Term: Pragmatism
Quote: ...the principle he called *pragmatism*, that is, that every concept (in contrast to qualities of feeling, images, experiences, etc.) is definable in terms of a possible purpose of conduct under hypothetical general conditions, and that from this can be deduced the best rule for rendering ideas clear, namely, “Consider what effects that *might conceivably* have practical bearings we conceive the object of our conception to have: then, our concept of those effects is the *whole* concept in question.”


Date of Quote: 1904

Editorial Annotations: This quote has been taken from Kenneth Laine Ketner's 1983 reconstruction of Peirce's 'Autobiography'

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-brief-intellectual-autobiography-charles-sanders-peirce-1