1948

Program from the Fifth William W. Cook Lectures

University of Michigan Law School

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FIFTH SERIES

Characteristically American

PROFESSOR RALPH BARTON PERRY

NOVEMBER 29, 30, DECEMBER 1, 2, 3, 1948

RACKHAM BUILDING • ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
THE WILLIAM W. COOK LECTURES ON AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

WILLIAM WILSON COOK, twice a graduate of the University of Michigan, A.B., 1880; LL.B., 1882, and until his death in 1930 a distinguished member of the New York bar, was exceedingly generous to his Alma Mater. He built the William W. Cook Law Quadrangle, dedicated to legal education and research. He gave the University the Martha Cook Building—a residence hall for women. Mr. Cook had many interests outside his profession but none was more intense than his devotion to American institutions. Indeed, so earnest was his belief in the value of those institutions that in 1927 he wrote and published a two-volume work entitled “American Institutions and Their Preservation.” Motivated by the desire that his Alma Mater should make a major contribution to study, teaching, and dissemination of sound precepts concerning the American way of life, Mr. Cook established at the University the William W. Cook Foundation for Lectures on American Institutions, handsomely endowed to achieve the ends he had in view.

This program announces the fifth series of lectures to be held under the auspices of the Foundation. The lecturer, Professor Ralph Barton Perry, of Harvard University, is one of the country’s most distinguished philosophers. Born in 1876, he was educated first at Princeton University, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1896, and thereafter at Harvard University, where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1899. His lifetime has been devoted to teaching and productive scholarship in philosophy, first at Williams, later at Smith, and since 1902 at Harvard University. He retired as Professor Emeritus in 1946. His many publications, known to all thoughtful readers, include the Pulitzer Prize biography, “The Thought and Character of William James,” published in 1935. Because of his distinction in his chosen field he has been accorded recognition by honorary degrees from Princeton University, Clark University, Colby College, the University of Pennsylvania, and his own Alma Mater, Harvard University. This fifth series of William W. Cook Lectures on American Institutions will be made available in published form as soon as possible after delivery.
CHARACTERISTICALLY AMERICAN

PROFESSOR RALPH BARTON PERRY

LECTURE I
The American Cast of Mind
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 8:00 P.M.
DEAN E. BLYTHE STASON, PRESIDING
LECTURE HALL, HORACE H. RACKHAM BUILDING

LECTURE II
The Development of Thought in America
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 8:00 P.M.
AMPHITHEATER, HORACE H. RACKHAM BUILDING

LECTURE III
William James and American Individualism
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 4:15 P.M.
AMPHITHEATER, HORACE H. RACKHAM BUILDING

LECTURE IV
Religion in America
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 8:00 P.M.
AMPHITHEATER, HORACE H. RACKHAM BUILDING

LECTURE V
American Democracy
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 4:15 P.M.
AMPHITHEATER, HORACE H. RACKHAM BUILDING
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PROFESSOR CARL LOTUS BECKER, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

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PROFESSOR EDWARD SAMUEL CORWIN, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

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