Symposium on Spirit and Science

A conference on the "Role of Spirit in Science" (Colloque International Pluri-disciplinaire sur le Role de l'Esprit en Science) was held in Fez, Morocco on May 11-15. Sponsored jointly by PWPA-France and PWPA-USA, the meeting was led by Professor Jean E. Charon, president of the French academy.

The CIPRES Symposium gathered an impressive array of more than thirty specialists from various disciplines and nationalities who are interested in the relationship between mind, brain, and spirit.

Underlying the conference was the growing recognition that the split between the objective methodology of science and the subjective perceptions of the spirit may not be irreconcilable. Developments in the field of physics, notably changes in the basic concepts of space and time produced by Einstein's relativity theory, and the introduction of probability theory, associated with observations of phenomena at the microscopic level through quantum mechanics, have caused physicists to begin to doubt the "objectivity" of the world on which they focus their research.

In the words of the conference organizers, "Today, there is no logical way to proceed." continued on page 2
to escape the conclusion that the spirit 'participates' directly in the observed phenomena or that, conversely, the study of the observed phenomena tells us indirectly about the deeper 'mechanism of the spirit. The spirit is, as a whole, a subject of scientific investigation not only in the conceptual fields of philosophy or psychology, but in biology and physics as well. Science has therefore, had an impact on what we call spirituality.'

Discussion focused on themes drawn from the areas of physics, biology, psychology, and spirituality. Papers were presented on:

"The Limitations of Determinism" (Eugene P. Wigner, USA);
"Brain, Consciousness, and Reality" (Karl H. Pribram, USA);
"The Neurological Bases of Spiritual Activities" (Jose Delgado, Spain);
"The Ontological Ambivalence of Things in Oriental Philosophy" (Toshihiko Izutsu, Japan);
"The Evolution of the Brain, Intelligence and Spirit" (Franz Seidelberger, Austria);
"Science and Society: Emerging Implications of Research on Human Consciousness" (Willis Harman, USA);
"The Emergence of Spirit in Different Cosmogonies" (Henri Bonnier, France);
"The Galilean Revolution and Spirit" (Bernard Valade, France);

"Two Theories of Death: Secular Humanism versus Theism" (Paul Kurtz, USA);
"The Place of Values in a Material Universe" (Morton A. Kaplan, USA);
"The Fall and Redemption in Scriptures and Psychoanalysis with Special Reference to Paul of Tarsus" (Richard Rubenstein, USA);
"The Connectedness of the Physical World and the Metaphysical World from the Viewpoint of Physics" (Se Won Yoon, Korea); and
"The Nature of Man and his Relation to the Universe" (Bernard Benson, England).

The proceedings of this stimulating symposium are to be published. Those interested should write to M. Didier Rias 11, rue Tournefort 75005 Paris, France.

The Academy in Korea

The Professors World Peace Academy was founded in Korea on May 6, 1973, the first chapter in what has grown to a worldwide organization. According to Professor Hang Nyong Lee, president of PWPA-Korea for the past ten years and professor emeritus of Law at Hongik University, the Korean Academy was founded by professors who had attended a Korean-Japanese goodwill seminar and who felt keenly the role of intellectuals in the establishment of world peace.

The Korean Academy has four underlying goals: research for peace and absolute values; support and research for academic development; the establishment of ideal educational models, including an international, interdisciplinary, peace-oriented university; and strengthening international relationships between world scholars.

PWPA-Korea has sponsored two seminars on the science of peace, as well as many research studies. Other research on Korean values and culture, the
Introduction to PWPA

ICF Report is pleased to devote this issue to the activities of the Professors World Peace Academy (PWPA). Periodically, this organization will be highlighted in an ICF Report, in order to keep readers informed about ongoing meetings, research, and publications taking place around the globe. PWPA has chapters in over fifty nations, from Argentina to Zimbabwe.

Upcoming programs include the following:
a meeting in Manila, the Phillipines in October on “Japanese-Filipino Relations”;
an August 29–30 conference in Sydney, Australia on “The Interdisciplinary Approaches to Peace”; and
a meeting on “The Importance of Education in High Technology for the Future Development of the Nation” in Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 12–14;
a seminar in Nicosia, Cyprus in late September on “Peace and Unity in Cyprus”;
and
a seminar in Istanbul, Turkey on “Children of Turkish Immigrant Workers” in October.

Conference in Zambia

At a PWPA-sponsored meeting in Lusaka, Zambia in March several participants, including the moderator Professor Edward Njock of the University of Yaounde, Cameroon, urged African politicians to more fully utilize their intellectuals in the search for solutions to social issues and to bring about peace. The two day interdisciplinary regional seminar was devoted to the topic “The Role of Academics in African Development.” Thirty professors from Zambia, Cameroon, Kenya, Botswana, Swaziland, and South Africa attended.

Professor Njock said in his paper that the academic community in Africa had a role in the education of political leaders on such burning contemporary issues as continued on page 6

The Academy in Africa

During the past year PWPA has sponsored several regional seminars in Africa on the topic of “Peace and Development in Africa”: one in April, 1982 in Zaire with eighteen academics from four nations participating; one in July in Togo with sixteen participants from four countries; one in August in Nigeria with fourteen professors from three nations; and one in March, 1983 in Zambia with twenty-five professors from six nations. A fifth conference was held in September in Paris, France for seventeen participants from four countries in North Africa. Proceedings of each of these conferences are being published and will be available by this July.

Upcoming programs include a July 28–31 conference on “World Peace” in Senegal, a September meeting in Kenya on “Peace and Development in East Africa,” and an October 14–15 seminar in Nigeria on “Education and Moral Values in Contemporary Africa.”
east." The meeting was chaired by Dr. Marcelo Alonso, Executive Director, The Florida Institute of Technology. Topics for seminars within the context of the overall theme that were discussed included:
(a) Energy: The Relationship of Oil and Gas to World Peace;
(b) Public Order; and
(c) Demographic Shifts: The Right of an Ethnic Community to their own Culture.

Mid-Atlantic Region

Dr. Lloyd Motz, Professor Emeritus of Astronomy at Columbia University, chaired the mid-Atlantic planning group that met April 16 in New York City. The committee decided upon the theme "Conflict Resolution" as the basis for its activities over the next few months or years. Topics agreed upon for more immediate investigation were:
(a) Soviet-American relations;
(b) America's relations with Africa, especially South Africa; and
(c) Distribution of literature in Eastern Europe.

Southwest Region

On April 30 the planning group for the Southwest region met in Pasadena, California. Dr. John K. Roth, Professor of Philosophy at Claremont-McKenna College, moderated. Discussion continued on the theme "Population Shifts" which had been adopted at an earlier meeting in March. Under the overall theme four specific topics were identified for investigation:
(a) Immigration problems;
(b) The Third World: Refugees, war, and peace;
(c) The U.S.-Mexican border; and
(d) Moral and political dilemmas of immigration.

Capitol Area Region

Under the direction of Dr. Hans Martin Sass, Senior Research Scholar at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University, a planning committee met on May 7 in Washington, D.C. Although a general theme is yet to be determined, considerable interest was expressed in the topic of "Ideological and Non-nuclear Issues in Soviet-American Relations." Other topics discussed were conflicts relating to natural resources, and the issue of human rights.

Since 1981, PWPA-USA has held an annual conference in Washington, D.C. for its membership. In October, 1982 the conference topic was "The Worldwide Impact of Religion on Contemporary Politics." Papers delivered at that time are scheduled to be published soon in a book by the same title edited by Dr. Richard Rubenstein, Vice-President of PWPA-USA and Distinguished Professor of Religion, Florida State University.

"Questions and Answers about the Academy"

Since the Professors World Peace Academy is a growing organization receiving increasing notice and visibility, it seems appropriate to ask what is the background of this organization, and what does it do?

The Professors World Peace Academy (PWPA) is an association of scholars who—because they perceive the crisis of modern civilization—are willing to commit themselves to the utilization of their disciplinary competence for the purpose of the study and amelioration of the problems that beset the contemporary world.

PWPA began in 1972 as an effort on the part of Reverend Moon to promote peaceful interaction between Korea and Japan. In 1972, Reverend Moon initiated a series of friendship meetings among university professors in these two previously hostile nations. Out of these encounters emerged the idea of a broad-based association of scholars seeking to advance the cause of peace and prosperity. Chapters of PWPA were inaugurated in Korea in May, 1973 and in Japan in September, 1974. From those two nations, PWPA has now spread to more than forty countries.

Q. What is the scope of the Academy?
A. Because of its interdisciplinary approach, PWPA is able to take advantage of both the cross-fertilization resulting from experts in many fields working together and of the scholarly precision of the specialist. Hence, the approach of PWPA is not only political. Programs are sponsored in education, the natural sciences, literature and the arts, and social sciences. The scope is very broad; PWPA members are interested in nearly every field of human endeavor.

Q. What kinds of activities does PWPA engage in?
A. PWPA sponsors a wide range of study, research, and publishing activities. In the United States, those activities include study groups, seminars, task forces, and conferences on issues of relevance to the formation of public policy. The Academy seeks to provide a forum through which a diversity of positions can be presented. The major project of PWPA-USA in 1982 was the establishment of the Washington Institute for Values in Public Policy. No longer a project of PWPA, the Washington Institute has been incorporated and serves as a sister organization to PWPA-USA. In America, the Academy also sponsors an annual conference. The theme of last year's conference was "The Worldwide Impact of Religion on Contemporary Politics;" Dr. Richard Rubenstein, a vice-president of PWPA-USA is editing the proceedings. Dr. Morton Kaplan, also vice-president of the American Academy, has edited papers from the 1981 conference on "Foreign Policy Options in the 1980's."

Elsewhere, PWPA holds meetings and conferences in many nations on varying topics of interest and concern to participating scholars.
The Academy in Japan: Activities and Future Prospects

The Professors World Peace Academy was formed in September, 1974 in Japan, with one hundred and thirty-four founding members. The former president of Rikkyo University, Masatoshi Matsushita, was elected President. Through energetic activities in fourteen major cities, membership has since expanded to over two thousand academics.

Academic Activities

In 1976, a three-year research project, "Japan’s National Goals: A Decade Hence," headed by Nobuyuki Fukuda, President of the University of Tsukuba, was begun, culminating in the publication in 1980 of Japan in the Age of Internationalization. Through this effort, PWPA gained wide acceptance within the Japanese academic community. The book has been published in English and Korean, as well as Japanese. Since 1980, research projects have been commissioned on such issues as mutual security, the bias in Japanese textbooks, the mass media, and its problems, and a project entitled "Encounter between Cultures:"

Overall, the goal and focus of PWPA-Japan has been to create new academic learning, to commission public policy studies, and to lay the foundation for a new world order of civilization. Research results are presented and discussed at the annual Interdisciplinary Research Conference, which convenes the nationwide membership.

Upon completion of the "National Goals" project in 1980, the government of Japan, faced with increased tension between conservatives and progressives, commissioned the Academy to draw up a blueprint for public policy. This request paved the way for regular meetings between politicians, bureaucrats, and scholars; sessions which have since become known as the "Forum for a Vision for the 1980's." Proposals by academics associated with PWPA have been highly valued by the nation's leaders, especially in such diverse areas as trends in international communism, education, foreign policy, and the role of the mass media.

Social Contributions

In May, 1976, the "Forum on a New Civilization" was established, with the cooperation of the Mitsubishi Corporation and several other large companies, for the purpose of providing social education to leaders within the Japanese business circle. Business people from eight hundred companies regularly participate, and over one hundred firms financially support the forum.

Publications

The Academy publishes a quarterly magazine, Chishiki, an opinion leader in Japan. Among the thirty books published since PWPA was formed in 1974 are Masatoshi Matsushita's A Cry in the Wilderness, Nobuyuki Fukuda's Universities in the Age of Internationalization, Japan at the Turning Point (the National Goals project), and several of the proceedings of the International Conference on World Peace, including Strategy for Peace (the 5th ICWP), The Pacific Era (the 8th ICWP), and Emerging Asia (the 11th ICWP). Three books by Dr. Shinsho Morimoto on the bias in Japanese textbooks have become best sellers in Japan and have significantly influenced Japanese education and public opinion. PWPA-Japan also puts out a journal in English entitled The Academyian.

Future Plans

In the future the direction of PWPA-Japan will be oriented towards education through seminars and conferences, publications, and a think-tank style approach to influencing public policy. Specifically, this includes enhancing its influence through improvement of the "Forum on a Vision for the 1980's" and through its publishing program. With its "Forum on a New Civilization" the Academy hopes to increase the dialog between academics and businessmen. By cooperating with other chapters of PWPA throughout the world to develop a strategy toward communism, PWPA-Japan will continue to strengthen its international ties. Finally, the Academy in Japan will continue to promote studies in search of various strategies for peace and development of an ideology of peace through multidisciplinary efforts.
FORUM

The Editor has received with thanks inquiries and words of encouragement from the following readers:

—Asit Kumar Bhattacharyya, Centre for Rural Studies, India
—M.R. Bhidey, University of Poona, India
—Victor A. Kovda, Academy of Sciences of the USSR
—John Hinchcliff, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia
—Bill Bultman, Western Washington University, USA
—Juan Antonio Gomez, University of Bogota, Columbia
—Carlos Sole Vernin, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

Comments and criticism are also welcome.

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ZAMBIA
continued from page 3

disarmament, detente, human rights, and the utilization of scientific and technological discoveries. Citing the present crisis of the Organization for African Unity as an example, Njock declared that he had reservations about politicians alone trying to solve the world's problems. To Africa's academics he issued the warning not to isolate themselves from their communities. According to Njock, "African academics should not bury themselves within the university walls with no interaction with their fellow countrymen... They should look into our societies for ways to create the future society."