

## In Memoriam

BRUNO VON FREYTAG LÖRINGHOFF

(1912 – 1996)

Bruno Baron VON FREYTAG LÖRINGHOFF, born on 6 November 1912 in Bilderlingshof bei Riga, died on 28 February 1996 in Tübingen, where he had been a faculty member in the philosophy department at the university.

Among his specializations were history and philosophy of logic, including the history of logic machines, and especially the earliest history of calculating machines.

In the philosophy of logic, he presented a series of theses to the symposium on “Philosophical Fundamental Questions of Logisitic” during the Third German Congress of Philosophy that was held in Bremen from 1 to 5 October 1950. He argued that the various logical systems are not “pure”, but that each of them includes a “pure kernel”, that can be identified and separated out. The kernel in question is pure philosophical logic, logic “*tout court*,” and it is characterized by its object, namely identity, contradiction, and their “interweaving” (“*Verflechtung*”). Although there are many logical calculi, pure logic is unique, and the diverse logical calculi are mathematical systems that must be interpreted with the aid of pure logic. For Freytag Löringhoff, “[m]athematics presupposes logic and cannot found it.” Rather, calculi presuppose a language, which in turn presupposes the principles of logic. Logical calculi begin from elements which require analysis through pure logic. The most fundamental element in logisitic is judgment (*Urteil*); the most fundamental element in logic is concept (*Begriff*). Pure philosophical logic is a closed, self-contained, system, without fundamental flaws and of great beauty and wide applicability, and attacks against classical logic are largely unjustified. Freytag-Löringhoff was a staunch proponent of Aristotelian logic, and he devised extensions of syllogistic to compete with modern logisitic. Joseph Bocheński, Paul Bernays, and Béla Juhos were among those at the symposium who challenged Freytag Löringhoff’s conception of the nature of logic, asking whether implication and quantification, which are neither identity, nor contradiction, nor their interweaving, must perforce be excluded from “pure logic”, and Juhos compared the relation between logisitic and classical logic with that between non-Euclidean geometries and Euclidean geometry. Haskell Curry contested the thesis that the construction of a logical system is founded