CONTENTS

							PAGE
Preface	TO	THE	FIRST EDITION	•	•	•	v
Preface	то	THE	SECOND EDITION	•		•	xii
Preface	то	THE	THIRD EDITION			•	xiii
Preface	то	THE	FOURTH EDITION	•			xiv
PREFACE	то	THE	EIGHTH EDITION	_		_	xiv

CHAPTER I

THOUGHTS, WORDS AND THINGS

Meaning, the central problem of Language, neglected by the sciences most concerned, 1. Its treatment by philosophers to be considered in detail as the analysis proceeds, particularly in Chapter VIII. The philological approach.—Professor Postgate's clear formulation, 2. The failure of Semantics; Bréal, 2. F. de Saussure and la langue, 4. The ethnologists; Boas, 6. The development of psychology makes a scientific treatment of symbols possible, 8.

The importance of Symbols in all discussion and inquiry.—Symbolism the study of their influence on thought, 8. The many functions of symbols.—Their function as organizing and communicating reference to be first considered, 9. Their emotive functions postponed till Chapter VII. A convenient diagram of Symbol, Reference and Referent, 10. The relation of words to things *indirect*; through Interpretation, 11. The dangers of verbal shorthand, 12. Advance in Science through its rejection.—Relativity; Psycho-analysis, 13.

Misinterpretation, 14. Complexities due to misdirection; Lying, 16. Such derivative problems of secondary importance, 19.

The necessity for a theory of Interpretation based on our observation of others, 19. The dubiety of Introspection.—Impossibility of a solipsistic account of communication; Baldwin, 20. The variety and omnipresence of Sign-situations, 21. The peculiar place of Symbols, 23.

CHAPTER II

THE POWER OF WORDS

Symbols as a perennial source of wonder and illusion. The prevalence of symbol-worship among the uneducated, 24. Language a vehicle of the most primitive ideas and emotions of mankind, 25. The name as soul.—Secret names, 27.

Verbal superstition still rife.—Reasons for its wide diffusion.—Purely verbal constructions in modern philosophy, 29. The alleged world of Being; Bertrand Russell as a neo-Platonist, 30.

The Greek view of language.—Platonism as the product of primitive word-magic, 31. Heracleitus, Pythagoras, 32. Parmenides.—Plato's 'ideas' developed from the Pythagorean name-soul.—Neglect of Plato's Cratylus, 33. Aristotle's dependence on words; his logic based on grammar.—Testimony of Whewell and Gomperz.—Linguistic tricks characteristic of Greek dialectic, 34. Mauthner's critique of Aristotelian verbalism.—The De Interpretatione, 35. Verbal superstitions in Rome, 36. Evidence that the Greeks realized the misleading influence of language, 37. Buddhism even more explicit.—But Aenesidemus and the Sceptics alone in antiquity approached the problem of signs scientifically, 38.

The East the true home of verbal superstition.—Spells: verbal magic and verbal medicine, 39. Verbal magic still practised freely to-day.—But in new forms.—Logicians as mystics, 40. Rignano on the verbal carapace.—Affective resonance in metaphysics, 42. Word-magic in modern medicine, 43.

Only by an analysis of sign and symbol situations can we escape such influences.—The existence of the problem only realized in recent times.—Forerunners of a scientific treatment from William of Occam to Mauthner, 43.

The next step. A theory of signs indispensable to an analysis of the meaning of symbols.—Light thrown on verbal magic by this theory, 47.

CHAPTER III

SIGN-SITUATIONS

The theory of Meaning dependent upon the theory of Signs.—Reference, i.e., the relation between a thought and what it is of, not unique, 48. The alleged direct relation of acquaintance with 'propositions'; Keynes, Lipps, Husserl, van Ginneken, 49. Previous psychological accounts of Knowledge—in terms of association, apperception and suggestion—insufficient ly dynamic.—Development in terms of mnemic causation; Semon, 51. Illustrations and explanations; Lloyd Morgan's caterpillar, 52.

The defects of causal language, 54. Restatement in terms of recurrent contexts, 55. Examples of contexts psychological and external, 56. Definition of a Context, 58. How contexts recur.—Generality of contexts and their probability, 59.

Defects of accounts based on imagery.—Images as luxuries of mental life, 59. Their dangers, 61. Russell.—The context theory of reference illustrated in the difficult case of expectation.—The truth or falsity of a reference merely a question of the recurrence or non-recurrence of a context.—Extension of this view to

expectations whose signs are themselves beliefs, and further to all cases of interpretation from particular to particular, 62. Extension to general references, 63. The generality and particularity of primitive references not the symbolic generality and particularity of logic.—The conditions for general references, 64. Inclusive and non-inclusive references, i.e., references to all and some, 65. The detailed investigation of contexts a future task of psychology, 66.

The referents of false beliefs, 66. Propositions as references, i.e., relational characters of mental processes. 'Logical form,' as the structure of references.—Inclusion of references in compound references, 68. All complex references analysable into simple references, i.e., ideas or concepts which are indefinite and true, 69. Ideas and beliefs different only in complexity and in affective-volitional characters.—Definiteness of reference obtained only through complexity, 70. A false reference composed of true simple references, 71. Illustrations of compound false beliefs, 72.

The conformity of the contextual theory of reference with modern scientific attitudes.—Its dependence upon some theory of probability, 73. Suggestions towards a theory of probability, 74. Misinterpretation, relevance, emotional interference, 75.

CHAPTER IV

SIGNS IN PERCEPTION

The theory of interpretation applied to perception, 77. The difficulties of the question 'What do we see?' due to the neglect of the sign-situations involved; Helmholtz, 78. And to bad symbolic procedure, 80.

Modifications of our sense organs as the initial signs which we interpret, 80. Direct apprehending as a happening in the nerves.—Dismissal of the charge of materialism, 81. This view merely a rounding off of the most comprehensive system of verified references yet obtained. As such at present unassailable, 82. Some notorious paradoxes removed by the exhibition of the sign-situations present, 83. Such expansion of symbols as a general anti-metaphysical method, 85.

CHAPTER V

THE CANONS OF SYMBOLISM

The postulates of communication.—Logic as the science of systematic symbolization, 87.

The Canon of Singularity. The symbols of mathematics peculiar.—The nature of mathematics, 88. Wittgenstein, Rig-

nano, James Mill, 89. The sameness of references, 90. Symbol substitution, 91.

The Canon of Definition. Identity of reference and identity of referent.—Difficulties in discussion, 92.

The Canon of Expansion. The source of 'philosophy.'—Levels of reference.—Expansion must show the sign-situations involved, 93. Symbolic overgrowths and contractions.—'Universals' symbolic conveniences.—The illusion of a world of 'being,' 94. Russell, 96. Language as an instrument, 98. Incorrect distinguished from false symbols.—The Universe of discourse, 102.

The Canon of Actuality. The discovery of the referent. Bogus referents, 103. Examples of procedure, 104.

The Canon of Compatibility. The avoidance of nonsense and 'antinomies.' The 'Laws of Thought,' 105.

The Canon of Individuality. The 'place' of a referent. 'Place' as a symbolic accessory, 106. Translation and expansion of false propositions.—Importance of expansion in education and controversy, 107.

CHAPTER VI

DEFINITION

Four difficulties confronting a theory of definition, 109. (i) Verbal and 'real' definitions, 110. (ii) Definitions and statements. (iii) Definitions ad hoc.—The 'universe of discourse.' (iv) Intensive and extensive definition, 111.

The technique of definition.—The selection of starting-points with which to connect doubtful referents.—Types of fundamental connection few in number.—Reasons for this, 113. Criteria of starting-points, 114. The merits of gesture-language, 115. Complex and indirect relations, 116. Enumeration of common routes of definition, 117.

Application of this technique to discussion.—Fallacy of seeking the definition of a symbol.—Systematic and occasional definitions, 121. Non-symbolic, i.e., indefinable terms, 123. Example of 'good,' 124. Influence of purpose on vocabulary, 126. Error of seeking common element in various uses. Reasons for this habit, 128. Difficulty of introducing new terms, 130. The Method of Separation, 131. Rules of thumb.—The naming of controversial tricks.—Schopenhauer's suggestion, 132. Three subterfuges distinguished: the phonetic (Mill's case); the hypostatic; the utraquistic, 133. Further safeguards against controversial malpractices. Dangerous words: Irritants, Degenerates, Mendicants (Matthew Arnold), Nomads (Locke), 134. The value of a transferable technique, 138.

CHAPTER VII

THE MEANING OF BEAUTY

The perennial discussion of Beauty a suitable field in which to test the theory of definition.—The chaos in æsthetics, 137. Rupert Brooke; Benedetto Croce, 140. Separation of the uses of the word, 141. Interrelations of these uses, 144. Cognate and allied terms, 145.

The multiple functions of language.—Frequency of apparent nonsense in the best critics; Longinus, Coleridge, Bradley, Mackail, 147. The symbolic and the emotive use of words.—Statements and appeals.—The speaker and the listener, 149. The symbolic and emotive functions distinct.—Claim to truth as the test.—Dangers in applying the test, 150.

Neglect of this multiplicity by grammarians; von der Gabelentz, Vendryes, 151. The speculative approach, 153. Bergson, Stephen, 154. Solution of the intellect versus intuition problem, 155. 'Virtual knowledge' as æsthetic appreciation, 156. Repose and satisfaction in Synæsthesis.—Interferences between language uses, 157. D. H. Lawrence and the sun, 159.

CHAPTER VIII

THE MEANING OF PHILOSOPHERS

Lack of attention to Meaning on the part of philosophers, 160. Summary of the 1920-21 Symposium in *Mind*; Schiller, Russell, Joachim, Sidgwick, Strong, 161. Contemporaneous discussion of aphasia in *Brain*.—Inability of current psychology to assist neurologists; Parsons, 162.

Recent American contributions.—The Critical Realists, 163. The ubiquity of the term 'meaning' in their discussions.—Drake, Lovejoy, Pratt, Rogers, Santayana, Sellars, Strong. Uncritical use of the word 'meaning' their chief bond of union, 164. Particularly reprehensible display by Münsterberg, 169. Appreciation of Münsterberg; Professor Moore, 173. Vocabulary of the latter, 174.

Further typical examples; Broad, Nettleship, Haldane, Royce, 177. Keynes, 178. Official psychology; seven professors, 179. Psycho-analysis; Putnam. Pragmatists, 180. Historians. Even the clearest thinkers; G. E. Moore, 181. Artists, theologians and others, 182. A crescendo of emotional asseveration, 183.

CHAPTER IX

THE MEANING OF MEANING

Desirability of improving on the linguistic practice of philosophers.—The framing of a list of definitions as in Chapter VII,

185. Sixteen main definitions elicited, 186. Discussion of these seriatim. Meaning as an intrinsic property of words (I) and as an unanalysable relation (II) dismissed. Consideration of dictionary meaning (III) postponed. Connotation (IV) and Denotation as logical artifacts; Johnson, Russell, Mill, 187. Essences (V) as connotations hypostatized, 188. Meaning as projected activity (VI) a metaphor, Schiller. Meaning as intention (VII) analysed; Joseph, Gardiner, 191. Complications due to misdirection, 194. Affective-volitional aspects, 195. Meaning as place in a system (VIII), 196. A vague usage. This sometimes narrowed down to meaning as practical consequences (IX), 197. William James and the pragmatists. Or to meaning as what is implied (X). Meaning as emotional accompaniments (XI), 198. Urban, 199.

The doctrine of Natural Signs (XII).—Examples, 199. The psycho-analyst's 'meaning' as 'cause of.' Meaning as psychological context (XIIIA) in the contextual theory of reference. Further explanations of this theory, 201. Instances and objections. Necessity of checking the evidence of introspection, 201. The inconclusiveness of immediate conviction, 202. Why we must rely on symbols in abstract thinking, 203. Meaning as referent (XIIIB) in the contextual theory of reference. Correspondence theory of truth unnecessary. Speaker and listener again, 205. Delimitation of contexts the problem for the theory of communication. Meaning as what the speaker ought to be referring to (XIV); Good Use, 206. Dictionaries as marking overlaps between references of symbols, 207. Complications in meaning due to symbol situations (XV and XVI), 208.

CHAPTER X

SYMBOL SITUATIONS

The context theory of reference applied to the use of words.—
The case of the hearer to be considered first, 209. The recognition of sounds as words a preliminary stage. This not necessarily a conscious performance. These processes in infancy, 210. Levels of interpretation, 211.

No strict correlation between complexity of symbols and complexity of references, 211. The contexts required for the use of proper names simpler than those for descriptive phrases.—Reasons and illustrations, 212. The use of symbols to facilitate abstraction.—Words acquired through other words. Metaphor as the primitive symbolization of abstraction, 213.

The processes of symbolization in the speaker. Marked differences between individuals in this respect, 214. Varied degrees of dependence of reference upon symbol, 215. Great practical importance of these differences, 216. The speaker

sometimes word-free, sometimes word-dependent, 217. Light thrown upon these processes by pathology.—Aphasia 218. Different levels at which failure may occur.—The bearing of this upon Grammar.—Grammar as Natural History of symbol systems.—Good use as dependent upon Universes of discourse, 220. The real task of Grammar as a normative science, 221. The study of symbols apart from the referential and emotive functions a mere pastime, 222.

The multiplicity of the language functions. (i) Strict symbolization. (ii) Symbols as signs of the attitude of the Speaker to his audience, 224. (iii) As signs of his attitude to his referent. (iv) As instruments for the promotion of purposes. (v) As signs of facility and difficulty in reference, 225.

These functions probably exhaustive. Sentence-form as a compromise between symbolization and the emotive factors, 226. Illustrations of their interplay, 227. The problems of Translation, 228. Neglect of this multiplicity by grammarians.—Two functions sometimes recognized, 230. The alleged neglect of the listener. Wundt's use of Ausdruck. Dittrich, von Humboldt, de Saussure, Martinak and others on the listener, 231. Brunot's method, 232.

Illustrations of compromises between language functions, 233. Subordination.—Poetic language the chief instance of this.—The verbal resources of the poet.—Lafcadio Hearn's description of words, 235. Shelley and the skylark, 238. Rhythmic, metrical and other effects of words, 239. Emotional use of metaphor. The influence of these effects on strict symbolization, 240. Confusions due to misunderstanding of this influence, 241.

Sociological and scientific consequences of a better understanding of language in general.—The urgency of further investigations, 241. The opportunity now open. The emergence of a separate science.—Its scope and prospects, 242.

SUMM	ARY .	•				•	•		•	FAGE 243
APPEN	NDICES-									
A.	On Gramma	r.								251
В.	On Contexts	3.	•		•		•			263
C.	Aenesidemu	s' Th	eory	of Si	gns		•			266
D.	Some Moder	ns								
	1. Husserl			268		4.	Gompe	rz		274
	2. Russell			273		5.	Baldwi	n		277
	3. Frege			273		6.	Peirce	•		279
E.	On Negative	Fac	ts							291

xxii

CONTENTS

SUPPLEMENTS

I. Th	B. 1	blem o Malino hropolo	WSKI,	Ph.D.	, D.S	Sc., R	eader	r in S		296
II. The	Lang	ortance guage okshan	in the	Stud	y of	Medi	cine.	bv Ē	î. G.	337
INDE	x of	subj	ECTS	•		•				357
INDEX	X OF	NAMI	ES .							361