

*THE COMMITTEE OF LEGAL SCIENCES
OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
(January - October 1967)*

The Committee of Legal Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences represents legal scholarship in Poland, and by the Cracow department of the Academy there functions the Commission of Legal Sciences established in 1966 as a section of the Committee.

The Committee of Legal Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences is the Polish National Committee of the International Association of Legal Sciences and the International Academy of Comparative Law.

By the Committee of Legal Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences there are affiliated Polish sections of 4 international organizations: 1) section of administrative sciences connected with the International Institute of Administrative Sciences; 2) Polish section of the International Association of Labour Law and Social Security; 3) Polish section of the International Association of Insurance Law; 4) Polish section of the International Association of the History of Law and Institutions.

Within the period from January 1st till October 30th 1967 the activity of the Committee of Legal Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences included organization of scientific discussions, elaboration of instructions for the long-term plan and the evaluation of five-year plan of scientific research in legal sciences, cooperation with foreign scientific organizations, representation of Polish science of law on international meetings, and publishing works.

Within the period reported there were held scientific conferences of the Committee and plenary sessions devoted to the problems of planning scientific research. The conferences were attended by members of the Committee, representatives of science of law from the whole country, and outstanding practitioners; in plenary sessions participated also deans of all law faculties.

The topics of conferences are set in such a manner as to be of interest to different branches of legal sciences. For example, the subject of one conference was a paper presented by prof. Zygmunt Ziemiński (from Poznań) on the method for analysing legal relationship. Taking into account the variety of legal relations the author distinguished elementary relations and the complex ones; he pointed out that the distinction between complex relations and their constitutional elementary relations should constitute a fundamental methodological directive for analysing legal relations. The paper was extensively discussed; the emphasis was laid among others on the necessity to carry on further research in the field of the theory of law.

Professor Jerzy Wróblewski (from Łódź) presented the paper on theoretical model of law application. The author particularly stressed the principle of distinguishing between the organs that make law and the organs that apply it in democratic societies; he also emphasized that the problem of certainty and stability of law is essential for securing the rule of law in a country. The lively discussion that followed confirmed a complex nature of the problem and its importance for practical applications of law in a country.

Professor Stanisław Matysik (from Sopot) presented in his paper new problems of the transport law and suggested among others to bring closer the principles of carriers' responsibility in all kinds of transport, i.e., by sea, air, railway, and road. In the discussion, there was pointed out the importance of this question for further development of international economic relations.

On plenary sessions held within the period reported there were discussed problems concerning the planning of scientific research in legal sciences. According to the resolution of the Praesidium of the Polish Academy of Sciences as to undertake anew the works on the

perspectives of development of Polish science in 1966 - 1985, the Committee of Legal Sciences appointed in 1966 a team for works on prognosis of development of legal sciences for the said period.

Prof. Kazimierz Opalek (from Cracow) who was appointed a chairman of the team elaborated an extensive project on the subject. The project was discussed at the plenary meeting of the Committee. The main theses, and particularly positive — in principle — evaluation of the present state of legal sciences in Poland, and expected directions of their further development received acclaim of the meeting participants. The discussion concentrated mainly on the problem of place of legal sciences among other scientific disciplines, the role of methodology in development of legal sciences, influence of law on shaping social personality, and problems of the proper training of young legal scholars. The paper as well as conclusions arrived at in the discussion were sent on to the authorities of the Polish Academy of Sciences as suggestions to be used in long-term planning of research in legal sciences.

Another plenary session of the Committee was devoted to the evaluation of the plan for research in legal sciences for the period 1966-1970. The paper by prof. Franciszek Longchamps (from Wrocław), besides general remarks concerning setting of plans, analysed intentions to be covered by the mentioned plan and formulated the conditions indispensable for its successful implementation. The author as well as the participants of the session emphasized that problems included in the plan are in accordance with the instructions of the Committee of Legal Sciences of 1964. It was also agreed that the plan is to be effected and its implementation is quite possible provided that the appropriate steps of organizational nature are taken. The results of debates were reflected in the resolution of the Committee of Legal Sciences which was conveyed to the Scientific Secretary of the Polish Academy of Sciences and to the Minister of Education and Higher Schools System. Detailed reports from conferences and plenary sessions are regularly published in the monthly "Państwo i Prawo." Within the period reported the Committee of Legal Sciences arranged participation of representatives of Polish science of law in the following scientific conferences:

1) Colloquy of the International Association of Legal Sciences, devoted to general aspects of law reform in Edinburgh (September 6-9, 1967) was attended by prof. Stefan Rozmaryn, member of the International Committee of Comparative Law;

2) International colloquy on methodology of legal sciences in Belgrade (October 13-15, 1967), organized by the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, was attended by two members of the Praesidium of the Committee of Legal Sciences. Professor Kazimierz Opalek read his paper: *The Study of Law and the Integration of Social Sciences*; prof. Jerzy Wróblewski presented his work: *Methodological Problems of Contemporary Legal Theory*.

3) In preparatory works for the VIIIth International Congress of Comparative Law to be held in 1970, the Committee of Legal Sciences elaborated in detail topics of the Congress; the suggestions were sent to the organizers of the Congress, the International Academy of Comparative Law.

Polish sections of international scientific organizations affiliated by the Committee of Legal Sciences were also active in organising scientific meetings and cooperation with foreign units.

The section of administrative sciences, concentrating its works on problems of the administrative comparative law, organized a number of scientific meetings attended by foreign representatives of the science of administrative law. The lectures were delivered by dr. Heinz Schutenmeister (Berlin): *Management in National Economy of the German Democratic Republic*; dr. Ivan Biels (Novosybirsk) : *Methods of Legal Research in the U.S.S.R.*

Polish section of the International Association of Labour Law and Social Security organized a scientific meeting on which prof. Alexandre Berenstein, General Secretary of the Association read his paper on the international law of labour.

Polish section of the International Association of Insurance Law had a plenary session on which dr. Jan Łopuski read his paper: *Own Fault of a Person under Obligation as a Premise of Increased Civil Responsibility and Own Fault of an Insurant as a Premise Excluding the Responsibility of an Insurer*. Prof. Witold Warkało (from Warsaw) was again elected for a chairman of the section. Representing the section, prof. Warkało attended the meeting of the Présidial Council of the Association (Rome, May 1967) where he read two papers: *Polish Experiences as to the Insurance Compensation to Traffic Accidents Victims* and *Elemental Calamities and Insurance*. Prof. Warkało also participated in the colloquy on Life Insurance (Stockholm, September 1967) and read the paper *Social Insurance and Life Insurance*.

Polish section of the International Association of History of Law and Institutions has started their preparatory works for the XVIIIth Congress of the Jean Bodin Society to be held in 1968. Within the period reported there appeared two publications of the Committee of Legal Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences:

1) *Introduction à l'étude du droit polonais* (Warszawa 1967, Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, pp. 588), — collective work, edited by prof. Stefan Rozmaryn, presents the legal system as a whole of Polish People's Republic. The book is published in French and is meant for foreign readers dealing with problems of comparative law.

2) *Zagadnienia współczesnego prawa państwowego* [Problems of Modern Constitutional Law] (Warszawa 1967, Ossolineum pp. 163) — presents the documents of the VIIth All-Poland Scientific Session on Constitutional Law, May 1965.

The book in honour of the 100th anniversary of birth of Leon Petrażycki is in print. This *Festschrift* includes articles devoted to the scholarly production of the creator of the psychological theory of state and law; the editor of the book is prof. Kazimierz Opalek.

Wacław Goronowski

¹ Compare, *Problems of Modern Constitutional Law*, in: *Proceedings of the VIIth All-Poland Scientific Session of Chairs of the Constitutional Law, May 21 -22 1965*, Wrocław—Warszawa—Kraków 1967. (Annexed agenda of the first seven sessions of chairs). The IXth session was held in May 1967.