

Autorzy narzucają sobie słuszny metodologicznie reżim pracy na dokumentach, które nie są jednak jednorodne. Z racji zrozumiałych, postać Wydry jest ważna dla Czechów z uwagi na rolę, jaką odegrał w ponownym odrodzeniu się ich narodowości. Zatem książka ta stanowić może dobre wsparcie dla historyków Czech – narodu mocno związanego z Austrią i z Niemcami, które wywarły właściwy sobie wpływ na Uniwersytet w Pradze, gdzie przyszło uczyć Wydrze od 1772 do 1804 r. Źródła swojej pracy autorzy podzielili na następujące kategorie: (1) własne pisma Wydry, (2) korespondencja (m.in. z J. Bernoullim) i inne archiwalia, (3) rozprawy o Wydrze, (3) inne. Na podstawie tych źródeł autorzy rekonstruują życiorys i dzieło jezuita-matematyka i czeskiego patrioty.

Trzeba zaznaczyć, że analizy te mają charakter typowo historyczny. Nie towarzyszy im jednak głębsza wnikliwość matematyczna. Z tej prezentacji wynika, że prace Wydry, np. dotyczące rachunku różniczkowego i całkowego, nie wykraczały poza elementarną problematykę. Wiele kopii oryginalnych materiałów, w tym dedykacja pracy Bolzano, czynią tę książkę ciekawą raczej z historycznego punktu widzenia.

Książka Schuppenera i Maćąka może być inspirującym dziełem raczej dla historyka Czech. Pewnym mankamentem, przy dobrze i czytelnie prezentowanym materiale, są przypisy numerowane w sposób ciągły przez całą książkę, sięgając niemalże liczby 800.

Robert JANUSZ

Stanisław KOWALCZYK, *Idee filozoficzne postmodernizmu* [Philosophical Ideas of Postmodernism], Radom 2004, Ed. Polwen, pp. 136.

Rev. Professor Stanislaw Kowalczyk ist the head of the Social Philosophy Department at The Social Studies Faculty of the Catholic University of Lublin. He is a philosopher with a wide variety of interests and the author of many books. *Philosophical Ideas of Postmodernism* is his newest work. Kowalczyk does not present his own definition of postmodernism. He compares the most important philosophers of this trend and critically analyses their ideas from the point of view of classical philosophy. The content of the book is as follows:

The first chapter – Terminological Explanations: The Notion of Modernism, The Notion of Postmodernism. The second chapter – Main Representatives and Genesis of Postmodernism: Zygmunt Bauman, Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, Jean-Francois Lyotard, Richard Rorty, Philosophical Genesis of Postmodernism. The third chapter – The Concept of Philosophy: Antisystematic, The Idea of Deconstruction, Philosophy and Literature. The fourth chapter – Epistemology: The Negation of the Classical Concept of Truth, Antirepresentationism, Antirationalism, Epistemological Relativism, The Pragmatic Formulation of Truth. The fifth chapter – The Ontological Conception of Reality: The Negation of Logocentrism, Antiessentialism, Idealism, Notions of Difference, Trace and Ambiguity. The sixth chapter – Anthropology: The Negation of Human Nature, Categories of Corporality and Soul. The seventh chapter – Conception of Social Life: The Concept of Society, Antitotalitarianism, The Idea

of Solidarity. The eighth chapter – Ethics: The Notion of Culture, The Negation of Normative Ethics, Morality without Ethics, The Idea of Justice. The ninth chapter – Naturalism, the negation of God and Religion: Radical Naturalism, The Negation of God, The Phenomenon of Religion. The tenth chapter – An Estimation of Postmodern Philosophy: The Main Elements of Postmodernism, Methodological and Doctrinal Limitations, Dilemmas and Inconsistencies.

This book is a valuable addition to the marketplace philosophy, as it brings many well-aimed observations to the discussion about postmodernism.

Jarosław CHARCUŁA

Józef BREMER, Robert JANUSZ (Editors), *Philosophia Rationis Magistra Vitae* [Rational Philosophy – a Teacher of Life], Kraków 2005, IGNATIANUM-WAM, Vol I: 152 p., Vol II: 440 p.

The Jesuit Faculty of Philosophy in Cracow has existed since 1934, when it was erected by the Congregation for Seminaries and Universities. For the first 55 years it educated only the Jesuits, but since 1989 it has been opened to the laity as well.

A memorial book *Philosophia Rationis Magistra Vitae* was published to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Faculty of Philosophy with special dedication to its Professors: Fr. Roman Darowski SJ, Fr. Piotr Lenartowicz SJ, and Fr. Stanisław Ziemiański SJ. All of them have worked at the former Faculty of Philosophy which is now the Faculty of Philosophy of *Ignatianum*. In these past few years, Fr. Ziemiański and Fr. Lenartowicz have celebrated their 70th birthday, during this year Fr. Darowski will celebrate such jubilee.

The book consists of two volumes. The first contains congratulatory letters from Provincials of the Polish Jesuits to the Jubilarians. It also contains a short history of the Jesuit Faculty of Philosophy in Cracow, and provides presentations of the professors celebrating their anniversaries.

Roman Darowski was born on August 12, 1935 in Szczepanowice near Tarnów. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1951, and was ordained priest in Warsaw in 1961.

He studied philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy of the Society of Jesus in Cracow (1955-1958). He graduated from the Theological Faculty *Bobolanum* in Warsaw in 1962. After that, he continued his philosophical studies at the Pontifical University *Gregorianum* in Rome (1963-1966), graduating with a doctorate. Subsequently, he studied philosophy for one year at Munich University (1966/1967).

Prof. Darowski works in the field of anthropology and contemporary history of philosophy, and gives lectures on these subjects. He worked in the Pontifical Theological Academy in Cracow, is the editor in chief of the periodical „Forum Philosophicum”, and a member of the Committee of History of Science and Technology of Polish Academy of Sciences.

Piotr Lenartowicz was born on July 25, 1934 in Warsaw. Before entering the Society of Jesus in 1960, he earned a degree (PhD) from the Faculty of Medicine at the Medical Academy in Warsaw, where he was also studying for his