

S U M M A R I E S

M. COLASANTO, *Socialization to work and education*

The article deals with the problem of education-employment relation from a quality point of view; it is the knowledge that schools can and must give to attain vocational aims. The author, who adopts the perspective of educational agencies pluralism, first explains some theoretical problems and their relevance to the Italian situation and then the possibilities of determining the educational contents, with regards both to pedagogical needs and to the production system.

E.M. TACCHI, *Sociological aspects of organizing changes in national employment*

The current changes in Italian public administration concern both the specific content of single duties and the hierarchical coordination.

This paper compares the cultural and technical changes in bureaucracies with those in private enterprise.

Better training for public servants could lead in the future to a wider decentralization of responsibility.

G. ROSSI, *Introduction to the sociological analysis of voluntary work*

Since the end of the war organized voluntary work has increased both in Italy and in Europe. The article examines research carried out in Italy and in Europe in 1979, and demonstrates the deep changes in voluntary work during the 70s, a typology of voluntary work groups, and the uneasy relationship between voluntary work and the State.

S.R. NOVELLI, *Elections, stability and the political system in Italy*

Current models of electoral behaviour in Italy stress either the high stability or the polarizing trends in electoral returns.

Both models are somewhat inadequate. The analysis of the nine parliamentary rounds 1946-1979 shows that electoral volatility has not been constantly low, but that it has sharply decreased during the Fifties.

The 1976 exception seems not to be a change in the trend, but it is likely to be an accident due to the sudden extension of the right to vote to 18-20 year old people. On the contrary, polarization is growing at an ever-increasing rate. Since electoral fluidity seems to range between 15 and 25%, and volatility is near 1%, elections are not likely to satisfy demand of change actually coming from the voters. Therefore, disaffection in elections and in traditional forms of political representation may ensue.

C.G. ROSSETTI, *Violence and the crisis of rational legal legitimacy*

The author outlines some of the interpretations of terrorism that Italian sociologists have recently put forward.

He discusses the theses which point to privation, corporate segmentation, the lack of principled opposition in Parliament, and "political culture" as explanations of the rise and extension of terrorism. He criticizes them on the grounds that they do not fit the facts and ignore or underestimate the significance of the crisis 1) of rational-legal legitimacy, 2) of the moral ideal of the taming of power through the depersonalization of its exercise, 3) of the notion of *Ratio* (Reason) as a procedure making public decisions emerge from open-ended rational debate.



G. ROVATI, *Power elites and neo corporativism in the welfare State*

This article deals with the conditions of power élites in post-capitalistic societies, in which there is a large control of economic and political matters by the State. This leads to conditions which strengthen the influence of political élites.

However, in the seventies it became more and more evident that there is a crisis in the system owing to economic (stagflation) and political causes (crisis of representation of the mass parties), whose consequence is a neo-corporative organisation of a decision-making process. In this condition, political élites are playing a role more of mediation than of direction. The change in the structure and in the functions of these élites is explained in a typology which compares the condition of a liberal system, reformist system, and post-capitalistic welfare.