

of the relationship between productivity gains and the rise in real earning in the economy as a whole and in selected industries. These findings give what is probably a more accurate picture than previous studies made with less refined statistical methods.

Let us now consider the subject of productivity gains in connection with agreements in wage rate increases. Let us assume that labor unions and management have agreed on increases in wage rates in proportion to the increase in productivity in the economy as a whole. What difference does it make whether the conventional or the refined method of measurement is used? If the conventional method is used for determining a wage rate increase, labor participates pro rata in the net gains in production attributable to the installation of new machinery, to technological and managerial improvements, and to all other factors making for an increase in production per unit of tangible capital invested and per man-hour worked. The corporation, on the other hand, *shares* in the contribution of a greater labor effort. Basically the percentage distribution of incomes between labor and capital remains the same.

If the refined measurement is used, labor would not participate in the production gains attributable to a larger investment in tangible capital per worker. Labor would gain pro rata through improvements in the efficiency of management and in the technological qualities of plant and equipment. Use of productivity ratios for an appraisal of wage rate increases is by its nature a short-run application. In the short run, very drastic changes in the relationship between labor and capital cannot be assumed. Therefore, the assumption of a constant distribution between capital and labor should not cause a very serious error in a short-range analysis. On the other hand, the use of a measurement of capital productivity resting on only crude tangible capital data does introduce a source of possibly serious error into the calculation.

The capital productivity ratio which is combined with the man-hour productivity ratio is based not on tangible capital actually used but on that available (footnote, page 14). Thus, the refined productivity measurement is a combined measure of production in relation to man-hours *actually worked* and of production in relation to tangible capital *available*, irrespective of the degree of its utilization. It would be justifiable to measure production in terms of available factors of production (man-power and machines) as an expression of the efficiency of the economic system. The combination of one factor actually utilized with another factor available introduces an error in the computation

which may be less than the error committed if different countries or distant time points are compared with the use of the conventional period. The error of the refined method may, however, be larger than the error of the conventional method for short-range analyses.

Also, as a tool for long-range economic projections the use of the conventional method is justified as long as the economic analyst is fully aware that the rate of productivity growth thus measured includes the effect of changes in the tangible investment per worker in addition to all other factors which make for either increased or decreased net output. For a projection into the future it would be best if each of these factors could be appraised separately.

A mechanical extrapolation of the refined index of productivity is not much better than an extrapolation of the cruder index. The latter has the advantage that it can be taken as a point of departure for studying each of the factors which enter its determination, including changes in tangible capital per worker, the efficiency of capital, the efficiency of management, and all other factors. In any case, a projection must consider separately the trends in the ratios of capital stock to output and of man-hours to output. But no particular advantage would be gained by using the combined index for this purpose.

The refinements in productivity measurements proposed through the various studies of the National Bureau and summarized in this pamphlet have substantially contributed to our understanding of the problem and have provided us with tools for measurement that are of great value for certain problems. The conventional method of productivity measurement is, however, not yet obsolete and probably will continue to be most suitable for most practical purposes. Fabricant failed to discuss the purposes for which the various methods of measuring productivity are most suitable. This is my only criticism of an otherwise extremely useful publication.

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Medical Education. Annotated bibliography, 1946-1955. World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, 1958 (order from Columbia University Press, New York). 391 pp. \$6.75.

The basis for this select bibliography was a search of the world literature on medical education published between the years 1946 and 1955. Over 4000 references were collected. Virtually all of them were examined, and 2500 were selected for listing in this bibliography.

The references are classified alphabetically by author under the following headings: "History of medical education"; "Aims, trends, and general considerations"; "Special subjects" (for example, allergy, anesthesiology, bacteriology); "Pre-medical education"; "Students"; "Teachers"; "Curriculum"; "The patient in medical education"; "Academic teaching"; "Audio-visual aids"; "Research in medical education"; "The medical school in the community"; "Internship and licensure"; and "Countries and continents." An author index is included.

Brief annotations are given for all articles written in a language other than English, or, in the case of works published in English, for articles whose scope cannot be deduced from the title.

The Physics of Elementary Particles.

J. D. Jackson. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J., 1958. ix + 135 pp. \$4.50.

This concise survey of elementary particle physics had its origin in a series of lectures given at the summer seminar of the theoretical physics division of the Canadian Association of Physicists in 1957. The emphasis tends to be on recent developments; for example, the author gives considerable attention to the formulation of the theory of β -decay required by the experimental asymmetries that demonstrate nonconservation of parity.

The book is divided in three parts. The first outlines the interpretation of results on pion-nucleon scattering and on photoproduction of pions from nucleons. The second discusses K mesons and hyperons in terms of the Gell-Mann classification scheme and several models that have been proposed for the strong interactions of these "strange" particles. The third part is devoted to weak decay processes. Both the β -decay of nuclei and meson and hyperon decays are discussed, with emphasis on the nonconservation of parity. Among the topics that are omitted are nucleon-nucleon forces, antinucleons, and the production of pions in nucleon-nucleon collisions. In general, experimental methods are not described, but experimental results are quoted whenever necessary to justify or illuminate the development of theoretical ideas.

The result is a logical and consistent presentation of the areas in which understanding of elementary particles has been advanced most significantly during the last decade. As an introduction to the field of elementary particle physics the book will be of somewhat limited usefulness, since a good working knowledge of quantum mechanics, nuclear