

# *CHRONIQUE DE LA VIE SCIENTIFIQUE \* SCIENTIFIC CHRONICLE*

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## *THE INSTITUTE OF LEGAL SCIENCES OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES*

According to the long-range plans of development of science in Poland the Institute of Legal Sciences has in its share rather greatly extended the scope of its research works. Apart from the studies on legal consequences of technical progress (see "Droit Polonais. Contemporain," 1967, No. 7/8) the research on problems of participation of justice administration in Poland has been continued including new works on the subject. The studies are focussed on problems of the share of people's representatives, i.e., non-professional judges (people's assessors — *lawnik*) in the administration of justice. The aim of the works is on the one hand to determine the degree to which the non-professional judges are actually involved in justice organs, and to investigate on the other hand the essence of their function. Studies on social courts of justice are conducted to effect the same purpose. The works on problems of administration of justice include analysis of the procedure of pronouncing sentences by penal-administrative commissions (*kolegia*) that function by local state administration organs, that is by people's councils of different levels. Empirical methods have been employed in all the mentioned works.

The volume of the Institute works has been greatly extended by approaching the problems of economic crimes; such studies — planned to be widely treated — are not the subject of the university research works since this is of no concern of academic institutions that conduct didactic works as it surpasses their possibilities and their needs. The neglecting of such problems in studies carried on till now is followed by remarkable repercussions on the present state of knowledge in this field in Poland.

Besides the extension of the subject range of works the Institute found necessary to pay greater attention to the research of comparative nature. Studies of such a kind have been developed in the field of administrative law and administration science; moreover, there have been started comparative investigations on problems of contemporary constitutionalism including main trends in constitutional law in Western countries and of necessity in smaller range the studies on constitutions of the Third World.

And still, the Institute continues the studies on the following problems: management in national economy, development of the law of labour, legal aspect of reconstruction of the agricultural structure, legal questions in the activity of local authorities, and peaceful coexistence of states. The Department of Criminology of the Institute gives in its works particular attention to the problems of juvenile delinquency, and the effects of the process of industrialization and urbanization in view of criminality.

All the works are reflected in ever increasing number of monographs. In 1966/67 the Institute published 9 books :not to mention many articles that have appeared in periodicals of the Institute such as "Studia Prawnicze" [Legal Studies], "Problemy Rad Narodowych" [Problems of People's Councils], and "Archiwum Kryminologii" [Archives of Criminology]. The works are appreciated by practitioners employed in state administration, administration of justice, and management bodies in national economy.

The Institute of Legal Sciences has arranged a number of conferences that have been attended by representatives of academic centres in Poland and from other socialist countries; the participants have declared their interest and appreciation. A 4-days conference on development of science of administrative law was held in October 1966, and a conference on problems of legal relations in civil and family cases between socialist countries was held in November 1966 in Jabłonna near Warsaw. The discussion was on theoretical assumptions regarding unification of enactments in such questions that are now regulated by bilateral conventions; a team of legal scholars dealing with this problem in the Institute has prepared theoretical assumptions for further studies. It is still to be mentioned a conference on problems of participation of people's assessors in the administration of justice held in May 1966. Conferences are found to be an effective form of scientific activity to be continued in the future.

The Institute of Legal Sciences extensively develops scientific co-operation with foreign institutes. Apart from arranging conferences the Institute highly appreciates individual visits paid by foreign legal scholars what enables to acquaint with research works conducted in other institutes, leads to creative exchange of ideas, and helps to get in permanent and fruitful contacts.

In the period of last few months the Institute had the pleasure to receive Prof. W. A. Robson from the London School of Economics and Political Science, Prof. G. Ghezzi from the University in Urbino (Italy), and Prof. D. B. Lewin from the Institute of State and Law of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. Among the distinguished guests of the Institute there were also: Prof. A. E. Luniev from Moscow, Prof. I. Kovacs from Budapest, Prof. L. Vassilev from Sofia, Prof. R. Mankiewicz from Montreal, and Prof. A. Berenstein from Geneva. Scientific workers of the Institute have visited different foreign centres. Prof. L. Gelberg has been in London as a fellowship holder from the British Council; Prof. Z. Rybicki has paid a visit to the Institute of State and Law in Sofia; Prof. C. Berezowski has delivered a number of lectures in Paris and other institutes in France; Associate Prof. A. Bachrach has been granted a fellowship from the Vth Section of École Pratique des Hautes Etudes in Paris. It should be also mentioned an active exchange of scientific workers between Academies of Sciences of socialist countries.

The Institute of Legal Sciences has some educational achievements. The conferences on theoretical problems arranged by the Institute are attended by representatives of all scientific centres in Poland.

In 1966/67 the degree of doctor of legal science has been conferred at the Institute upon one person in the field of international law, and one person

has received the academic degree of associate professor (docent) for his dissertation from the field of space law. Some other doctoral and habilitation procedures are in the course of processing.

Finally, it should be noted that the Vth volume of *Polish Legal Bibliography* appeared in December 1966; the *Bibliography* is published in Polish-French version. The mentioned volume covers the period 1960 - 1964; it is the last issue of the *Polish Legal Bibliography* for the period of 20 years (1944- 1964); the works on current bibliography are being continued.

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