MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIAL STATISTICS SECTION

Montreal, Canada, August 15, 1972

The meeting was opened by Eva Mueller, the Chairman, at 5:30 p.m. As a result of the recent election, the list of officers for 1973 is:

Chairman Theodore D. Woolsey Chairman-Elect Charles B. Nam Vice-Chairman Daniel G. Horvitz Denis F. Johnston Vice-Chairman Secretary Regina Loewenstein Section Representative on the Board of Directors Evelyn Kitagawa Section Representative on the Council Eli S. Marks Publications Liaison Officer. Monroe Lerner

Edwin D. Goldfield was reappointed Editor of the Proceedings.

Suggested topics for the Annual Meeting in 1973 included: welfare reform and income maintenance, costs and effectiveness of social statistics, social indicators, value of indices of cost-of-living and of unemployment, objective methods of evaluating budgets, income distribution, political polls, heredity and intelligence (Jensen report), surveys of victims of crimes, implications of undercount in 1970 Census, improvements of survey methodology, and joint meeting with Caucus for Women in Statistics about data needed to study problem of equal opportunity.

The Social Statistics Section has been asked to recommend persons to chair and serve on the Committee on Social Indicators of the American Statistical Association. Ten persons were suggested by persons attending the meeting. The work of the Committee will first emphasize conceptualization, then techniques to develop indicators, and last evaluation of proposed social indicators.

The informal sessions in the Annual Meeting that were tried for the first time this year were very poorly attended. Publicity in The American Statistician and improvement of mechanics were suggested for future years.

The contributed papers sessions have had decreased attendance and little discussion of papers. Suggestions for improvement were:

- (1) More sessions with fewer papers to allow time for discussions of each paper. But attendance at each session would decrease.
- (2) Enforce a regulation of ten minutes of presentation and five minutes of discussion of each paper.
- (3) Speakers to be asked to prepare a lengthy paper for publication and a brief paper for presentation that will stimulate discussion.
- (4) Revise existing instructions sent to speakers. For example, stress that not more than four or five mathematical expressions should be given in any one presentation.

1972 Officers of the Social Statistics Section

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