

In the COMMONWEALTH

Donald G. Tannenbaum, Editor

In addition to the finest research offered to us in the last year, *this issue* of COMMONWEALTH has a special feature: the Index to Volumes 1 through 5 will be found following the articles. Covering the first five years of COMMONWEALTH, it indicates the range of quality manuscripts recommended by our reviewers. Examining the 26 we published, a breakdown by subfield reflects a pattern similar to one I noted in this space two years ago, in Volume 3. To date, the largest number of articles, 12, have been in American politics, including six on *Pennsylvania government and politics*, a special interest of a number of our readers. In second place were seven articles on political theory, followed by four in comparative politics, two which examined international relations, and one in biopolitics. We would have liked to have had more publishable manuscripts sent to us on these last three subjects, but for a variety of reasons, including the number of specialized journals in these areas, we were not. We continue to welcome all of the fine manuscripts we can get, in all subfields and areas.

The Index is divided into three parts. An Author Index lists the authors and co-authors of all 26 articles in the five volumes alphabetically by last name, followed by the location of each article. The Title Index lists all articles in order of appearance, beginning with those in Volume 1. Finally, a Subfield/Area Index lists articles alphabetically by the five major categories and one special interest category (Pennsylvania Politics) noted above. I want to express my appreciation to my editorial assistant, Christopher T. Leonardo of Gettysburg College, for the special effort he made in compiling the Index.

The five articles in this issue reflect, once again, a variety of intellectually stimulating subjects. In Gordon Tolle's paper, Leo Strauss's rejection of Nietzsche is persuasively argued, and his position is effectively contrasted with scholarship emphasizing the affinity of Strauss and Nietzsche. Tolle then indicates how an awareness of Strauss's rejection helps to clarify the concept of natural right and the differences between ancient and modern thought.

The piece by Gerald De Maio and Douglas Muzzio demonstrates the contemporary relevance of the debates over representation which emerged at constitutional ratifying conventions early in American history. Such continuing relevance is shown by the authors as they link those early debates with political practices in American municipal government during three periods of recent history: at the turn of the century, in the 1960s-1980s, and in 1991.

Two articles in this issue speak to the role and influence of various media outlets in both contributing to and limiting public awareness of important issues. Kathleen McQuaid's article, a case study of the growing perception of the dangers of asbestos in the United States, points to the role of the media in defining public

policy issues for the public agenda and how media attention can wax and wane *independent* of how serious the problem actually is. A second paper on media influence, by Erika King and co-authors, is a model for investigating press activity in the latest political campaign for governor of Pennsylvania. A content analysis of major Pennsylvania newspapers indicates the kinds of issues the press deemed important and those the press chose to ignore or play down. The authors' findings are related to the role of the press in gubernatorial campaigns, and the hypotheses they formulated may prove useful for studying campaigns in other states.

Elmer Plischke's terse research piece illustrates, with copious examples and references to the literature, the many ways in which the United States has, since the earliest days of the Republic, participated in various cooperative international efforts. I would especially commend the data in the Appendix of this article to those who would study this aspect of international relations: the author has carefully and thoroughly compiled relevant information which is not readily available in any other single place, and scholars can confidently rely on the completeness of this data base.

Finally, I would alert prospective authors to a small change in *COMMONWEALTH* style, beginning with articles submitted for the next issue. The American Political Science Association's Committee on Publications has issued a *Style Manual for Political Science*, obviating the need for us to issue our own style manual, something we had done in the past. Beginning with Volume 6, we ask our authors to follow the style given in APSA's *Style Manual for Political Science*, with a few minor exceptions. These exceptions are noted on a one-page Style Sheet which is published in the back of this issue of *COMMONWEALTH*, and which is sent to all authors.