

CFS

NOTEBOOK

SUMMER, 1972

VOLUME I, NUMBER 2

FEDERALISM SYMPOSIUM

THE "NEW FEDERALIST PAPERS"

This fall at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington, D.C. The Center for the Study of Federalism will sponsor a Federalism Symposium with discussion focusing on the "New Federalist Papers." These papers, written in 1970 by men close to the White House, were published for the first time in PUBLIUS, The Journal of Federalism, Vol. 2, No. 1. They reflect a range of positions within the President's official family on the Nixon Administration's "New Federalism" rhetoric.

This rhetoric has been transcended in these papers which provide a systematic basis for whatever was to be the new federalism. The first of the papers, signed with the classical pseudonym, Publius, apparently reflects the Administration position. The second paper, signed Cato, took on the role of critic; with the last two papers, signed by Althusius and Polybius, attempting reconciliation.

For this symposium the authors of the papers and noted political scientists have been invited to lead the discussion. All members of the Conference for Federal Studies are invited to attend the symposium and to participate in what should be a lively debate of nationwide importance on the future of American federalism.

TIME: Wednesday, Sept. 6, 1972 PLACE: Washington Hilton Hotel
11:45am Thoroughbred Room

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE FOR FEDERAL STUDIES

Sustaining Members

University of Alberta
Dept. of Political Science,
Reading Room
Rm. 9-13 Tory Building
Edmonton 7, Alberta, Canada

Wendell B. Anderson
335 East Second South
Logan, Utah 84321

William Anderson
111 Melbourne Avenue, S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414

James M. Banovetz
7 Miller Court
DeKalb, Illinois 60115

Robert L. Bish
Dept. of Economics
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98105

Lois Blume, Director
Center for Business and Urban
Research
Hofstra University
27 Jane Street, Room 103
Hempstead, New York 11550

Robert L. Brank
7787 Long Lake Rd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55432

Jerald Brekke
Northwest Missouri State College
Maryville, Missouri 64468

Mrs. Catherine Vail Bridge
8715 Banyan Street
Alta Loma, California 91701

Dr. Kean S. Chi
Georgetown College
Georgetown, Kentucky 40324

Edgar G. Crane, Jr.
247 Tahoma Rd.
Lexington, Kentucky 40503

R-Zoran Balmas G. B. de Kide
2408-12 Bryn Mawr Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19131

Carl M. Dibble
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Serials and Binding Dept.,
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Dr. L. Tucker Gibson, Jr.
Dept. of Political Science
Trinity University
715 Stadium Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78284

Mr. Leigh E. Grosenick
Dept. of Government and Foreign
Affairs
University of Virginia
232 Cabell Hall
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

Dr. Richard F. Heiges, Chairman
Political Science Department
Indiana University of Penna.
Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701

Dr. Adam W. Herbert
800 Broce Drive
Apt. D-16
Blacksburg, Virginia 24060

Thomas Charles Huston
4450 N. Washington Blvd.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46205

Institute for Local Self-
Government
Claremont Hotel Building
Berkeley, California 94705

A. R. Kear
657 Grierson Avenue, R3T2S3
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Solomon Levy
6710 McCallum Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19119

Sustaining Members Cont'd

Library of Congress
Legislative Reference Service
Washington, D.C. 20540

David M. Littig
810 A Eagle Heights
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

Harold McClendon, Jr.
5335 Duke St., Apt. 110
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

John F. Magnotti, Jr.
3101 Military Road
Arlington, Virginia 22207

Paul E. Marsh
Bedford Road
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

John A. Murley
1017 Heatherlea Dr., E.
Palatine, Illinois 60067

Arthur Naftalin
66 Seymour Avenue, S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414

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Executive Seminar Center

John W. Smith
18465 South Drive
Southfield, Michigan 48076

Robert G. Smith
5 Wyndehurst Drive
Madison, New Jersey 07940

Robert D. Thomas
Florida Atlantic University
Dept. of Political Science
Boca Raton, Florida 33432

A. B. Villanueva
Dept. of Political Science
Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois 61455

David A. Yonders
P. O. Box 4332
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204

Members

Dr. Joseph H. Ball
Fordham University
Dept. of Political Science
Dealy Hall
Bronx, New York 10458

Earl P. Bell, Jr.
University of Chicago High School
1362 East 59th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

A. Stephen Boyan, Jr.
Political Science Department
University of Maryland
5401 Wilkens Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

John Brademas, M.C.
2134 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dr. Richard D. Bright
8343 Court Avenue
Ellicott City, Maryland

J. D. Brown
2435 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Benedicto M. Buenavista
Copy Desk, THE PLAIN DEALER
1801 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dr. Patrick J. Conklin
Federal Executive Institute
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

Harry F. Corbin
Box 73
Wichita State University
Wichita, Kansas 67208

Members Cont'd

Henry V. Eggers
525 Dunnegan Place
Laguna Beach, California 92651

Robert D. Palkowski
3065 Cedar Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19134

Roger Feinstein
96 Roundwood Road - NUF
Boston, Massachusetts 02164

Gerald S. Ferman
Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois 61455

J. Eldon Fields
1910 Marvonne Road
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Ray Frankel
155 West 68th Street
New York, New York 10023

A. Lee Fritschler
3212 Oliver Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20015

James M. Gerhardt
Rice University
Dept. of Political Science
Houston, Texas 77001

Dr. Howard F. Gillette, Jr.
American Studies Program
George Washington University
Washington, D.C. 20006

C. Edward Gilpatric
2336 Prospect Avenue
Evanston, Illinois 60201

Andrew Wilson Green
Dept. of Business and Economics
School of Social and Behavioral
Sciences
West Chester State College
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380

C. William Hill, Jr.
511 Tennessee Street
Salem, Virginia 24153

I. D. Weeks Library
University of South Dakota
Vermillion, South Dakota 57069

Joseph L. Ingles
Dept. of Government and Politics
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20742

Marianne Jameson
Government Department
Texas Southern University
Houston, Texas 77004

Stanley Jarolem
5 Winfield Avenue
Brentwood, New York 11717

Richard Lehne
Dept. of Political Science
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

James L. McDowell
Indiana State University
Political Science Department
Terre Haute, Indiana 47809

Frank Mauro
1720 McGregor Avenue
Wichita Falls, Texas 76301

Dr. Lewis Meyer
Political Science Department
Edinboro State College
Edinboro, Pennsylvania 16412

Periodicals, Ganser Library
Millersville State College
Millersville, Pennsylvania 17551

Thomas R. Morris
Political Science Department
University of Richmond
Richmond, Virginia 23173

Frederick C. Mosher
University of Virginia
Woodrow Wilson Department of
Government and Foreign Affairs
232 Cabell Hall
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

Members Cont'd

Lester M. Salamon
Dept. of Political Science
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Dr. Sara L. Silbiger
185 West End Avenue
New York, New York 10023

Dr. H. W. Stephens
1250 Lewish Avenue
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Periodicals Dept.
Swarthmore College Library
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania 19081

Roger S. Teachout
University of Maine
Augusta, Maine 04330

James A. Thompson
c/o Dept. of Political Science
Grand Valley State College
Allendal, Michigan 49401

Dale Vinyard
Dept. of Political Science
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan 48069

Richard R. Warner
Dept. of Political Science
University of Vermont
Burlington, Vermont 05401

Raymond B. Wells
Auburn University
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

Dr. Andrew J. White
7301 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119

Dean Aaron Wildavsky
Graduate School of Public Policy
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

Frederick M. Wirt, Director
Inst. for Desegregation Problems
Tolman Hall
Department of Education
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

Library

ATTN: Acquisitions Librarian
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
2311 East Hartford Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Goetz Wolff
Dept. of Political Science
University of North Carolina
Ashville, North Carolina 28801

Harlan Wright
Dept. of Political Science
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122

Student Members

Jim R. Alexander
1717 Midwestern Parkway
Apt. 207
Wichita Falls, Texas 76302

Bro. Robert Barry
Aquinas Institute of Theology
2570 Asbury Road
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Ms. Frances K. Burke
Boston University
Dept. of Political Science
232 Bay State Road
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Thomas J. Endel
Dept. of Political Science
Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona 85281

Robert Foster
1804 Denison Dr.
Savis, California 95616

Harrison W. Fox, Jr.
8015 Keswick Rd.
Baltimore, Maryland 21211

Donald H. Haider
440 Riverside Dr., #61
New York, New York 10027

Student Members Cont'd

Robert A. Schadler
c/o Intercollegiate Studies
Institute, Inc.
14 South Bryn Mawr Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010

Don Scharfe
306 W. 93rd Street
New York, New York 10025

Cyla Trocki Videll
716 No. Cambridge Avenue
Ventnor Heights, N. J. 08406

Phyllis Ward
119 Bicknell
Columbia, Missouri 65201

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TOWARD '76

DEVELOPING AN AGENDA FOR REVITALIZING THE AMERICAN FEDERAL SYSTEM

TOWARD '76, a three-day conference was held at Temple University, April 23-25, 1972. Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Federalism in conjunction with Federalism '76, a private, nonprofit, educational organization of national scope, it set into motion a series of conferences designed to bring about a public discussion of federalism as an animating principle of the American system of government.

For the first conference, a number of eminent scholars of American politics were commissioned to prepare papers responding to the questions listed below. Six papers were presented at the conference with three more prepared subsequently. All of these will be available from the Center in the fall.

TOWARD '76 posed important questions for all who are interested in and participate in the American federal system, particularly as we contemplate the commemoration of the bicentennial of American independence.

The conference was supported in part by the College of Liberal Arts of Temple University.

Your comments, questions, and ideas on the questions posed and/or the very notion of a series of conferences as the vehicle for discussion should be submitted to the CSF NOTEBOOK editor. From these conference questions and the response they elicit, perhaps a committee-of-letters will evolve to further explore the many aspects of federalism.

(TOWARD '76 CONT'D)

CONFERENCE QUESTIONS

1. Some experts contend that federal court decisions, Congressional legislation and Executive actions have removed what used to be seen as rather clearly definable limitations on federal and state action. Have developments of this nature occurred? Has there been a change in the ground rules on which the planes (levels) of government operate? If so, what are the implications? Should we consider placing an increased emphasis upon constitutional barriers or are our present mechanisms for making policy constitutionally and/or prudentially satisfactory in order to maintain our federal system?

2. How should we view the concept of federalism given the increasing nationwide unification and standardization of other major pillars of our society that were once as noncentralized as the governmental system -- namely, the communications system, the religious structure, and the educational system.

3. How should we deal with the public/private mixture of activities that characterizes our political system? What is the proper allocation of responsibilities between public and private institutions and what should be the nature of the relationships between them? What are the things that the various elements in the public/private mix doing that they should not be; what are they not doing that they should be? In the same vein, what about the mixture of public activities involving both governmental and public nongovernmental (e.g., the United Fund agencies) bodies? What bodies are to be included in the latter category today and to what extent do we wish to rely upon them for doing the public's business?

4. How do we strike the proper balance in the allocation of resources between the public and private sectors of American society to deal with continuously rising and changing public expectations? How do we achieve an equitable distribution of resources, opportunities and responsibilities among the groupings of the United States? Are our resources and capacities commensurate to the fulfillment of public expectation?

5. In the same vein, how can we improve the delivery of public services -- by federal, state and local governments, public nongovernmental and private bodies -- to meet the expectations and needs of the citizenry in a federal system where "delivery of services" is not the only value widely cherished by the same citizenry? For example, the value of freedom, opportunities, responsibilities, privacy, efficiency and the diffusion of power, however defined, may at times conflict with the technical problems of delivery of services.

6. How do we deal with the current demands for community control in the context of a very complex society?

(TOWARD '76 CONT'D)

7. How shall we treat the ideas, definition and duties of citizenship in a federal system today? How can the citizen -- as an individual and as a member of groups -- concerned with several governments actually influence policy or at least policies that affect him?

8. What are the limits of governmental power and activity? At what point do we reach the limits of government in dealing with problems that confront us at any given time? How do we deal with those limits?

9. How effectively does our American system foster and protect the spiritual roots of democracy, such as justice, equality and freedom? Are changes needed in the American federal system to meet the demands of such groups as the young, the poor, and racial and ethnic minorities in order to attain social and economic justice as well as properly responsive government?

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

The second volume in the "Studies in Federalism" series sponsored by the Center for the Study of Federalism of Temple University has been published by Basic Books. Entitled SUPREME COURTS IN STATE POLITICS: An Investigation of the Judicial Role, it was written by Henry Robert Glick of Florida State University. The book focuses on the role of the state courts as an integral part of the state political system. Not only is the judicial process at the state level examined, but also the judges' perceptions of the judicial system and the relation of the political environment to those perceptions. This book is tantalizing because of the kinds of questions it raises based on the insight provided by the research into the states' political subcultures in the context of their narrow judicial system.

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COMPARATIVE FEDERALISM

URBANIZATION IN FEDERAL SYSTEMS

The Center for the Study of Federalism in the College of Liberal Arts has been awarded a grant from the United States Office of Education to build a graduate program that would focus on the study of federal systems and politics utilizing federal principles. Of particular importance is the study of the way in which federal principles have been used to manage urbanization.

The two-year initial grant will tie together existing people in related disciplines, identify courses and programs and complete the groundwork for a continuing program in the area of federalism and urbanization. Initially, the program will be aimed at those students earning degrees at Temple University. Eventually a center will be established to provide this type of education to students from all over the world.

ARCHIVES

The Center is bringing together its data into an Archives of Comparative Federalism. Copies of a catalog by subject heading will be available in the fall. Comments are invited on the feasibility of establishing and the mechanics of maintaining this type of archives. Also, any material, individual items or collections that are felt to be of value and worthy of preservation will be considered for addition to the Archives. Please send inquiries and descriptions of materials. Explanations and details of existing archival collections should be sent to CSF NOTEBOOK. Information on these collections will be published to facilitate the research of scholars.

INVENTORY OF FEDERAL SYSTEMS

In conjunction with research being conducted by Dr. Jaime Benitez, former President of the University of Puerto Rico, the Center is compiling an inventory of federal systems. Definitions are being formed for all the special relationships of governments that borrow, incorporate, or are solely founded on federal principles. This is the beginning of an expanding project which will study federal governments throughout the world.

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