

**THE DEVELOPMENT
OF BRITISH POLITICAL THOUGHT
1500-1700**

April 13-14, 1979

Folger Shakespeare Library

A symposium sponsored by the Folger Institute of Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies, with the aid of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

The history of any nation's political thought is the history of how people in that nation perceived their political society—its values, structure, and history, and the political events occurring within it—and interpreted it to themselves. From time to time political thought becomes political theory and philosophy: systems of ideas are elaborated which seem to outline the immediate considerations which give rise to them. During the heroic age of the formation of its constitutional and religious society, England and the later kingdom of Great Britain gave rise to political thought, theory, and philosophy of enduring importance in human history.

In this symposium, nine speakers will discuss aspects of the development of British political thought between 1500 and 1700. Among the topics to be considered will be the richness of its intellectual variety and the writers and thinkers, famous and obscure, who conducted its growth.

Friday, April 13

9:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION:** Folger Theatre Lobby
9:30 a.m. **HUMANISM, RELIGION, AND LAW IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND 1500-1600**

Chairman: Lois G. Schwwoerer
George Washington University

Quentin Skinner

Institute for Advanced Study
The Social Philosophy of English Humanism

Louis A. Knafla

University of Calgary
The Politics of Common Law: The Ancient Constitution Revisited

Arthur H. Williamson
New York University
Scotland, Antichrist, and the Invention of Great Britain

12:00 p.m. **BUFFET LUNCHEON:** Folger Exhibition Gallery

2:00 p.m. **THE CRISIS OF THE CONSTITUTION 1600-1660**

Chairman: Gerald M. Straka,
University of Delaware

J.H. Hexter

Washington University
*The Look of Things Circa 1611:
A Political Soliloquy*

Michael J. Mendle

Brooklyn College, CUNY
*In Its "Prime Estate"? John Lilburne
and the Long Parliament Before the
Civil War*

Barbara Taft

Bryn Mawr College
*The Seventeenth-Century
Commonwealthsmen*

4:30 p.m. **RECEPTION:** Folger Exhibition Gallery

Saturday, April 14

9:30 a.m. **POST-RESTORATION POLITICAL CULTURE 1660-1700**

Chairman: Gordon S. Schochet,
Rutgers University

Steven N. Zwicker

Washington University
*Language as Disguise: Politics and
Poetry in the Later Seventeenth Century*

Margaret C. Jacob

Baruch College, CUNY
*The Anglican Origins of Modern
Science: The Metaphysical Foundations
of the Whig Constitution*

(co-author James R. Jacob, John
Jay College, CUNY)

J.G.A. Pocock

Johns Hopkins University
*Whiggism: A Problem in Historical
Reassessment*

LUNCH BREAK

2:00 p.m. **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION** (limited registration)

The Founder's Room, Folger Shakespeare Library
Moderator: J.G.A. Pocock

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The registration fee for the symposium is \$15.00 if paid in advance, \$17.50 if paid at the door. The fee includes the three lecture sessions, Friday's buffet luncheon, and the reception early Friday evening. Because of space limitations, places at the symposium cannot be guaranteed without advance registration.

Enrollment in the roundtable discussion on Saturday afternoon will be limited to thirty persons. Please indicate below if you would like to attend.

Interested participants should return this card, accompanied by a check in the amount of \$15.00 made payable to the Folger Shakespeare Library, to:

Folger Institute Conference
Folger Shakespeare Library
201 East Capitol Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Registration for the symposium will be confirmed by a card of admission. Confirmation of a place in the roundtable discussion will be indicated on this card. Pre-registered participants need not register on Friday.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Affiliation _____

Faculty Student Other

_____ I would like to attend the roundtable discussion.

The following hotels are located near the Folger:

Hyatt Regency
200 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.
(202) 737-1234

Quality Inn-Capitol Hill
415 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.
(202) 638-1616

Skyline Inn
South Capitol and I Streets
(202) 488-7500

This symposium, designed by J.G.A. Pocock of Johns Hopkins University, is one of a series of gatherings sponsored by the Folger Institute to promote advanced scholarship and instruction in Renaissance and eighteenth-century political history. Founded in 1970 as a joint enterprise of the Folger Shakespeare Library and three Washington-area universities, the Folger Institute now enjoys the participation of thirteen Mid-Atlantic universities.

Chairman of the Folger Institute is John F. Andrews, Director of Academic Programs at the Folger. Program Coordinator is Susan Z. Nascimento. The other members of the Institute's Central Executive Committee and the universities they represent are:

- American University
Pierre Han, Literature
- Catholic University of America
Ellen S. Ginsberg, French
University of Delaware
Jay L. Halio, English
- Georgetown University
Jason Rosenblatt, English
- George Washington University
John Reising, English
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- University of Maryland
Stirley Strum Kenny, English
- University of North Carolina
Alan C. Desson, English
- North Carolina State University
Larry S. Champion, English
- Pennsylvania State University
Joseph G. Price, English
- Princeton University
Earl Miner, English
- University of Virginia
Mary B. McKinley, French
- West Virginia University
Mortimer Levine, History

Requests for further information about the symposium should be directed to the Symposium Coordinator, Susan Z. Nascimento. Phone (202) 546-8877.

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