THE END OF TRADITION IN GEORGE ORWELL’S NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR AND FORD MADOX FORD’S PARADE’S END

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Abstract: In Nineteen Eighty-Four Orwell insistently presents contradiction as thinkable and holds that the mind can think illogically. However, insofar as ‘doublethink’ involves contradiction, it does not represent using ‘logic against logic,’ but is a confusion of the levels of logic and of grammar. My argument is based on Dimitar Mihalchev’s critique of traditional logic. Orwell’s use of contradiction in Nineteen Eighty-Four is contrasted with Ford’s in Parade’s End. Whereas Ford reveals that his characters’ mental division makes them contradict themselves in their speech, Orwell shows the reverse — contradictions cause division of mind.