

# behavioral sciences

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### Power and money

Social scientists have long been interested in the similar roles that money and power play in their respective economic and political systems.

Sociologist Talcott Parsons has pointed out, for instance, that both the value of money and the decision-making power of the Government rest ultimately on a rather restricted base: gold supply for money and coercion or force for power. In practice, however, the usefulness of money, and the ability of governments to function, are enhanced when there is general agreement to vest greater value in money and greater decision-making power in officials, without constant recourse to the gold supply or to coercion.

Dr. James S. Coleman of Johns Hopkins University examines the power-money analogy further in the December *AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW*. He finds that the power structure can be divided into three parts, each with an analogue in the economic system.

The formal power associated with a role, he says, corresponds to the productive capital, such as a factory, in the economic system. The actions or decisions taken by the role-player correspond to the products of the factory. But the only political counterpart of money, in the sense of credits that can be accumulated and later used to purchase decisions or actions in the political field, appears to be in the form of political favors or in reputation or informal power usually associated with individuals.

He suggests several ways in which a political system could develop a kind of political money to facilitate its operations in the way money speeds up economic transactions.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### Eulau elected

Dr. Heinz Eulau of Stanford University has been elected president of the American Political Science Association. He defeated Dr. Hans Morgenthau of the University of Chicago and City University of New York by a vote of 4,711 to 3,563.

Dr. Morgenthau had been nominated by the radical Caucus for a New Political Science as an opposition candidate whose prominence might give him a chance of defeating the man chosen by the association's nominating committee, Dr. Eulau (*SN*: 9/19/70, p. 245).

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### Effects of domestication

A method of determining whether bone samples come from domesticated or wild animals has been reported by three Columbia University scientists. The technique, if confirmed, could be a powerful tool for investigators of man's momentous step from a hunting to a pastoral way of life.

Prehistoric bones of sheep, goats and cattle from two archaeological sites in Turkey showed differences when analyzed by microscopes and X-rays, report Isabella Milling Drew, Dexter Perkins Jr. and Patricia Daly in the Jan. 22 *SCIENCE*.

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The analysis shows that the hydroxyapatite crystallites in the bones at one site, Erbaba, have a greater tendency to be aligned than those in the bones at the other site, Suberde. Other evidence, such as the location and relative sizes of the remains, shows that the animals eaten at Erbaba were domesticated while those at Suberde were wild, they say. The bones were dated by carbon 14 as 5,780 and 6,570 years old.

The researchers say more work must be done before they are willing to try to explain what causes the difference in bone structure.

## FOLKLORE

### Dowsing discounted

Using a divining rod to locate underground sources of water or minerals has a long history, and there are at present many practitioners of the art.

R. A. Foulkes of the Institute for Industrial Research and Standards at Dublin reports that experiments with experienced dowsers obtained results that were no better than a series of guesses. The tests involved searching for various types of buried objects and for moving water, he reports in the Jan. 15 *NATURE*.

Foulkes says he went out of his way to make the experiments reliable, choosing only those who claimed and were recognized to be good dowsers and making sure that they agreed beforehand that the experiments were fair.

One theory, says Foulkes, is that the dowser is sensitive to variations in the earth's magnetic field; a number of experiments showed that this was not so, he reports. He suggests that the extraordinary motion of the divining rod in the hands of the dowser results from the way it is held, which makes any chance motion of the tip extremely difficult to suppress.

## ECONOMICS

### Unemployment and inflation

One of the unfortunate side effects of an anti-inflation campaign is that, while cooling off the economy, it also increases unemployment. With unemployment comes a greater supply of labor, which should hold down wage increases, a major factor in inflation.

A dismaying outcome of present Government efforts is that increasing unemployment has not held down wage increases as much as had been expected. One explanation, says Dr. George L. Perry of the Brookings Institution, is that the labor force today has a greater proportion of teenagers and women than it did in 1960. These groups, he suggests, have a smaller effect on wage scales than prime-age male workers, and it is among them that unemployment is highest.

His analysis, published in the Brookings Institution's *PAPERS ON ECONOMIC ACTIVITY—3* (1970), shows that the proportion of male teenage employees rose from 4.0 percent in 1960 to 4.8 percent in 1969, and their unemployment went from 3.7 times that of men in the 25-to-64 age bracket in 1960 to 6.8 times in 1969. Female teenagers, he says, made up 3.0 percent of the labor market in 1960 and 3.8 percent in 1969. Meanwhile their unemployment rate increased from 3.0 times the 25-to-64 male rate in 1960 to 8.0 times in 1969.