

## SUMMARY

### **Problems in the Study of International Politics.** By Risto Hyvärinen.

The paper gives an outline of the present state of the study of international politics. During the past hundred years this field has grown increasingly important to society. The modern advancement of technology has resulted in an increase of international contacts, which have in their turn given rise to a multitude of causes of conflict. The peaceful settlement of these causes of conflict alone requires a great deal of scientific information about international politics.

Scholarly interest in inter-state relations was awakened already during the 19th Century when several theories, based mainly upon the results of the natural sciences, were presented. They were, however, inadequately formulated from the viewpoint of scientific logic. The study of international politics in its modern sense did not begin until after World War II. Today it is an academic field and is very closely connected with political science, sociology, economics and so forth.

The action of the state in international politics, foreign policy, may also be called state behaviour. From this viewpoint it is possible to study the goals of states, the formulation of these goals and the selection of the means by which they are to be reached. If the goals and the means of their attainment are in harmony with each other the result is a successful foreign policy. However, the formulation of goals and selection of means are not arbitrary but based upon an estimation of the situation made by decision-makers. This estimation, again, ought always to be based upon a realistic view of the possibilities to apply the available means. There are numerous factors limiting the field of choice: the action of other states, the geographical environment, national resources, economic capacity, the level of technical education, military preparedness, population and the social norms and the social structure.

The study of international politics may be pursued from different starting points. Both historical and juridical approaches as well as the study of international co-operation have produced interesting results. The empirical study of international politics which is very close to sociology, is, however, the only approach offering a possibility to apply the scientific results reached. In many countries experts in international politics are used as aides to the decision-makers in the formulation of their foreign policy.

### **Some Aspects of the Social Background of the Members of the Finnish Diet.** By Martti Noponen.

This paper calls attention to the question of what extent the social background of the population or the electorate is reflected in the elected representative; in other words, are the members of the Diet elected equally from different social groups and strata, or are there some special small social groups in which members have better possibilities and talents or greater desire to attend the political decision-makers in their legislative organs. From the data referring to the social background of representatives elected in general elections of 1954 and 1958, the author tries to verify to what degree the Diet of today deviates from the Diet of yesterday.

The writer reaches the (expected) conclusions, that the Finnish Diet is not a cross section of the entire population, but that among Finnish electors the same tendency is noticeable as in other countries: to vote for candidates in a higher social level than the voters. About 70 % of the representatives today belong to those social classes (upper class 43.5 % and middle class 26 %) which in 1950 included only one-fourth of the economically active population; on the other hand, the percentage of peasants and manual workers (7 %) is quite the opposite. The small number of manual workers is levelled by the fact that nearly one-third of the total Diet consists of party officials or journalists from the Left. The mean age of the Diet is about 50 years; the voters in Finland have the same tendency as elsewhere to vote for persons older than themselves. The number of female representatives is about 15 %, or higher than in other western countries.

**The Finnish Constitution and Political Life in Finland.** By Kauko Sipponen.

A firm basis for political life and an elastic framework for social development are granted in Finland by her constitution. This is particularly due to the lasting qualities of the Act of Government which exists still practically unchanged — a sole example of the constitutional laws adopted by the newly established and independent states after the First World War. The social structure of the society and the Constitution are, however, under growing pressure.

The central principles of the Constitution of Finland are separation of powers and the parliamentary responsibility of the members of Government. The principles are to a great extent contradictory with one another and power balance depends upon the quality of leading personalities, the kinds of matters under consideration, etc. Adapted to use simultaneously with the wide and independent sphere of presidential power, the principles of separation of powers and parliamentary responsibility are bound to create difficult problems of interpretation.

After the Second World War pressure groups have increased their activity, especially toward their goal of gaining political power. The Finnish Constitution does not know any form of so called «political pluralism», whereby public power is only used by organs prescribed by the Constitution or by its authorities. The jurisprudence problems caused by the political powers and activities of pressure groups can be concentrated on the following two questions: is it possible to maintain the use of political powers by the pressure groups inside the boundaries of general norms, laws, and how can the responsibility of the real use of power be adjusted to the pressure groups?

This paper dealt also briefly with the question of conventional norms. Conventional norms are, of course, not juridical norms, but they can reach this level after becoming custom or through legislative actions. Conventional norms have even in Finland reached such significance, continuity and stability that it is possible to study such problems both from the viewpoints of constitutional laws and political science.

**The Control of State Activity in the Company Form.** By Ingvar S. Melin.

A conspicuous tendency in Finland as well as in many other countries is the effort of the state to give its enterprises greater freedom of action. Therefore, extensive use has been made of the corporate entity with the state as the major shareholder. Thus there are important state companies representing mining, forestry, water power, pulp and paper, and iron and steel, which have some 50 000 employees.

There are two principal forms of control of the state companies. The first is control exercised through audit of which there are three types: 1) control by company auditors, 2) control by state auditors, 3) control by state office auditors. The second principal form is in the dependence of the state companies on the Council of State, the government ministries and the Diet.

There has been criticism from the side of the Diet because of the limited possibilities of the Diet to control the state companies; the state auditors who are elected by the Diet and submit their reports to the Diet are not allowed to control the state companies directly. A subject of criticism also lies in the fact that the leading political parties represented in the Council of State are overrepresented on the boards of the state companies. And there has been a tendency to concentrate the influence of the state on the boards of direction in the hands of a small number of men.

**Some Remarks about the Right of the State Auditors to Control the Accounts in State-owned Companies.** By Håkon Holmberg.

Mr. Holmberg produces in this paper some remarks on the rights of the state auditors to control the accounts in state-owned companies. The Finnish Diet endorsed a law December 31st 1931 by which the government was given the right to transfer some state-owned industrial establishments to new-founded companies. But the auditors of the companies were appointed by the government for the term of one year. Not until 1947 was the control of the companies submitted to the State Office of Auditors. The auditors appointed by the Diet do not yet have the right to control the accounts or the investments of state-owned companies as though the Diet has extensive authority in founding new, and also in financing, already-existing state-owned companies.