THE ESSENTIALS OF LOGIC: BEING TEN LECTURES ON JUDGMENT AND INFERENCE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649577439

The Essentials of Logic: Being Ten Lectures on Judgment and Inference by Bernard Bosanquet

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Trieste

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TEN LECTURES ON JUDGMENT AND INFERENCE

BERNARD BOSANQUET

FORMERLY VELLOW OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD

London

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED NEW YORK: THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1903

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First Edition, 1895. Reprinted, 1897, 1903.

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PREFACE

In this course of lectures I have attempted to carry out, under the freer conditions of the University Extension system, a purpose conceived many years ago at Oxford. It was suggested to me by the answer of a friend, engaged like myself from time to time in teaching elementary Logic, to the question which I put to him, "What do you aim at in teaching Logic to beginners? What do you think can reasonably be hoped for?" "If the men could learn what an Inference is, it would be something," was the reply.

The course of lectures which I now publish was projected in the spirit thus indicated. Though only the two last discourses deal explicitly with Inference, yet those which precede them contribute, I hope, no less essentially, to explain the nature of that single development which in some stages we call Judgment, and in others Inference. So far as I could see, the attempt to go to the heart of the subject, however imperfectly executed, was appreciated by the students, and was rewarded with a serious attention which would not have been commanded by the trivialities of formal Logic, although more entertaining and less abstruse.

The details of traditional terminology may be found in Jevons's *Elementary Lessons in Logic* (Macmillan). Those

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PREFACE

who desire to pursue the study more in the sense of the present work, may be referred above all to Bradley's *Principles of Logic*, and also to Lotze's *Logic* (E. Tr.), and to Sigwart's great work on Logic, the English translation of which, just completed, opens a storehouse of knowledge and robust good sense to the English student. My own larger *Logic* expresses *in extenso* the views which these lectures set out in a shorter form.

I hope it will be admitted by my critics that this experiment, whether successful or unsuccessful, was worth making, and that except in the University Extension system, it could not easily have been made.

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BERNARD BOSANQUET.

London, January 1895.

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