

At the A.A.P. Meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 1970, the following resolutions were passed:—

It was agreed:

The Council of the A.A.P. is of the opinion that the United States and Australia are engaged in a senseless and inhuman struggle in Indo-China and affirms that Australians are justified in opposing Allied military involvement in the Indo-China war and conscription for that war by non-violent acts of civil disobedience.

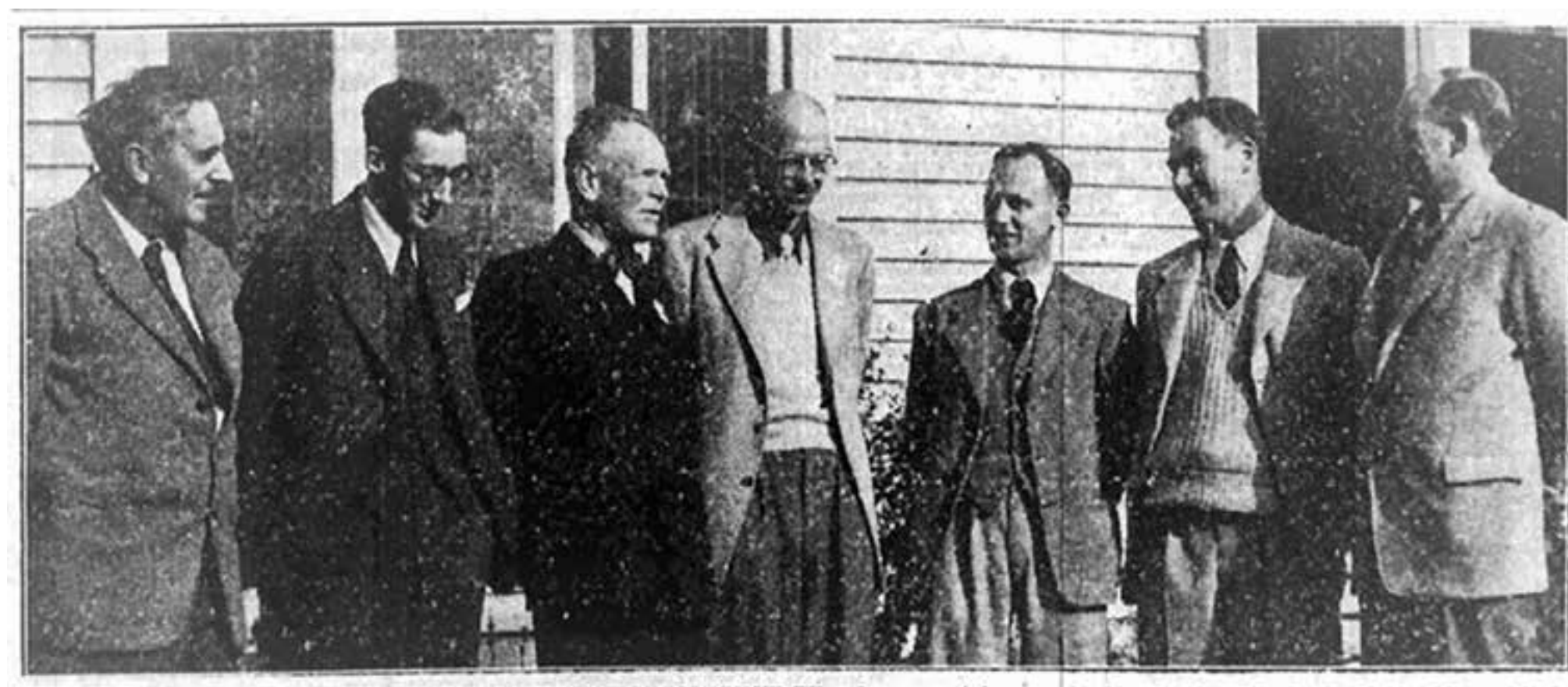
Voting: 18 For
12 Against
6 Abstain

aap.org.au

1953 - 1972

1953

New Zealand Section forms at the first national NZ Congress. The inaugural President is William Anderson with Secretary G.E. Hughes. Both the Congress and the formation of the Section attract considerable print media attention.



SEVEN PROFESSORS OF PHILOSOPHY MEET IN CHRISTCHURCH—A group taken yesterday at New Zealand's first philosophical congress. From left are Truman E. F. Amhurst (Auckland), G. E. Hughes (Wellington), Anderson (Auckland), J. C. Smart (Adelaide), A. N. Prior (Canterbury), J. C. Smart (Adelaide), and J. A. Farnmore (Otago).

PRESS, Christchurch, 25 May 1953

1965



Michael Scriven, from U.S.A.; J.J.C. Smart, of Adelaide; and Professor Douglas Gasking, of Melbourne
Canberra Times, Saturday 26 August 1961

Conferences. The attendance of international visitors at the annual conference attracts attention. Disciplinary Associations also meet at the annual conference - a logic conference in 1965 and the Australasian Association for the History and Philosophy of Science in 1968. This establishes a pattern of holding disciplinary Association meetings alongside the annual conference.

1970

Indo-China War resolution opposing USA and Australian military involvement. Preceded by vigorous discussion, the final vote is 18 for, 12 against with 6 abstentions.

Notably, Brian Medlin drapes a red flag over the lectern before giving his paper 'The Onus of Proof in Political Argument'. Bob Santamaria's 'Point of View' program charges the AAP with publicly supporting the Viet Cong. George Molnar responds.

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AJP 48.3, 420

1971

Australian Philosophy Departments. Members vote against a proposal to establish departmental boards which would include students in equal numbers to academic staff. Departmental Boards would be responsible for staffing and appointments, course offerings and grading procedures. A case for the proposal is made by Ian Hinkfuss, David Armstrong makes the case against.

Teaching Philosophy Survey in Colleges of Advanced Education and other tertiary institutions. Later, in 1978, the AGM requests Council investigate the failure of some tertiary institutions to develop a significant philosophy Curriculum.

HOLDING OF MORE CONGRESSES NEW ZEALAND BODY FORMED

A New Zealand section of the Australasian Association of Psychology and Philosophy was formed on Saturday, when a business meeting of the philosophical congress at present being held in Christchurch discussed the setting up of machinery for the holding of similar congresses. The meeting was attended by two delegates from each of the university centres. The first president of the New Zealand section is Professor William Anderson, of Auckland. Professor Anderson was appointed to the chair of philosophy at Auckland University College in 1921, after a period of lecturing at Glasgow University. Author of articles on education as well as philosophy, he has always been intensely interested in the broader aspects of education, and his interest in university affairs has never been confined to the concerns of his own department. Professor Anderson has twice been president of the Australasian association—in 1930, when the association's annual congress was held in Wellington (this is the only other philosophical congress that has been held in this country), and in 1938. Delegates to the congress offered their congratulations to Professor Anderson. They also welcomed Mr J. C. Beggs, Dunedin, the only other delegate to the present congress, who also attended the 1930 gathering in Wellington. The secretary of the New Zealand section is Professor G. E. Hughes, of Wellington, who will organise next year's congress in Wellington. The president-elect of the section is Professor A. N. Prior, of Canterbury University College.

PRESS, Christchurch, 25 May 1953

1958

Association Name Change - Australasian Association of Philosophy (AAP). Psychology has become an autonomous discipline.

Psychologists To Confer In Canberra

Two organisations linked with psychology will hold annual congresses at the Canberra University College in August. The conferences will be within a week of each other. The Australian Branch of the British Psychological Society will meet first from August 11 to 17 and will include a public symposium on the occasion of the centenary of Freud's birth. Other symposia will be held on "Executive Training in the Public Service"; "The Employment of Psychologists in the Australian Community," and "Migration." The second meeting, from August 18 to 22, will be of the Australasian Association of Psychology and Philosophy, which last met here in 1952. It will be attended by Professor of Philosophy at Oxford, Professor Gilbert Ryle, who is visiting Australia as guest of the Melbourne and Adelaide universities. About 40 members will attend each congress. Although bearing similar names, the two organisations deal with separate subjects. The Australian Association of Psychology and Philosophy is the old organisation, and was formed when psychology and philosophy were combined. The British Psychological Society was founded in 1903 when psychology was a separate science. The association's membership consists of philosophers.

Canberra Times, 5 July 1956

PHILOSOPHICAL CONGRESS SEVEN PROFESSORS TO ATTEND

PROGRAMME OF ADDRESSES
Seven professors of philosophy (two from abroad) and most lecturers in the subject at colleges of the University of New Zealand will be attending the first philosophical congress in the Dominion this month at Canterbury University College. The special interest of the visitors has attracted attention. Professor J. C. Smart, of the University of Adelaide, studied at Glasgow and Oxford and concentrates on the philosophy of science. Professor E. S. Robinson, Fulbright scholar now working in Auckland, took a doctorate at Harvard University, was an instructor at Syracuse University and Kenyon College and then associate professor of psychology and philosophy at Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College until 1948 when he took his present appointment. This experience suggests a broad approach to philosophy. He has also translated some classic writings on philosophy. The development of philosophy in its own right is shown by comparison with that of the meeting of the Australasian Association of Psychology and Philosophy in Wellington in 1953. Twenty years ago the papers dealt largely with psychological and educational aspects of philosophy but these are both now more specialised fields. The presidential address in 1930 was given by Professor W. Anderson, who will be the senior member of this land, then a lecturer in Wellington. Professor James Shelley, then head of the education department at Canterbury College, spoke on aesthetics and also on the future of education in New Zealand. Professor T. A. Hunter, of Wellington, (Sir Thomas Hunter who died recently) discussed institutions; social and anti-social. A. E. Campbell, now senior inspector of primary schools, talked about the contribution of child psychology to the theory of laughter. Many papers were given by visitors. This year philosophy proper will occupy most attention with addresses mostly by men working in New Zealand. Professor G. E. Hughes, of Wellington, will speak on some moral paradoxes and Mr J. F. Bennett, a Canterbury graduate who will soon be a graduate scholar of the University of New Zealand, will discuss interested modalities. Mr R. Durrant, lecturer in Dunedin, who was abroad in 1951, will give a paper on the moral philosophy of Adam Smith. Professor W. Anderson, now of Auckland, will expound the theory of mind as pure potentiality. Professor Smart, of Adelaide, will deal with time and substance and Professor Robinson, of Kansas, will discuss a language of sign-theory and a language of value-theory. The last address on an aspect of ethics will be given by Mr D. H. Monroe, recently back from overseas and whose book, 'The Argument of Laughter', promises to become a classic in philosophy. Before the meetings open visitors will be entertained by Dr. H. R. Hutme, Rector of Canterbury University College, during the congress a business session will be held to discuss the place of philosophy in New Zealand.

PRESS, Christchurch, 15 May 1953

University of Tasmania Black Ban. Sydney Sparkes Orr's dismissal is viewed as contrary to academic tradition. The Executive commends to members that the University of Tasmania is not a suitable place of employment for philosophers. The ban remained in force until 1968, two years after Orr's death.

THE ORR CASE
At the council meeting on August 18th, the following resolution was passed by 28 votes to nil, with 3 abstentions:
"Because of the actions of the University of Tasmania leading to the summary dismissal of Professor Orr, and of subsequent official statements of the University, this Council of the Australasian Association of Philosophy, believing these actions and statements to be contrary to academic tradition, cannot, while the present position persists, commend the University of Tasmania to its members as a suitable place of employment for a teacher of Philosophy."

AJP 36.3, 84

Attracting significant public attention, the "Orr case" occupies much of the Council's time. Throughout the period, the AAP supports Orr's reinstatement, and with local branches, organises support for Orr's legal case and widow.

Philosophers support Orr

BRISBANE, Wednesday. — The Australasian Association of Philosophers decided tonight to continue its support for a former professor, Mr. Sydney Sparkes Orr.

The decision was made Brisbane at the association's annual Australian Council meeting. The association also decided to boycott the philosophy department of the Tasmanian University — of which Mr. Orr was professor.

The meeting was attended by 32 philosophers from every mainland university and the motion supporting Mr. Orr and condemning the Tasmanian University was passed by 30 votes to one, with one abstention.

Canberra Times, 20 August 1964

