

on Biological Foundations, U. Eco (Bologna) on Current Theoretical Issues, and D. Savan (Toronto) on Peirce's Semiotic. Three seminars were devoted to the semiotics of literature: M. Rifaterre (Columbia), L. Doležel (Toronto), and R. LeHuenen and P. Perron (Toronto). Two seminars concerned the semiotics of natural language: M. Gopnik (McGill) and P. Salus (Toronto). Other successful seminars were: the semiotics of religious discourse, D. Patte (Vanderbilt); the semiotics of the performing arts, P. Bouissac (Toronto); the semiotic of music, D. Lidov (York); the semiotics of culture, T. McFeat (Toronto); zoosemiotics, F. Burton (Toronto); and semiotics and pre-university education, D. Thomas (Boston).

Three week-ends were devoted to colloquia on the following topics: Playing and Performing, the Neurological Basis of Signs, and Logical and Semiotic Perspectives on Fiction. These colloquia were most successful in bringing to the Institute the results of recent research and scholarship, and they were followed by lively and continuing discussions. Throughout the four weeks of the Institute, time was set aside in the evenings for special lectures by members and visitors. A special feature of the Institute was the special emphasis given to the theoretical questions, and to the mathematical, biological, neurological, and psychological basis of semiosis.

Major credit for the success of the Institute must go to its President, Lubomir Doležel (Slavic, Toronto), and to its Academic Co-ordinator, Paul Bouissac (French, Toronto). The second International Institute will be held in June 1981 at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, under the Presidency of Daniel Patte (Religious Studies, Vanderbilt). The Institutes are a joint undertaking of the Toronto Semiotic Circle and the Structuralism Research Centre of Vanderbilt University.

David Savan

SEMIOTIC CONFERENCE: WARSAW - PUŁAWY

A successful semiotic conference was held in Poland in September 23-26, 1980. It was sponsored by the Polish Semiotic Society, by Warsaw University and by the University of Lublin. Above 50 scholars from different countries took part in the conference and 50 papers were presented. All debates were in English. The first part of the conference was held in Warsaw; its general topic was: "Theoretical Semiotics - Verbal Signs and Visual Signs". The broad research project in the field of the visual signs was presented by Thomas Winner (Brown University) and Edward Stankiewicz (Yale University). Max Fisch (Peirce Edition Project) spoke on Peirce's concept of verbal and visual signs. And Jerzy Pełc (Warsaw University) gave the opening address: "Theoretical Semiotics versus Applied Semiotics". Roland Posner (Technische Universität Berlin) presented the paper on the iconicity in syntax. Irene Portis-Winner (Radcliffe) gave a report on the Encyclopaedia of the Semiotic of Culture.

The next part of the conference was held in Puławy; its topic was: "Philosophy of Signs". The inaugural lecture on the semiotic analysis of Newspeak was presented by Hanna Buczyńska-Garewicz (Polish Academy of Science). Leon Koj (University of Lublin) spoke on the notion of possible worlds. Richard Martin's (Boston University) paper dealt with the "Virtual-Class Designation and Extensionality". Martin Krampen (Universität Ulm) gave a paper on phytosemiotics. Hans-Heinrich Lieb (Freie Universität Berlin) gave a critique of Putnam's account of verbal meaning. And Max Fisch spoke on the Peirce - Lutosławski correspondence.

Hanna Buczyńska-Garewicz

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