CHAPTER 45 THE GREAT IDEA: LANGUAGE

From the Syntopicon

| <i>y</i> . | 949 |
|---|------|
| OUTLINE OF TOPICS | |
| OUTLINE OF TOTICS | PAGE |
| 1. The nature and functions of language: the speech of men and brutes | 950 |
| 1a. The role of language in thought | 951 |
| 1b. The service of language to society | 751 |
| 1b. The service of ranguage to society | |
| 2. Theories of the origin of language | 952 |
| 2a. The hypothesis of one natural language for all men | |
| 2b. The genesis of conventional languages: the origin of alphabets | |
| 3. The growth of language | |
| 3a. The invention of words and the proliferation of meanings | |
| 3b. The spoken and written word in the development of language | 953 |
| 3c. Tradition and the life of languages | 755 |
| | |
| 4. The art of grammar | |
| 4a. Syntax: the parts and units of speech | |
| 4b. Standards of correctness in the use of language: grammatical errors | |
| 5. The imperfections of language | 954. |
| 5a. The abuse of words: ambiguity, imprecision, obscurity | |
| 5b. Insignificant speech: meaninglessness, absurdity | 955 |
| | |
| 6. The improvement of speech: the ideal of a perfect language | |
| 7. Grammar and logic: the formulation and statement of knowledge | |
| 8. Grammar and rhetoric: the effective use of language in teaching and persuasion | 956 |
| 9. The language of poetry | |
| 10. The language of things and events: the book of nature; the symbolism of dreams; prophetic signs | 957 |
| n. Immediate communication: the speech of angels and the gift of tongues | 959 |
| 12. The language of God or the gods: the deliverances of the oracles; the inspiration, revelation, and interpretation of Sacred Scripture | |