

EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of *Philosophica* is devoted entirely to discussions of the manifold relationships between law and morality on the one hand, and law and politics on the other. Given the ambiguities of our concepts of law it would be presumptuous to claim that the various papers collected between the covers of this issue of the journal amount to anything that might be called an exhaustive overview. Far from presenting the outline of a unified approach, or different applications of such an approach, the present collection exhibits some of the bewildering variety of problems and perspectives that have been discovered and developed when men, working within different philosophical traditions, ranging from natural law to utilitarianism, and within different scientific disciplines, ranging from logic to cultural anthropology, have turned their attention to the phenomenon of law.

Nevertheless, two great themes, two basic perspectives may be recognized. On the one hand, law presents itself as a problem for practical reason, i.e. as a problem for acting man, citizen or legislator. On the other, it presents itself as an approach to the explanation of social coordination, arising out of the attempts of every person to coordinate *his* actions with those of all others, or out of the attempt of some to coordinate the actions of all the rest. Thinking about what *ought* to be done, given the existence of other persons, is the underlying theme of the papers assembled as Part I. Explaining how solutions to problems of social coordination arise and work is the theme common to the papers in Part II.

F. v. D.