

**THE
MODERN
THEME**

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PREFACE

THE first part of this book contains a somewhat amplified draft of the lecture with which I began my ordinary university course for the year 1921-22.

In giving the lecture its present form I took advantage of the detailed and extremely accurate notes taken in the hall itself by a member of my audience, my esteemed friend Don Fernando Vela.

This discourse is now to be submitted to a less specialised public than that which was assembled at the university, and accordingly I thought it essential to be rather more explicit in regard to certain points, which might be less easily assimilable by readers unaccustomed to philosophic study. Such was the only reason for the amplification I have made of the original text.

Certain appendices follow, and deal with less general questions. These questions are, however, all associated with the main theory explained in the lecture itself. My own interest is centred particularly in the appendix, which gives a brief account of a philosophic interpretation of the general significance latent in Einstein's theory of physics. I believe that for the first time attention is there drawn to a definitely ideological quality inherent in that theory which contradicts the interpretations hitherto current.

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