

'DIOGENES' INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

At the library of the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, the dissertations in the Humanities are arranged in chronological order. A single glance suffices to tell us that this classification by years coincides almost exactly with a classification by bulk. As we pass along through time, year by year, the volumes grow thicker; pamphlets merge imperceptibly into modest books, these into larger books, these in turn into weighty tomes; until finally we come across works embracing several volumes, each volume imposing in its own right. The explanation is simple: every author is normally led to consider the opinions of his predecessors in the same field or in neighbouring fields; these opinions he discusses, contests, approves, or amends; and finally this leads to the growth in bulk, gradual but unlimited, so evident on the shelves at the library.

This practice has its merits and usefulness. Nevertheless, it tends to discredit any effort that cuts to the heart of a matter, that manages to unfold an idea in only a few pages, or that discards at once all accessory reflection in order to reach the essential. It is to encourage and to restore to a place of esteem this type of work (in no wise different from the original form of the dissertation) that we establish our international prize.

R. C.

Rules

1. In 1955 *Diogenes* will grant an international prize of 1,000 dollars (350,000 francs). This prize is to be awarded to the best unpublished work concerned with the synthesis of knowledge and the contribution of views

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both new and valid to any discipline whatsoever of humanistic studies. This work is to present briefly, lucidly, and in a compact manner, new and unpublished ideas on the orientation and future of a particular discipline. The author may report on a discovery of his own from which he draws important consequences, or he may define a method of renovating the investigations in this or that branch of humanistic studies.

2. Works submitted for consideration by the jury are not to exceed the length of fifty double-spaced typewritten pages. They are to be sent in triplicate and must be written in one of the languages in which *Diogenes* currently appears (German, French, English, Spanish, Italian).

3. Texts are to be received at the editorial offices of the magazine (19 Avenue Kléber, Paris—16^e) before 31 December 1954.

4. The works received will be submitted first to specialists of recognised competence in the corresponding disciplines. These specialists are to be designated by general agreement among the member organisations of the I.C.P.H.S. (see the list facing the title-page) and the Editorial Staff of the magazine.

5. The works retained will be submitted to an international jury, which will confer the prize, without appeal, sometime during the month of May 1955.

6. The international jury is composed of philosophers, university professors, and scholars. Each of the members is of acknowledged authority in his particular subject, and has, moreover, given proof of understanding the general movement of ideas in such a way that there can be no doubt as to his competence in distinguishing the fertility of new ideas.¹

7. The jury may adjourn at any time in order to ask the co-operation of any person it regards useful in its deliberations.

The president of the I.C.P.H.S. and the Editor in Chief of *Diogenes* are ex officio members of the jury.

8. Every author who sends a work with the view of obtaining this prize, promises therewith to keep this work unpublished, in any language whatsoever, until the day the prize is accorded; and, by the same token, accepts the exclusive publication of this work in *Diogenes*, for which he will receive the usual remuneration accorded by that magazine.

¹Nominated as members of the jury: MM:

D. W. BROGAN	ANDRÉ MALRAUX	JAQUES RUEFF
COLIN CLARK	LEWIS MUMFORD	A. TOYNBEE
LUCIEN FEBVRE	S. RADHAKRISHNAN	C. F. VON WEIZSÄCKER
WERNER JÄGER	ALFONSO REYES	