

CFS NOTEBOOK

SUMMER, 1972

VOLUME I, NUMBER 2

FEDERALISM SYMPOSIUM

ON

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. 26, 1972 PLACE: Washington Hilton Hotel
11:45am Thoroughbred Room

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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, non-profit, 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.

PUBLIUS

THE JOURNAL OF FEDERALISM

The third issue of PUBLIUS, The Journal of Federalism, attempts to widen public discussion about the future of the American federal system with the publication of the "New Federalist" papers. These four papers, written in 1970 by members of Washington's official family, provocatively examine the concept of American federalism within the framework of the Nixon Administration's proposed and enacted programs. Though these papers received comment in the Washington Post and Time, they have never before been published. We encourage and invite all comment or rebuttal and hope that the CSF NOTEBOOK will provide the forum for this exchange. Short notes and comments should be sent to the CSF NOTEBOOK editor with long comments going to the editor of PUBLIUS.

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