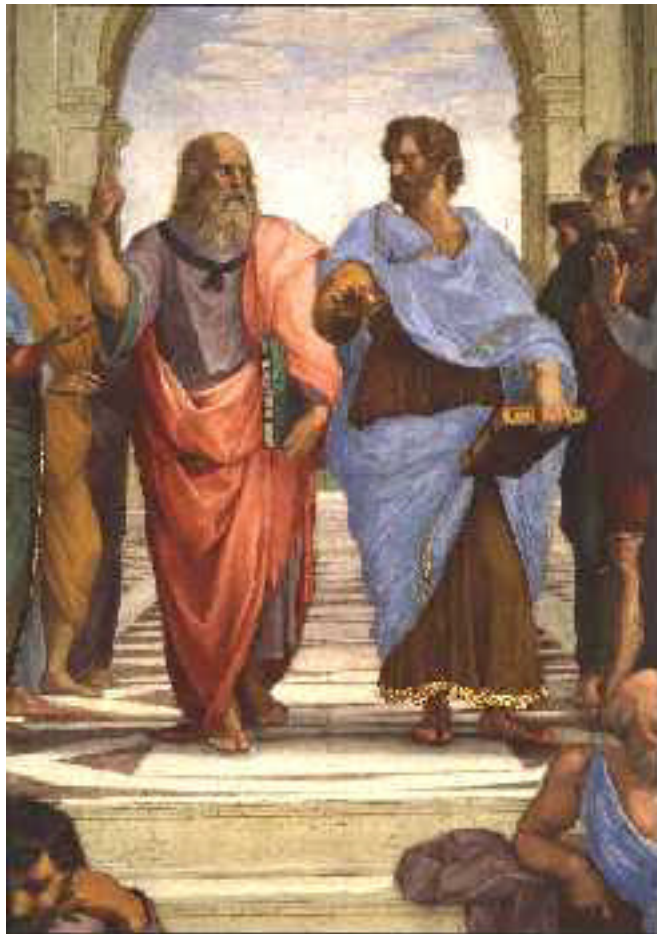
Feb '02

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Raphael's School of Athens

Fresco Stanza della Signatura, Vatican Palace, Rome (1511)



Detail of Plato & Aristotle

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Robert Stone Meta-Index and Archive of World Masterpieces of Literature, Philosophy, Religion, Formal and Empirical Sciences

Edited by Andrew Chrucky, Senior Fellow
Center for the Study of The Great Ideas

Introduction

This site, like the [Meta-Encyclopedia of Philosophy—
www.ditext.com/encyc/frame.html](http://www.ditext.com/encyc/frame.html) brings together under one meta-index, the outstanding indexes to literature, philosophy, religion, and the sciences. The bulk of the present meta-index is taken from Frank Magill's series of "masterpieces." Also included are the tables of contents for Encyclopaedia Britannica's 60 volume set of the *Great Books of the Western World* (1990 edition).

The full indexes for the following books are incorporated:
(Take note of the symbols used for column headings.)

- * [S] The four volumes (series) of *Masterpieces of World Literature in Digest Form*
- * [1] First Series, 1949;
- * [2] Second Series, 1956;
- * [3] Third Series, 1960;
- * [4] Fourth Series, 1968.
- * [P: page numbers] "Masterpieces of World Philosophy in Summary Form" (1961); *World Philosophy: Essay Reviews of 255 Major Works*, 5 vols. (1982).
- * [C] *Masterpieces of Christian Literature* (1963).
- * [K] *Masterpieces of Catholic Literature* (1965).
- * [A] *Masterpieces of African-American Literature* (1992).
- * [U] *Masterpieces of American Literature* (1993).
- * [L] *Masterpieces of Latino Literature* (1994).
- * [W] *Masterpieces of Women's Literature* (1996).
- * [G: volume number] *Great Books of the Western World* (1990).

When the first volume of *The Masterpieces of World Literature* appeared in 1949, it was not intended to be part of a series at all—so it is a logical assumption to make that for this first book the superlative books were selected. When, however, it was decided to come up with a second volume in this series, I

surmise that the next best selections were made, and so on through the series; so that the four series can be taken as classifying the masterpieces of world literature—more or less—into four descending categories. An exception has to be made with poetry in the fourth volume, which is meant to offset its relative neglect in the previous volumes. In any case, all the volumes in the “Masterpieces” collection must be considered as selecting superlative literature of their kind.

What you have before you are separate and composite cumulative indexes from all these volumes, arranged alphabetically by authors and titles, and each entry has a link to the Google.com search engine, set to search for the author’s surname and the title of the work. As time permits, I will expand these lists to link to notable Internet editions, and, hopefully, to some in-house editions. My intention is minimally to make available the indexes of very ambitious efforts at selecting the masterpieces of literature, philosophy, religion, and science as a guide for readers.

The initial effort at reproducing the index on world literature was done by three of my students at Lincoln Park High School in Chicago, as part of the Information Technologies course in the International Baccalaureate Program, in May 2001. Thanks to Aisha Mock, Amber Harris-Gibson, and Adrian Jova.

This site is dedicated to Robert L. Stone, a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School and a practicing lawyer in Chicago. He is an ardent activist for the cause of liberal education and a member of the Center for the Study of The Great Ideas. He has co-edited a two-volume anthology, *Law and Philosophy: Essays in Honor of George Anastaplo* (1992), and edited another anthology, *Essays on Closing of the American Mind* (1989). In 1999 he organized an alumni group (of which he is the president), “The Concerned Friends of the University of Chicago,” to critically monitor the changes taking place at the University of Chicago through its website, [In Search of the Real University of Chicago—www.realuofc.org](http://www.realuofc.org)

In 2000 he was one of two lawyers representing the plaintiffs in a successful law suit against the U of C demolishing the International House.



Jacques Maritain 1882-1973

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**AMERICAN MARITAIN ASSOCIATION
CONFERENCE
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, NASSAU INN
OCTOBER 17-20, 2002**

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the next annual meeting of the American Maritain Association, which will be co-sponsored by the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University on October 17-20, 2002. The theme of the conference is: "Jacques Maritain and America." We are fortunate to have at the moment five confirmed plenary session speakers: Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, Jorge Garcia, Ralph McInerny, Richard J. Neuhaus and Michael Novak. We will also have the opportunity to hear Robert George, the Director of the James Madison Program, and Paul Sigmund, Professor of Politics at Princeton. And a few other scholars are expected to join us as plenary speakers.

At this particular time in our nation's history, it seems appropriate for the Maritain Association to consider the theme proposed. While Maritain devoted a lengthy period of reflection to moral and political philosophy, his thought in this area was especially enriched by his continued study of the metaphysical and theological questions. His work in social and political philosophy is closely related to the concept of what he called "moral philosophy integrally considered," that is, a moral philosophy, which while remaining authentic philosophy, would take into account "theological data concerning the existential condition of man." So, while this

conference will be of special interest to political and moral philosophers, we hope that those working in metaphysics and theology will provide us with some foundational thought and further wisdom for the social and political problems facing humanity in the twenty-first century.

The conference theme can thus be approached in a variety of ways and by a variety of scholars: philosophers, theologians, political theorists, scientists, historians, artists, etc. We expect to have an interdisciplinary conference and engage in the friendly and fruitful dialogue which characterizes our AMA meetings.

Attached is a call for paper proposals. We are also inviting graduate students to submit draft essays and will offer a stipend for the best paper by a graduate student. The deadline for submissions will be May 25, 2002.

With best wishes,

Alice Ramos
Department of Philosophy
St. John's University, New York
President, American Maritain Association

CALL FOR PAPERS

The American Maritain Association
Announces 2002 Annual Meeting
Nassau Inn
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

“Jacques Maritain and America”

October 17-20

Co-Sponsored by the James Madison Program of Princeton University

The Association invites papers that address the relevance of Jacques Maritain's thought and of the Aristotelian-Thomistic tradition to the ethical and political predicaments facing America and the world today. Presentations at the meeting will

be limited to 25 minutes reading time. The conference theme for the year 2002 is broad enough to be examined by different academic disciplines, as well as by various faith traditions. Papers might examine topics such as: the impact of terrorism on American society and the world; freedom and democracy; the human rights thrust of modern political philosophy and natural law; liberal democracy and Christianity; the American constitutional order and Christianity; race, ethnicity, and human identity; the notion of martyrdom; science, philosophy, and religion; Neoscholasticism in America; religious liberty; religion in education, morality, and culture; different cultures as different expressions of the meaning of human existence; God and history; Maritain's *The Person and the Common Good*, *True Humanism*, and *Reflections on America*; the influence of Maritain in America and the influence of America on Maritain.

By May 25, please send paper or an essay proposal of no more than two pages in length (double-spaced) to the Program Chair, Christopher Cullen, S.J., Fordham University, Spellman Hall, Bronx, New York 10458, or by email to: ccullen@fordham.edu

A special invitation is extended to graduate students. A stipend of \$250 together with waiver of registration fee will be awarded to a graduate student for paper presentation. Students interested in competing for this stipend are requested to submit a full draft of their proposed essay, not to exceed 12 double-spaced pages, by May 25 to the Program Chair.

In addition, the 2002 conference will include several panel sessions organized and sponsored by the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs (NY), Center for the Study of Religion (Princeton), New Oxford Review, The Review of Politics, Erasmus Institute, Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture, Lumen Christi Institute at the University of Chicago, The Center for Thomistic Studies at the University of St. Thomas (Houston), Center for Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas (MN), The Gabriel Marcel Society, and others. Those who might wish to organize a panel session, serve as panel chair or session chair are asked to contact the Program Chair.

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DISCUSSION FORUM

Reading makes a full man, meditation a profound man, discourse a clear man. —Benjamin Franklin

I don't think it follows that persons in the highest tax brackets actually wind up paying higher tax rates on their gross than others. Don't they have the best lawyers, financial advisors, and lobbyist's loopholes?

The "50% of households" number is meaningless. Ask what percentage of all stock does one-percent of the households own. The latest Fed's Survey of Consumer Finances shows that a tiny one percent owns 49 percent of the entire stock market. The same one percent owns 37 percent of the entire \$20-trillion of our total wealth. The Economic Policy Institute data shows that 75 per cent of our households owned less than \$10,000 worth of stock... most owned none.

As for irrational mismanagement being odd, does the word Enron mean anything to Mr. Reardon? We all read stories about golden parachutes bestowed on raider-owners who trashed their companies. These persons aren't irrational or blind. I didn't say that. They are short sighted and greedy, two things our corporation laws encourage, and which are anti-democratic. It's a good system, but it really needs cleaning up to protect the public, employees and consumers more. Corporation (owners) need LESS protection.

Fiduciary corporations are not de-concentrating wealth. An article titled Corporate Governance in the United States noted that this concentrated and insulated fiduciary ownership is of agents by agents (of whom?), and they now pressure corporate management to increase profits by reducing costs—which often means layoffs, lobbying for reduced regulatory burdens of health, safety and environment. Like, by lobbying in the White House. The People don't want these things; therefore, guess who does. If corporate owners don't benefit from them, why are they lobbying? Mr. Reardon's final comments about maintaining the 'lubricant of competition' sounds like he's been vacationing on Mars, and doesn't know about our rampant merger and buyout mania. Aren't these mergers by greedy corporation (owners) creating 'effective monopoly' monsters that will be extremely difficult and expensive to disassemble in order to protect us, the People?

I appreciate Mr. Reardon's affection for our excellent economic system. I just think we citizens need to correct these flaws, and not allow alien businesses to introduce more flaws.

Terrence O'Neill

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OF INTEREST

1902, the year of Mortimer Adler's birth . . . how times have changed . . .

The average life expectancy in the US was forty-seven.

Only 14 Percent of the homes in the US had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.

There were only 8,000 cars in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.

The average wage in the US was 22 cents an hour. The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year. A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births in the US took place at home.

Ninety percent of all US physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as "substandard."

Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen. Coffee cost fifteen cents a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.

The five leading causes of death in the US were:

1. Pneumonia and influenza
2. Tuberculosis
3. Diarrhea
4. Heart disease
5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.

The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was 30.

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented. There were no Mother's Day or Father's Day.

One in ten US adults couldn't read or write. Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores. According to one pharmacist, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and the bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health."

Eighteen percent of households in the US had at least one full-time servant or domestic.

There were only about 230 reported murders in the entire US.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Scott McCord

Pauline Montano

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