

Washington Statistical Society

CHAPTER-AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION



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NEWS LETTER

December 1954

UNIVAC AND ELECTION RETURNS

UNIVAC's behavior last election night has puzzled many statisticians and others interested in the use of electronic computers. Our December meeting will explore the reasons for the allegedly erratic activities of UNIVAC last November. What, if anything, went wrong? What were the sources of errors? How was the computer "programmed"? What was the underlying statistical theory? Dr. Max Woodbury, who was in charge of the statistical work in connection with UNIVAC's election performance, will discuss these questions, at a joint meeting with the Washington Chapter of the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Date: Monday, December 20, 1954

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Place: Room 1 (downstairs), Hall of Government, George Washington University, 21st and G Streets, N. W.

Program

Chairman: Churchill Eisenhart
Chief, Statistical Engineering Laboratory
Bureau of Standards

Speaker: Max A. Woodbury
Principal Investigator, Logistics Research Project (ONR)
George Washington University

Topic: Estimation of Election Outcomes From Early Returns

Discussant: Morris H. Hansen
Assistant Director for Statistical Standards
Bureau of the Census

(OVER)

JANUARY DINNER MEETING

Save the night of January 24, 1955, for the annual meeting of the Society. We are planning a testimonial dinner in honor of Stuart A. Rice, at the time of his retirement from Federal service. Ralph J. Watkins, ASA President, will represent the national Association.

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THE AMERICAN STATISTICIAN

Almarin Phillips, Editor of The American Statistician has written your Secretary-Treasurer as follows:

"The Board of Editors of The American Statistician would welcome the receipt of manuscripts from members of local chapters of the American Statistical Association. Chapter programs frequently merit more general publication. Also, many members of the Association are engaged in statistical work which would be of interest to our readers. We are anxious to have the opportunity of considering papers from these sources. Manuscripts may be sent directly to me."

The address is E - 140 Dietrich Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania.

The editor of the Questions and Answers column is a fellow member of the Washington Statistical Society, Ernest Rubin, Department of Commerce and American University. He has asked me to remind you of his statement in this year's June-July issue that:

"We are attempting to inaugurate a different type of questions and answers page in this issue of the American Statistician. Our purpose is to stimulate an interest in conceptual and measurement problems which arise in the course of statistical work and which require discussion apart from purely mathematical considerations. It is hoped that our readers will find this approach of interest and value. We are inviting questions of this type."

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SEMINAR ON STATISTICS FOR MANAGEMENT USE

The enclosed preliminary announcement is for a series of seminars on Statistics for Management Use under the auspices of the Society for the Advancement of Management. You may be interested in attending one or more of the meetings, which are open to the public.

Margaret Martin
Secretary-Treasurer

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Report on Cooperative Placement Service

You may have noticed the announcement in the October issue of the American Statistician which described the beginning of a cooperative plan between the ASA and the U.S. Employment Service to expand and improve placement service for statisticians. This "plan" is rapidly becoming "action" in the Washington area where we are fortunate enough to have one of the five professional "pilot offices" in the U. S. I have been named liaison officer by the Washington Statistical Society to work with the USES-DC in helping to develop this program.

Whether you are looking for a job or looking for just the right employee, may I recommend that you make full use of the services the USES-DC has to offer. From time to time in the future I will make further reports on this program and in the meantime, I will be glad to have any comments or suggestions you may have.

USES-DC Professional Office

The United States Employment Service for the District of Columbia has set up a professional "pilot office" to expand public employment office information and placement service to managerial, professional, scientific and highly skilled technical workers, and to employers of such personnel.

This operating section of the Clerical and Professional Office is located in Suite 321 on the third floor of the Old Post Office Building at 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W. It is one of the five offices established in cooperation with the Bureau of Employment Security and state agencies to provide specialized placement services to professional and scientific applicants and employers. The four offices are in Boston, Chicago, Dallas, and New York.

The Washington office has four placement officers who have been assigned primary responsibility for providing service to related occupational employer-applicant groups. In addition to interviewing applicants registering for employment, they make promotional telephone calls and personal field visits to local private industry and government employers for the purpose of developing job opportunities in the managerial, professional, scientific, and technical fields of work.

Nationwide Employment Service Network

There is a direct exchange of information between the Boston, New York, and Washington professional pilot offices.

Through an intra-area clearance of job orders listed with other employment service offices in the Washington Metropolitan area, (Alexandria, Arlington, Hyattsville and Silver Spring), qualified applicants registered with the USES-DC office can be considered for direct referral to those employers.

There is also a nationwide or inter-area clearance program. Each public employment State office prepares a bi-monthly list of employment opportunities for which no qualified applicants have been located within the state. Copies of these inventories are transmitted to all of the States and territories. This system provides a means whereby applicants in one area may be informed of available job opportunities in their fields of work in other sections of the country. When an "applicant-holding" office finds a qualified applicant, it can then negotiate with the "order-holding" office for effectuating referral.

How to Use the USES-DC

If you are looking for work in the statistical field, or if you, as an employer, have vacancies for statisticians, get in touch with Mr. Nathaniel Todd. He has recently been appointed as the USES-DC liaison officer to work with the Washington Statistical Society and may be reached by calling DIstrict 7-7000, ext. 269 (govt. code - 187).

Looking for a Job?

The USES-DC has a number of openings for statisticians listed right now. Mr. Todd has made brief notes on a few which might be of interest to Washington Statistical Society members:

Actuary: Male; \$9600; must be a Fellow in an Actuarial Society; Non-status; submit Civil Service Form 57.

Analytical Statistician: Male; \$5940; BA in statistics; will consider administrative or operations options; Civil Service Status is necessary; work involves analysis of statistical reports from an administrative point of view; submit Civil Service Form 57.

Junior Statistician: Male or female; \$3410; young college graduate under 35; no experience necessary; must have a total of 15 semester hours combined mathematics and statistics, 6 hours of which must be statistics; submit Civil Service Form 57.

Mathematical Statistician: Male or female; MA or equivalent in mathematical statistics; \$5060 - \$5940 or more depending on experience and qualifications; responsible for statistical planning of experiments and design in an Engineering Research and Development Laboratory; submit Civil Service Form 57.

Statistician: Male or female; degree in statistics; \$300 - \$500 a month depending on experience and qualifications; will coordinate, expedite and observe progress in preparation of experimental data reports for a research organization; may perform complete liaison and analytical functions for special projects. Submit resume of experience and education.

Any one interested in one of these employment opportunities (each of which requires U.S. citizenship) should send an application to Mr. Nathaniel Todd, The United States Employment Service, 315 12th St., N.W., (Old Post Office Building, 12th and Pa. Ave.), Washington 25, D.C., or contact him for further information.

Margaret Martin
Liaison Officer to USES-DC

A series of 6 roundtable-meetings to present and discuss important areas in which statistics are providing effective guidance for management decisions. All meetings are scheduled for 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the National Archives. Meetings are scheduled for the second Monday each month, December through May 1955.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Participants</u>
Dec. 13, 1954	STATISTICS TO GUIDE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS	<u>Chairman:</u> Morris H. Hansen, Bureau of the Census <u>Speakers:</u> Howard C. Grieves, Census W. Duane Evans, Bur. of Labor Statistics
Jan. 10, 1955	WHY DO WE HAVE STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES?	<u>Chairman:</u> Morris H. Hansen, Census <u>Speakers:</u> Ezra Glaser, Bureau of the Budget Jerome Cornfield, Public Health Service
Feb. 14, 1955	SAMPLING AND SAMPLE SURVEYS	<u>Chairman:</u> Earl E. Houseman, Dept. of Agriculture <u>Speakers:</u> Morris H. Hansen, Census W. Edward Deming, New York University
March 14, 1955	STATISTICAL QUALITY CONTROL	<u>Chairman:</u> Ezra Glaser, Bureau of the Budget <u>Speakers:</u> W. R. Pabst, Jr. Dept. of the Navy Leon Gilford, Census
April 11, 1955	APPLICATION OF LARGE-SCALE COMPUTERS	<u>Chairman:</u> Ezra Glaser, Bureau of the Budget <u>Speakers:</u> S. N. Alexander, Bur. of Standards James L. McPherson, Census
May 9, 1955	A GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE	<u>Chairman:</u> Ezra Glaser Roundtable Discussion