Ends and Beginnings of philosophy "And the End of the world was long ago."

Crux of Philosophy
versus

Cross of Reality chaque lapin y fasse son corps

The soil of Thought

The country of the thinker
(The Platonic problem oder Die Heimat der Philosophie)

Father Henson or the University of adversity.

I am writing with the door open for another thousand years for men to live.

I am writing from my respect for another twenty generations of my kind to come after me. From this respect my thought derives its discipline. From this respect, my map of / reality derives its orientation. When twenty or more sons of man shall find our earth habitable, life desirable, effort worthwhile, they must inherit purpose patience perseverance from our world of today. Hence, their potential purpose patience and perseverance directs my evaluation of actual facts.

Man's actualities are revealed by the past, his potentialities ly in the future. In this way, he is the most unnatural creature. For of nature, we know the potentialities, by studying the past records, and, by means of technical contrivances we know how to combine these potentialities for actual use in the future. /
Man however, is unnatural because he is free. He can rebuke his own past, and other man's actual behaviour does not make law for the free and independant soul of man. Engrossed with non-conformism, aye, even ensouled onto this animating spirit of freedom, any next generation is

an infinitude of possibilities for the good and evil.

No present body of laws can dictate the future. Our only way of catching up with our greatgrandchildren is to hand over to them those heroic qualities that make man unnatural; that he can endow the moment with permanence, that he can persevere in a purpose, that he can / for-bear patiently resistance from friend or foe, and that he can refound, reclaim, restore his deficient actuality by new possibilities: world without end. Indeed, this word 'world without end' seems a false translation of the Biblical in saecula saeculorum. Once we face the two opposite equations: nature = past possibilities ( physics)

+ future actualities (technics)

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man = past actualities (history) + future possibilities (politics)

we might replace world without end by 'man without end'. After all, this is the true interrogation mark behind all our mental or technical efforts. Nobody who writes an article, does research, recites a lesson, reads / a paper, can fail to seek his orientation in the future. And the speaker who fails to talk people into their future, usually fails to have any orientation himself. One century ridiculed the meaning of speech as invigorating orientation. It lowered language to the level of a tool. It thought of thought as a timeless mind and as him in language purely as expression of thought. This 19th century stumbled right into the WorldWar. And rightly so. Since it declined to be orientated by its great grandchildren and prefered being directed towards massman production.

Manuscript of Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy, found at Four Wells, Norwich Vt. 5 pp. Date uncertain. My guess: between 1936 and 1939, 1938? Typewriting by Lise van der Molen, Winsum, The Netherlands. 21. 9. 1988