**Term:** General

**Quote:** A sign (under which designation I place every kind of thought, and not alone external signs) that is in any respect objectively indeterminate (i.e., whose object is undetermined by the sign itself) is objectively *general* in so far as it extends to the interpreter the privilege of carrying its determination further. [—]

Perhaps a more scientific pair of definitions would be that anything is *general* in so far as the principle of excluded middle does not apply to it and is *vague* in so far as the principle of contradiction does not apply to it.


**References:** EP 2:350-351; CP 5.447-448

**Date of Quote:** 1905

**URL:** http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-issues-pragmaticism-21