

## COMMENTS

Following a brief review of the foregoing three papers, Professor Bellan made the following comments:

It is of the profoundest significance to me that the words city and civilization derive from the same root and express the idea of orderly relationship. The Greek word for city, "polis", expresses the same idea; as a matter of fact our word, police, meaning people who enforce the law, was originally used only in the sense of orderly arrangement. The orderly arrangements referred to are those governing the relationships of a large number of people living in closest proximity, mutually independent, mutually interacting.

That a large number of people should live in close proximity reflected the advantage of concentration, the gain that could be achieved by close integration and co-ordination of human efforts. Agriculture did not require such concentration; it required in fact dispersal. The city, by massing human capacity, was able to achieve production and generate benefits in a quantity and variety that was totally beyond the reach of dispersed agricultural society.

The role of the city and the size it might attain altered through time as the result of technological advances which broadened the area from which the city could obtain food and materials and to which to could furnish its products, and enlarged the range of services it could perform. Cities were both alike and unlike. They were alike in that all had broadly similar features: all had their complements of residential buildings, commercial, industrial and administrative structures, and streets. They were alike in that they had to furnish the same services to their inhabitants: water supply, sewage disposal, and protection of life and property. They were unlike in that in each the buildings and layouts were the products of unique imaginations, and were affected by the vagaries of natural environment and the vicissitudes of historical development.

Improvements in transportation and communication tended to have a homogenizing effect. The superior techniques, the attractive styles