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Martin Foss to be a visiting professor of philosophy at Montana State University during spring quarter

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FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, May 1

Dr. Martin Foss, professor emeritus of philosophy of Haverford College, Pennsylvania, is visiting professor of philosophy at Montana State University spring quarter while Dr. Henry G. Bugbee Jr., chairman of the department, is on leave, MSU President H. K. Newburn announced.

Dr. Foss, who has distinguished himself as lawyer and jurist as well as philosopher, was born in Berlin, Germany, and studied philosophy with Scheler in Berlin and with Henri Bergson in Paris, Dr. Newburn said. He holds a doctor of laws degree from the University of Berlin.

World War I, in which Dr. Foss fought in the trenches in France, interrupted his career as a teacher of philosophy and brought financial reverses to his family. After the war, to support his wife and children, he turned to the law for a living but continued to publish essays in philosophy.

In 1933, Dr. Foss and his family left Germany for Paris, where his wife organized a home for refugee children. Dr. Foss commuted secretly between Paris and Berlin as an underground worker against the Nazis. The effect on his wife's health of four years of this strain dictated their move in 1937 to New York, where he was engaged for a time in commercial work.

Dr. Foss was brought to Pennsylvania in 1940 by the Society of Friends and appointed to the faculty of Haverford College in 1944.

Upon his retirement in 1958, he spent six months in India studying Eastern philosophy. He also visited Japan, Thailand, Burma, Egypt and Greece. Before returning to this country he lectured, in the service of the Quakers, for two more.
Foss Appointment at MSU

months in England. Back in the United States, he was asked to teach again for a semester at Haverford.

Dr. Foss' major works are "The Idea of Perfection in the Western World" and "Symbol and Metaphor in Human Experience," both published by the Princeton University Press, and "Abstraction and Reality," published in Switzerland in 1959, in which he summarizes his metaphysical, ethical, religious and aesthetic beliefs.

Dr. Foss has a son who is a painter in Paris and one who is a composer, a pianist, and a professor of composition at the University of California at Los Angeles. His wife died in 1954.

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