Meetings and Societies

Population

The 1956 annual meeting of the Population Association of America, held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, on 19–20 May, brought together some 160 specialists, students, and others concerned with various aspects of the study of population. Members and guests came from universities and foundations, government agencies, private industry, and from various health and insurance programs. Students from Japan, India, Egypt, and other foreign countries also attended the meeting.

Trends in population growth in various parts of the world were emphasized, as well as the gaps in information regarding population totals for vast areas of the world. T. Lynn Smith reported that 20 Latin American countries, taken together, have the most rapid rate of population increase among any of the major areas of the world. Between 1900 and 1956, Latin American population rose from about 43 million to about 172 million. Waller Wynne, Jr., stated that knowledge of the demographic status of Mainland China is not very great. A 1953 census gave a total of 583 million persons, some 120 million more than the estimates of observers outside Communist China. W. Parker Mauldin and Paul F. Myers pointed to evidence that officials of the U.S.S.R. are using a figure of 200 million as their 1955 population, but that the same figure was utilized for several other years dating back to 1940. The same authors reported that for the Soviet satellites in Europe available evidence points to a population total today about equal to or slightly below that of 1938.

Projecting population trends in India for 30 years under various assumptions, Ansley J. Coale and E. M. Hoover concluded that the total will be about 590 million in 1986 if fertility declines 50 percent during the next quarter century and about 775 million if present fertility remains unchanged. These authors concluded that, in terms of the national economic product of India, the numerous disadvantages of the more rapid rate of growth would probably result in a substantially smaller total national product for the 775 million than for the 590 million.

To increase our knowledge and understanding of the fertility patterns in the United States, a nationwide study is underway. Ronald Freedman and P. K. Whelpton gave a preliminary report on the growth of American families with emphasis upon fecundity-sterility and family-limitation practices. A preliminary report on the findings indicates a high incidence of fecundity impairment. A large proportion of those who use a family-limitation method do not begin to do so until after one or more pregnancies have been experienced. By the later childbearing ages, almost all couples either have a fecundity impairment or use a family-limitation method. These data are being analyzed by age, religion, education, and annual income.

An experiment in population control in Puerto Rico, reported on by Kurt W. Back, Reuben Hill, and J. Mayone Stycos, was an attempt to test and improve a theoretical model in family planning and to introduce experimental methods into field studies of population.

The use of stages of the life cycle as a substitute for age in the study of consumer behavior was discussed by John B. Lansing. Data were presented to show that this classification is more revealing than one according to age for such important economic variables as home ownership, debt, income, and major purchases. Problems of attracting and retaining skilled personnel in the Air Force during a period of high economic activity and limited mobilization were discussed by C. A. McMahon and J. W. Combs, Jr. A paper on population growth, capital-output ratios, and economic development was given by Harvey Leibenstein.

Following the 1950 census, there was an intensive reenumerative check of a sample of the households as part of the evaluative studies conducted by the Census Bureau's technical staff. Morris H. Hansen and Leon Pritzker reported on results and implications of this first Post-Enumeration Survey. There was a net undercount of about 1½ percent in the 1950 Census enumeration. In measuring characteristics, gross differences between the Census and the Post-Enumeration Survey are fairly large, but net differences tend to be small. Plans for the next Population Census of the United States, scheduled for April 1960, were discussed by Conrad Taeuber. Steps under consideration include limiting complete coverage to a smaller number of items than in 1950, and making more extensive use of sampling for other items. Securing information on occupation and industry from a sample of the population commends itself as a means of effecting economies, but consequent loss of some detail in the tabulations may be too great a price.

Other questions are being considered: Is there a feasible alternative to the present rural-urban categories? Should there be changes in definition of urbanized areas and unincorporated places? What changes, if any, should be made in the approach to fertility, family, and marital-status tabulations? What information comparing place of work and place of residence would be most useful? Can less attention be given to the foreign born in view of their declining numbers?

A paper on Standard Metropolitan Areas was presented by the association's president, Henry S. Shryock, Jr., who discussed the evolution, nature, and adequacy of this concept. In general, the Standard Metropolitan Area is a county or a group of counties which contains at least one city with more than 50,000 inhabitants and is a socially and economically integrated unit. Standard Metropolitan Areas have been defined since 1947 by a Federal interagency committee and are widely used for many statistical purposes. While the general criteria for determining these areas should be nationally comparable, there are frequently strong arguments from local interests for a decision that will recognize the "uniqueness" of the situation in a particular area.

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Meeting Notes

■ A joint committee of members of the Society of Technical Writers and the Association of Technical Writers and Editors has been working on plans for a merger of the two societies into a single, nonprofit, professional organization. The initial plans call for a joint national convention of STW and TWE to be held on 15–16 Nov. at the Hotel Statler in New York. A new constitution will be presented to the joint membership for ratification and adoption after the national convention.

The merger of STW and TWE will result in an organization of over 1000 members with representatives in nearly every state in the United States and in Canada and with chapters in 20 cities

across the two nations. The goal of the combined group will be to aid in advancing the profession by such means as exchanging ideas, establishing standards, and encouraging the training of technical writers and editors.

■ The second Cryogenic Engineering Conference, devoted to engineering problems in the temperature range below 150°K (−190°F), will be held 5–7 Sept., in Boulder, Colo. Technical papers and discussions will cover bubble chambers, instrumentation, properties of materials, insulation, and low-temperature equipment and processes. For information and reservations write to the secretary of the conference committee, P. L. Barrick of the NBS Cryogenic Engineering Laboratory, Boulder, Colo.

■ The first International Cancer Cytology Congress will be held at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, Ill., 8–13 Oct. The congress will be sponsored by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, the College of American Pathologists, the Intersociety Cytology Council, and the International Union Against Cancer. The first three organizations comprise a combined membership of approximately 3000 scientists. A number of guests from Europe, South America, and Latin American countries are expected to attend as representatives of the International Union Against Cancer. The general theme of the meeting will be exfoliative cytology, although the program will not be devoted exclusively to that subject.

During the congress three of the sponsoring organizations will hold their annual meetings: the College of American Pathologists, the evening of 8 Oct.; the Intersociety Cytology Council, the evening of 10 Oct.; and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, the evening of 11 Oct. A joint banquet of all organizations will be held on the evening of 9 Oct.

■ The next Cytological Congress will be held at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, from 28 Aug. to 3 Sept. 1957. Admission will generally be restricted to members of the Society for Cell Biology and their guests. Others wishing to attend should communicate with the secretary of the congress, Prof. H. G. Callan, Department of Natural History, the University, St. Andrews, Scotland. The congress will consist, in part, of a number of symposia and, in part, of sessions at which papers on diverse topics may be read.

Society Elections

■ American Society for Testing Materials: pres., R. A. Schatzel, Rome Cable Corporation; sec., R. J. Painter, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. The vice presidents are R. T. Kropf, Belding Heminway Company, and K. B. Woods, Purdue University.

■ Southern Association of Science and Industry: pres., Frank J. Soday, Chemstrand Corporation; sec., George D. Palmer, University of Alabama; treas., Clayton D. McLendon, C. and S. National Bank. The vice presidents are Edwin Cox, Virginia-Carolina Chemical Corporation, and Les M. Taylor, Mississippi Power and Light. Representative to the AAAS Council is H. M. Conway.

■ Gamma Sigma Delta: pres., Louis M. Thompson, Iowa State College; v. pres., Roy L. Lovvorn, North Carolina State College, Raleigh; sec., John A. Johnson, Kansas State College, Manhattan; treas., Homer J. L'Hote, University of Missouri.

Forthcoming Events

August

26–30. American Inst. of Biological Sciences, Storrs, Conn. (H. T. Cox, 2000 P St., NW, Washington 6.)

The following 23 meetings are being held in conjunction with the AIBS meeting at Storrs, Conn.

26–30. American Bryological Soc. (L. J. Gier, Dept. of Biology, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.)

26–30. American Fern Soc., annual. (Mildred E. Faust, 501 University Pl., Syracuse 10, N.Y.)

26–30. American Microscopical Soc. (R. W. Pennak, Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder.)

26–30. American Soc. for Horticultural Science, annual. (F. S. Howlett, Ohio Agricultural Experimental Station, Wooster, Ohio.)

26–30. American Soc. of Human Genetics. (E. J. Gardner, Dept. of Zoology, Utah State Agricultural College, Logan.)

26–30. American Soc. of Limnology and Oceanography, annual. (B. H. Ketchum, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Mass.)

26–30. American Soc. of Parasitologists, annual. (A. C. Walton, Knox College, Galesburg, Ill.)

26–30. American Soc. of Plant Physiologists, annual. (A. W. Galston, Dept. of Botany, Yale Univ., New Haven, Conn.)

26–30. American Soc. of Plant Taxonomists, annual. (R. C. Rollins, Gray Herbarium, Harvard Univ., 22 Divinity Ave., Cambridge 38, Mass.)

26–30. Biometric Soc., ENAR. (A. M. Dutton, Univ. of Rochester, Box 287, Station 3, Rochester 20, N.Y.)

26–30. Botanical Soc. of America, an-

nual. (H. C. Bold, Vanderbilt Univ., Nashville, Tenn.)

26–30. Ecological Soc. of America, annual. (J. F. Reed, Dept. of Botany, Univ. of Wyoming, Laramie.)

26–30. Mycological Soc. of America, annual. (C. J. Alexopoulos, Dept. of Botany, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing.)

26–30. National Assoc. of Biology Teachers. (P. V. Webster, Bryan City Schools, Bryan, Ohio.)

26–30. Nature Conservancy. (G. B. Fell, 4200 22 St., NE, Washington 18.)

26–30. Phycological Soc. of America, annual. (P. C. Silva, Dept. of Botany, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana.)

26–30. Soc. of General Physiologists. (A. M. Shanes, National Inst. of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, Bethesda 14, Md.)

26–30. Soc. for Industrial Microbiology, annual. (C. P. Porter, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Purdue Univ., West Lafayette, Ind.)

26–30. Soc. of Protozoologists, annual. (N. D. Levine, College of Veterinary Medicine, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana.)

26–30. Soc. of Systematic Zoology. (R. E. Blackwelder, 3728 Second St. South, Arlington 4, Va.)

27–29. American Soc. of Zoologists, 53rd annual. (R. T. Kempton, Marineland Research Laboratory, Marineland, Fla.)

27–29. Genetics Soc. of America, annual. (H. B. Newcombe, Atomic Energy of Canada, Ltd., Chalk River, Ont.)

27–31. American Soc. of Naturalists, annual. (B. Wallace, Biological Lab., Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N.Y.)

26–1. International Soc. of Haematology, 6th cong., Boston, Mass. (ISH, New England Medical Center, Harrison Ave. at Bennet St., Boston 11.)

27–31. Biological Photographic Assoc., 26th annual, Rochester, N.Y. (BPA, c/o 343 State St., Rochester 4.)

27–31. Electro-Magnetic Phenomena in Cosmical Physics, symp., International Astronomical Union, Stockholm, Sweden. (P. Th. Oosterhoff, University Observatory, Leiden, Netherlands.)

27–31. Infrared Spectroscopy Inst., 7th annual, Nashville, Tenn. (N. Fuson, Dept. of Physics, Fisk Univ., Nashville 8.)

28–2. Colloquium on Semiconductors and Phosphors, IUPAP, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. (H. Maier-Leibnitz, Walter-von-Dyck-Platz 1, Munich 2, Germany.)

29–2. International Soc. for Blood Transfusion, 6th cong., Boston, Mass. (J. Julliard, 57 Boulevard L'Auteuil, Boulogne-sûr-Seine, France.)

29–5. British Assoc. for the Advancement of Science, annual, Sheffield, England. (Secretary, BAAS, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1., England.)

29–8. International Soc. of Soil Science, 6th cong., Paris. (F. A. Van Baren, ISSS, Royal Tropical Inst., Mauritskade 63, Amsterdam, Netherlands.)

30–5. American Psychological Assoc., Chicago, Ill. (F. H. Sanford, 1333 16 St., NW, Washington 6.)

30–5. Psychometric Soc., Chicago, Ill. (L. V. Jones, Dept. of Psychology, Univ. of Chicago, Chicago 37.)

September

1–9. International Cong. of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, 5th, Philadelphia, Pa. (Secretary, American Organizing Committee, International Cong. of Anthropology, National Acad. of Sciences–National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington 25.)

2–7. Laurentian Hormone Conf., AAAS, Mont Tremblant, Quebec, Canada. (Committee on Arrangements, LHC, 222 Maple Ave., Shrewsbury, Mass.)

3–7. Colloquium on Statistical Mechanics of Transport Processes, IUPAP, Brussels, Belgium. (I. Prigogine, 40 Avenue F. D. Roosevelt, Brussels.)

3–10. History of Science, 8th intern. cong., and International Union for the History of Science, 4th general assembly, Florence and Milan, Italy. (Vasco Ronchi, Instituto Nazionale di Ottica, via San Leonardo 79, Florence, Italy.)

4–5. Meteoritical Soc., 19th meeting, Bloomington, Ind. (C. W. Beck, Dept. of Geology, Indiana Univ., Bloomington.)

4–6. International Assoc. of Milk and Food Sanitarians, annual, Seattle, Wash. (H. L. Thomasson, IAMFS, Box 437, Shelbyville, Ind.)

4–7. American Physiological Soc., Rochester, N.Y. (M. O. Lee, APS, 9650 Wisconsin Ave., Washington 14.)

4–9. American Ornithologists' Union, annual, Denver, Colo. (H. F. Mayfield, 2557 Portsmouth Ave., Toledo 13, Ohio.)

4–11. International Geological Cong., 20th, Mexico, D.F. (Congreso Geológico Internacional, Calle Balderas 36, Despacho 302-A, Mexico, D.F.)

4–11. International Paleontological Union, Mexico, D.F. (H. E. Vokes, Johns Hopkins Univ., Baltimore 18, Md.)

5–7. Cryogenic Engineering Conf., Boulder, Colo. (P. L. Barrick, National Bureau of Standards Cryogenic Engineering Laboratory, Boulder.

5–7. Wyoming Geological Field Conf., 11th annual, Moran, Wyo. (K. W. Frielinghausen, Box 1571, Casper, Wyo.)

5–13. International Cong. of Applied Mechanics, 9th, Brussels, Belgium. (H. L. Dryden, Director, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Washington 25.)

6–8. American Political Science Assoc., annual, Washington, D.C. (E. M. Kirkpatrick, APSA, 1726 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington 6.)

6–8. Phi Sigma Soc., Ann Arbor, Mich. (K. F. Lagler, Dept. of Fisheries, School of Natural Resources, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor.)

6–12. International Genetics Symposium, Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan. (Secretary, IGS 1956 (Science Council of Japan, Ueno Park, Tokyo.)

7–9. American Sociological Soc., annual, Detroit, Mich. (Mrs. M. W. Riley, ASS, New York Univ., Washington Square, New York 3.)

7–10. American Statistical Assoc., annual, Detroit, Mich. (D. C. Riley, ASA, 1757 K St., NW, Washington 6.)

(See issue of 20 July for comprehensive list)