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*Alfred Tarski and the Vienna Circle: Austro-Polish Connections
in Logical Empiricism*

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REVIEW

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As the editorial introduction states, the main part of this sixth Yearbook of the Institute “Vienna Circle” collects papers from the international conference “Alfred Tarski and the Vienna Circle”, which was held 12–14 July 1997 at the Science Center of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Vienna. The stated intention of the meeting was “to give an account and interpretation of the relations between the Vienna Circle and the Polish school of philosophers since the beginning of the 20th century.” There are 20 contributed papers grouped in four sections:

- I. The Development of Tarski’s Concept of Truth.
- II. The Interaction between Tarski and the Vienna Circle.
- III. Philosophical Aspects of Tarski’s Concept of Truth and its Application in the Methodology of Science.
- IV. Technical Aspects of Tarski’s Definition of Truth and Model Theory.

There is also a selection of letters to Kurt Gödel from Tarski, 1942–1947 (translated and edited by Tarski’s son, Jan Tarski), and an essay, “Neo-Positivism and Italian Philosophy (1924–1973)” by P. Parrini. These are followed by an unrelated review essay, “Critical Idealism Revisited — Recent Work on Cassirer’s Philosophy of Science” by T. Mormann. There is then a section of book reviews (some, by chance, related to the topic of the conference) and a brief report on the year’s activities of the Institute “Vienna Circle”. The volume ends with an index of names.

Clearly the thesis of the conference is that the young Alfred Tarski was the key link between Poland and the Vienna Circle in the inter-war period, despite the fact that he never had a permanent university