vice (Wisconsin since 1901, Congress since 1916). These agencies not only help with the drafting of laws, they also make it possible for members of the assembly to get information independent of the bureaucracy or the pressure groups. Most likely other parliaments will be obliged to develop similar institutions. In this connection we should also mention the function of the Royal Commissions in England.

By and by the executive, too, will begin to make more extensive use of scientific expert advisors. Even in the Federal Republic that has lagged behind in this as in other areas, a council of experts dealing with problems of comprehensive economic development was founded in 1963, and it is now submitting its evaluation for 1964/65. In America, Roosevelt's and Kennedy's brain trusts have played important roles; it seems to be but a question of time until such an auxiliary will be institutionalized. In the House of Lords we observe the incipient formation of a "council of technological scientific and cultural intelligence". The establishment of an office of Ombudsman above described which could be entrusted by the legislature with tasks of impartial investigation is now being proposed in Germany.

We know that parties and pressure groups are beginning to establish and to make use of scientific research centers and institutes. All this, too, is in its initial stage. There remains the problem here as elsewhere that objective science will not be used to seek rational and functional solutions, but it will be abused to retroactively justify policies already decided upon with respect to aims and means of enforcement. Nevertheless, the activity of the Fabian Society after, and more markedly before 1945, in preparing a rational program for the Labor Government, may serve as an encouraging example of how politics and science can collaborate. Most urgently needed are truly independent advisory commissions that are oriented towards the future. It does not seem to be an accident that Waldemar von Knoeringen, ohne of the present-day leaders of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, has recently declared: "Our Federal Republic is not attuned to the future." He simultaneously suggested the establishment of a Standing Commission for the Observation of Social Development. In this commission about seven scholars are to collaborate with five business men, politicians etc. This commission would be particularly concerned with matters demanding political decisions that could serve the strengthening of democracy. It is to represent a "form of conscience" and to make itself felt through moral pressure. Not only is it to have at its disposal a well equipped scientific secretariat, it will also be in a position to tap the resources of existing scientific institutes. I consider it only a question of time before other countries will create such or similar agencies.