

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIAL STATISTICS SECTION

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 21, 1968

The meeting was open by John D. Durand, Chairman, at 5:30 p.m. The Chairman announced that, as a result of the recent elections, the full listing of officers for 1969 was:

Chairman	Henry S. Shryock
Chairman-Elect	Daniel O. Price
Vice-Chairman	Eleanor B. Sheldon
Vice-Chairman	Eva Mueller
Secretary	Regina Loewenstein
Publications Liaison Officer	Denis F. Johnston
Section Representative on the Board of Directors	Margaret E. Martin
Section Representative on the Council	Leslie Kish
Editor of <u>Proceedings</u>	Edwin D. Goldfield

Members were encouraged to submit papers of substantive interest for publication in the Journal. The Journal embraces statistical applications as well as theory and method, but the Editor receives few papers on applications, according to a report to the meeting by Margaret Martin.

The encouragement of such papers should be a major task of the Publications Liaison Officer. It was suggested that he might scrutinize the Proceedings for potential Journal articles, and raise the question of eliciting papers on applications which might qualify for publication in the Journal with the Section program chairman and the session chairmen when sessions for the annual meetings are being planned. A motion was duly made, seconded, and adopted, making the term of the Publications Liaison Officer two years.

The Chairman invited comment on the social statistics sessions in the 1968 meetings. Greater attention to crime statistics was urged. The presence of one session on this topic in the 1968 program was noted with approval, and the need for more was asserted.

The question was raised, whether the "data

bank" issue was a live issue, and if so, whether the Section should propose a watchdog committee to keep posted on it. It was pointed out in response, that any Federal data bank would require legislation. If there should be any draft legislation by the time of the next meeting, a session might be scheduled to discuss it.

It was suggested that in five to ten years the problems of cities would require a great evolution in the number of variety of social statistics, and that there would be a need to develop Social Indicators as an aid to policy formation in this sphere. The Chairman suggested that the program committee might consider the possibility of a session on this subject being held at the next annual meeting.

Proposed legislation limiting the scope and the compulsory character of the Census was noted with concern. Although no action is expected in this session of Congress on the 43 bills in the House and one in the Senate, reintroduction of the bills and more hearings are expected in the next session. Representative to the Board of Directors was asked to express the concern of the Section to the joint meeting of the Board and Council. The American Statistician has carried stories describing this situation. It was reported that the American Public Health Association sent its members a notification of the problem. A suggestion was made that the Association send a letter to the members on this problem. It was also suggested that any statement by the Association, including any letter to the members, should be limited to a description of the situation.

The Chairman noted that the time of this meeting was selected pursuant to the entreaty of the Section at its December 1967 meeting, that the time should be later than breakfast. A motion was duly made, seconded, and adopted, that the next meeting should convene at the same time as this meeting.

Because the Secretary was unable to attend, these minutes were taken by Robert Parke, Jr.

1968 Officers of the Social Statistics Section

Chairman	John D. Durand
Chairman-Elect	Henry S. Shryock
Vice-Chairman	Elijah L. White
Vice-Chairman	Eleanor B. Sheldon
Secretary	Regina Loewenstein
Representative on Board of Directors	Margaret E. Martin
Council Representative	Leslie Kish
Editor of <u>Proceedings</u>	Edwin D. Goldfield