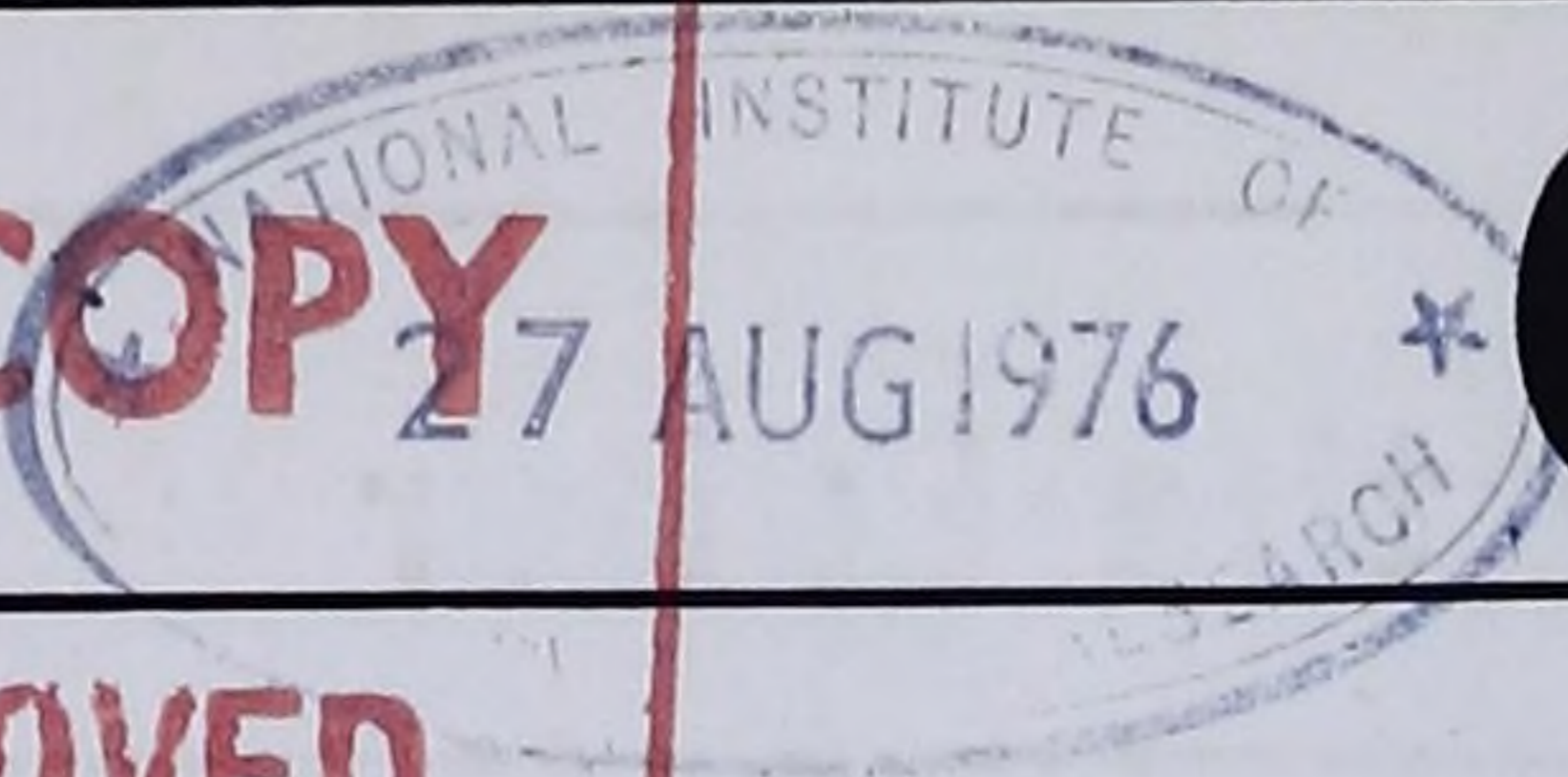


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STATISTICAL NEWS

**Developments
in British Official
Statistics**

A publication of the Government Statistical Service

Note by the Editor

The aim of *Statistical News* is to provide a comprehensive account of current developments in British official statistics and to help all those who use or would like to use official statistics.

It appears quarterly and every issue contains two or more articles each dealing with a subject in depth. Shorter notes give news of the latest developments in many fields, including international statistics. Some reference is made to other work which, though not carried on by government organisations, is closely related to official statistics. Appointments and other changes in the Government Statistical Service are also given.

A cumulative index provides a permanent and comprehensive guide to developments in all areas of official statistics.

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AUGUST 1976

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No. 34

**Developments
in
British
Official
Statistics**

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Review of economic indicators

O. Nankivell, *Assistant Director, Central Statistical Office*

Introduction

This article is about the major statistical indicators available for monitoring and analysing trends in the nation's economy. The need for both accuracy and timeliness is self evident; and the first part of this article touches briefly on some of the achievements of the last decade. But gaps and inadequacies still remain and the article goes on to indicate the priority areas for improvement.

The Government Statistical Service has grown rapidly in recent years. But by no means all of the extra resources have been allocated to improving economic statistics. A large part has been devoted to meeting the increasing need for social statistics of all kinds. There have also been the growing demands of international organisations and particularly the requirements arising from membership of the European Communities, and, more recently, the International Energy Agency. Where extra resources have been made available for economic statistics they have to a large extent been absorbed by the task of maintaining and adapting the existing system to meet the changing needs of government policies and administration.

Some improvements to the data

During the late 1950's and early 1960's a great deal of effort went into building up the quarterly national accounts and by the mid-1960's the main framework of economic statistics had been established.

Development work since then has concentrated on filling in this framework with new series or improving existing series. An exception is in the field of industrial statistics where the last ten years have seen a major change in approach and coverage. The principal feature has been the movement away from very detailed 'benchmark' censuses of production taken at roughly 5-yearly intervals to regular much less detailed annual censuses, accompanied by the comprehensive quarterly collection of detailed sales statistics (together with some monthly inquiries) and occasional inquiries into purchases. This work is now undertaken by the Business Statistics Office. The quarterly sales inquiries, which are intended to meet the needs of business as well as

Government, now cover almost all of manufacturing industry, in considerable product detail. Summary sales figures are published at the end of the quarter following that to which they relate (Business Monitor PQ1002) and the detailed sales information is assembled and published as soon as the response is considered adequate to warrant publication.

The last 'old-style' census of production related to 1968 and publication of the industry analyses was complete by 1972. Since then the results of the annual censuses, starting with 1970, have been feeding into the statistical system. The 1968 and 1970 censuses provided the basis for recalculating the index of industrial production when it was rebased on 1970 in 1973. The 1968 census also provided the weights for rebasing the wholesale price indices and was the database for the detailed input/output tables for that year which were published in 1973. The annual censuses have enabled these tables to be updated; full tables for 1970, 1971 have been published and the tables for 1972 will be published in September.

As well as helping to improve the index of industrial production for the United Kingdom, the short period sales data have facilitated the preparation and publication of a separate index for Wales and have led to a total revision of the methods of calculating the index for Scotland. The revised series was published in July this year. In fact there have been considerable improvements in the availability of data on a regional basis in the last few years, and among other things estimates are now available of the gross domestic product for the standard regions in England, as well as for the other countries of the United Kingdom.

The whole field of labour statistics has been intensively reviewed over the last ten years. The New Earnings Survey, started in 1968, greatly increased the information on earnings and the monthly index of average earnings has recently been extended to cover virtually the whole economy. The index of wage rates has been rebased and re-weighted and enquiries into total labour costs have been conducted. An annual census of employment (the first one was for 1971) provides new benchmarks whilst better and more comprehensive short-term indicators are now provided

from revised monthly and new quarterly employment surveys. The White Paper on unemployment statistics (1972: Cmnd. 5157) was followed by a series of articles on the analysis and interpretation of the figures, and a major survey of the characteristics of the unemployed was held in 1973. The survey is being repeated in 1976.

A good deal of effort has gone into speeding up compilation and publication of the individual indicators. This reflects mainly improved procedures (including computerisation), more statistical estimations of preliminary figures and faster publication methods. Relatively little of the improvement reflects a speeding up of statistical returns from respondents and this delay remains a main barrier to faster publication of firm figures. The gains range from one week in the case of the index of industrial production, three weeks for the monthly indices of unit values and volumes for exports and imports, to two months in the case of consumers' expenditure.

These are some of the more obvious developments of the last ten years. It is hardly necessary to say – and certainly impossible to detail in a short article – that a continuous programme of improvement goes on in all areas of economic statistics. Nevertheless there is ample room still for improvement and the following paragraphs discuss priority areas, first in respect of some of the basic data and then some economic indicators.

Information on the distributive and service industries

Statistics of the distributive and most of the service trades are weak areas. This weakness has largely stemmed from the inadequacy of the registers available. Provision was made in the Finance Act 1973 for regular transfer of certain information about businesses registered for VAT from HM Customs and Excise to the Business Statistics Office for statistical purposes. The VAT lists were first used to select the businesses approached in the Wholesaling Inquiry for 1974. They have also made it possible, following a review of the needs for statistics of the distributive trades and the best way to meet them, to replace the former complex and infrequent censuses of distribution by a sequence of annual sample inquiries; the first inquiry into retailing on the new pattern will be for 1976. Reorganisation of the collection of retailing statistics in this way should lead to improvements in the figures of stocks, capital expenditure and consumers' expenditure needed for the national accounts and for input/output tables. The annual inquiries will also provide improved data on the commodity breakdown of turnover and on gross margins, which will be of benefit to users outside government.

In the longer term a Central Register of Businesses, based on VAT lists and other sources of information, is being developed by the Business Statistics Office. Also in the longer term the information available directly from the administration of VAT may enable the development of measures of activity in many service industries where little information currently exists; this could lead to improvements in GDP(O) as well as in GDP(E) estimates.

The distributive and service industries are, however, already covered by the main regular series of labour statistics (employment, unemployment, vacancies, wage rates, and earnings).

Industrial data

By far the most important industrial indicator is the index of industrial production and many improvements have been made in recent years. There are, however, two key industries where major problems remain. One is engineering where the index does not yet incorporate the data from the system of quarterly inquiries nor correctly allow for the problem of deflation (although it is hoped to do so this year). Engineering is also a prime example of the continuing general problem that to a substantial extent the index measures deliveries rather than being a true measure of production, and the estimation of adjustments for changes in stocks and work in progress is also difficult. Another key industry is construction, which also has deflation problems; a new system of collecting construction output and employment figures, now under extensive trial, should lead to many improvements in construction statistics and in particular to more reliable constant price data when the output for various individual sectors is deflated by the series of tender price indices (appropriately lagged) to which reference is made in the Prices section below. Industrial disaggregation, matching the production indicators for individual industries against demand and supply indicators for the same industries, may help to test and improve the quality of data being used.

The future programme will follow up the improvements already made in recent years. It is hoped to arrange more regular surveys of the characteristics of the registered unemployed, and to make further studies (using labour force surveys) of those seeking work who are not on the register. The possibility of a new survey of vacancies is being considered.

Prices

A big difficulty in interpreting economic statistics over the last few years has arisen from rapidly rising prices. Price indices are used extensively to obtain constant

price estimates from current price data. In this situation a given percentage error in the movement shown by the price indices can result in a considerably greater percentage error in the movement shown by any volume indices calculated by deflating value series. A further difficulty arises over timing; the price index may not refer to exactly the same period as the value figures of orders and deliveries or expenditure, so adjustments should be made.

In order to improve the reliability of the wholesale price indices the Department of Industry are collecting additional information on domestic and import prices and, for the first time, some details of export prices. This is partly because price controls have led to less uniformity in price behaviour and partly because imports of manufactures have grown in importance. Additionally, there is more interest in price indices at disaggregated level (for use in contract price adjustment formulae and in inflation accounting) and rapid inflation is revealing gaps in the present system.

The Department of the Environment is developing tender price indices for various individual sectors and types of construction, partly for use (appropriately lagged) as deflators.

The retail prices index has recently been reviewed. It now has more up-to-date weights than before and takes account of owner-occupiers' mortgage interest costs.

The Department of Employment is involved in the European Economic Community surveys of consumers' prices in the Nine countries, in order to compare the purchasing powers of the various currencies.

Work in the Central Statistical Office to produce constant price estimates using double deflation methods based on input/output analysis will provide the basis for a review of some current national accounting practices.

Flow of funds and balance sheet data

There has been some improvement in the measurement of financial flows since 1968 but much remains to be done. There are still big differences between the estimates obtained from known transactions and the sector surpluses or deficits, particularly in the personal and company sectors; differences which often have to be reconciled by a large balancing item. Of course these differences may be attributable to errors and omissions in the income and expenditure accounts but there are also weaknesses in the records of financial flows which in particular do not cover most trade credit. The returns from financial institutions are being reviewed⁽¹⁾ and work is being done on extending the quarterly survey of company liquidity to cover all sources and uses of

industrial and commercial company funds with a view to throwing light on some of the gaps in the financial accounts.

Accurate and timely estimates of the total assets and liabilities held by different sectors are needed not only because of interest in the level and distribution of the wealth of different sectors but in order to help explain and illuminate current transactions in assets and liabilities. Work on developing improved statistics has begun and returns from banks and other financial institutions (including grantors of consumer credit) are being revised and extended.⁽¹⁾ The Department of Industry is currently undertaking a survey of the ownership of ordinary shares in listed United Kingdom companies. A major contribution on the company sector side would come from the extension of the Department of Industry analysis of the accounts of certain large companies to cover a representative sample of all companies. Better estimates are also required on real property in all its forms – agricultural land, woodlands, development land, residential land and buildings, etc., for proper assessment of the economic effects of the capital transfer tax and the proposed wealth and development land taxes. Little information is available currently on transactions in real property: currently the Inland Revenue are developing new statistics of conveyancing on the basis of records of 'particulars delivered', and of stamp duty receipts.

Distribution of income and wealth

Statistics on the distribution of income and wealth have for many years been required to assess the impact on different classes of taxpayer of current or proposed taxes on income and capital, and to investigate, for example, regional differences in the distribution of income or the effect of age on the distribution of wealth. Basic statistics for these purposes have been supplied in the past by the Board of Inland Revenue. However such statistics, derived in the most part from taxation records, will inevitably be incomplete and attention has recently been increasingly focused on the need for the inclusion in the total picture of those forms of income and wealth which escape the taxation net, in order to obtain a reliable indication of the inequality of income and economic power in the community and of the way in which such inequalities are changing. In addition analyses of income statistics at the sub-regional level, for example, for local authority rate support grant purposes, is particularly hampered by the paucity of statistics covering the lower end of the income scale.

(1) See article on page 34.5 of this issue.

The Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth has published three reports so far, with many recommendations for developments. Some of these, such as the need for improved information on part-year incomes so that they can be distinguished from low whole-year incomes, may be achieved by increased exploitation of administrative records. The possibility of a standing sample for the Inland Revenue income surveys also needs to be developed. In other directions the National Income Blue Book estimates of the distribution of income, which include non-taxable benefits and which cover the whole population are being subdivided by major socio-occupational categories and extended on alternative definitions of income and income-receiving units. In the case of statistics on wealth, attempts are being made to improve both the aggregate and its distribution. The Inland Revenue hopes to investigate ways of improving statistics of the distribution of personal wealth and overall estimates of total personal wealth by type of asset, with a view to reconciling this source of data with balance sheet information on various other sectors being produced by the Department of Industry and Bank of England. This work is being co-ordinated by the Central Statistical Office.

Company profits and stockbuilding

Two key elements in company behaviour and movements of demand are quarterly changes of company profits and stockbuilding. Both are notoriously difficult to measure. Estimates of profits for recent periods are uncertain; firmly based information is only available annually greatly in arrears, and even this is now jeopardised by the introduction of stock relief which will further lower the usefulness of information collected from tax returns. For stockbuilding we require not only accurate estimates of the value of stocks from reporting units but also reliable methods of allowing for price changes. The latter require knowledge of accounting practices as well as the commodity composition of stocks. The advance made in 1973 of firms in manufacturing industry reporting stock values at standard costs where possible has gone some way to improving the estimates of quarterly changes in volume. Further improvements may be expected to flow from the introduction of current cost accounting procedures in the preparation of company accounts. These two, profits and stockbuilding separately and, even more, their consistency in practice, remain important priority areas for attempting to obtain improvements.

Public authorities' income, expenditure and borrowing

Much has been done recently to improve the monitoring of public income, expenditure and borrowing. A new

return has recently been instituted for local government expenditure, which covers Budget Estimates for the year ahead, as well as provisional outturn estimates for the year just ended. Improvements are also being sought in the quality of the long-established detailed returns based on final accounts, and covering capital as well as current income and expenditure. Work is also in progress to improve price indices and quarterly statistics, and to develop a monthly sample enquiry of local authority borrowing. A new system for prompt monitoring of central government expenditure on a monthly basis, covering a detailed economic and functional analysis, has recently come into operation.

Summary

This article has discussed a number of areas where improvements in quality or timeliness have been introduced and suggests others where further development may be required. A large part of the work of the Government Statistical Service, however, is devoted to maintaining the reliability of the present system in the face of its natural tendency to decay. With the present requirement to control levels of public expenditure and staffing it may not be possible to avoid some deterioration. If the opportunity for further development emerges it will have helped to identify those areas where improvements seem most necessary and desirable.

Development of inquiries to Financial Institutions

A. H. Cowley, *Statistician, Central Statistical Office*

Introduction – sector financial accounts

Quarterly financial accounts have been published in the United Kingdom since the early 1960s. The impetus for the development of financial accounts in their present form was the report of the Committee on the Working of the Monetary System, chaired by Lord Radcliffe, which appeared in 1959. The Committee drew attention to the need for more information on the flow of funds between the different parts of the economy and recommended that efforts be made to develop a comprehensive and comparable system in which statistics would be capable of being fitted together so as to show the total movement of funds, not just the flow through individual types of financial institutions. The Committee also emphasised that such a system of financial statistics needed to be linked with general economic statistics (as set out in the form of the national income accounts) so that the inter-relationship between the two could be clearly displayed.

The financial accounts, like the national accounts proper, divide the economy on institutional or behavioural grounds into broadly homogeneous groups which are referred to as sectors, with all overseas residents also shown as a sector. The financial accounts show for each sector its net acquisitions of various financial assets such as bank deposits, British government securities etc. and its net incurrence of financial liabilities such as bank borrowing, the issue of securities etc. during a particular quarter. The financial accounts are frequently presented in the form of a matrix with financial instruments down the side and sectors across the top. When financial instruments are issued, transferred, or redeemed, the sum of assets of the holding sector must, by definition, remain equal to the liabilities of the issuing sector. Therefore, by adopting the convention regarding signs that the acquisition of an asset or the reduction of a liability, are shown positive and the sale of an asset, or the incurrence of a liability, are shown negative the transactions in a particular instrument are made to sum to zero across sectors. For an individual sector the sum of its transactions in financial assets and liabilities is by definition equal to

the balance on its capital account in the national accounts proper, referred to as its 'net acquisition of financial assets', which is arrived at as the balance of income and expenditure (current or capital). In practice there are substantial differences between the estimates for the net acquisition of financial assets shown in each sector's capital account and the sums of financial transactions, and to make the financial accounts articulate with the national income accounts a balancing item reflecting unidentified transactions is introduced for each sector. The fact that this item is put in the financial accounts is sometimes misunderstood. It is purely a convention and does not indicate that the unidentified transactions are necessarily financial transactions, that is that the financial accounts are necessarily more deficient than other parts of the national accounts.

Financial instruments are classified primarily according to their character, such as whether they are short-term or long-term and whether or not they are marketable; the nature of the sector issuing the instrument is also important and in most cases can be identified. Currently, forty-one instruments are distinguished in the financial accounts produced by the Central Statistical Office. It is inherent in financial activity that new types of instrument are developed from time to time, differing in greater or lesser degree from those already in existence. In presenting the financial accounts a balance must be struck between a desire to present as much detail as possible and the danger of making the accounts too cumbersome and unwieldy. There is also a limit to the amount of detail that providers of the basic data have readily available.

The financial accounts distinguish six sectors which follow closely those adopted in the national accounts but with some important differences in emphasis. The sectors used in the financial accounts are as follows: the public sector (central government, local authorities and public corporations), the banking sector, the other financial institutions (OFIs) sector, the industrial and commercial (I and C) companies sector, the personal sector and the overseas sector. While the national

accounts proper only make the distinction between financial institutions (the banking and OFI sectors combined) and I and C companies in the annual figures, the quarterly financial accounts subdivide financial institutions. This is because the object of the financial accounts is to record the transfers of investible funds from those (individuals, companies etc.) with a surplus of income over current expenditure to those wishing to invest in capital assets such as new plant and machinery, houses etc. To a large extent such funds are channelled through the financial institutions which also provide a means of matching possibly diverse requirements of borrowers and lenders, for example by transforming deposits and other liquid funds into the longer term capital needed by industry – the ‘intermediation process’. Indeed the subdivision of financial institutions between the banking sector and the OFI sector is not adequate for all purposes since the OFI sector constitutes a fairly disparate collection of institutions, ranging from insurance companies to finance houses. However, there is considerable merit in simplicity and in general the present six sector system has proved adequate. Where further subdivisions are required the basic data are available and are normally published.

Sector balance sheets

The relationship of the financial accounts to the rest of the national income accounts was referred to above. However, in order to make the national income accounts into a comprehensive accounting system, national and sector balance sheets are also needed. These balance sheets show each sector’s holdings of tangible assets, financial assets and financial liabilities at the beginning and end of the period of account. For consistency and comparability all assets and liabilities must be valued on the same basis – normally at market prices; tangible assets are, as far as possible, comparably valued. The current, capital and financial accounts, which show each sector’s current surplus or deficit, its transactions in tangible assets, and in financial assets and liabilities, account for changes between opening and closing balance sheets, apart from changes resulting from movements in the costs or prices of assets held, which can be shown in a separate reconciliation account. The development of national and sector balance sheets would not be justified simply on the grounds that it made the national accounts into a comprehensive accounting system, although there is little doubt that this would improve the quality of the accounts as a whole. Rather it has been realised that it is not possible to explain financial transactions without the knowledge of holdings of assets and liabilities provided by sector balance sheets. Much recent effort

in economic research has gone into the development of models which relate both real and financial expenditures to balance sheet composition. In this context it is important that the balance sheets are expressed at market values because economic behaviour is likely to be more highly correlated with market values than any other basis of valuation. Other reasons for developing sector balance sheets are to provide estimates of overall rates of return on capital employed, relevant particularly to the I and C companies or as a starting point for estimates of the distribution of personal wealth. This latter role of national and sector balance sheets was emphasised by the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth which recommended in its first report (Initial Report on the Standing Reference, Command 6171, paragraph 365) that the development of official estimates should be expedited.

Comprehensive estimates of national and sector balance sheets were produced by Professor Revell and his associates for the years 1957 to 1961⁽¹⁾. A continuation of this work, partly financed by the Central Statistical Office and the Bank of England, carried forward balance sheet estimates to 1966⁽²⁾. The production of national and sector balance sheets has been taken over by official statisticians and, after a slow start, work is now proceeding rapidly. However, although comprehensive national and sector balance sheets are not available for recent years, some balance sheet elements are collected and published for OFIs. Holdings of selected financial assets (and in some cases land and property) are published for most of the groups comprising the OFI sector. Although most of the figures relate to 31 December they are not all at market values (some groups of institutions only provide book values at present) and cannot therefore be directly combined to give estimates for OFIs as a whole.

Publication media

The quarterly financial accounts are published in the monthly *Financial Statistics*. The financial accounts for a particular quarter first appear in the issue of *Financial Statistics* published four months after the end of that quarter. Thus the financial accounts for the January to March quarter of 1976 appeared in the July issue published at the end of July. However, a press notice containing sector capital accounts, the financial accounts for the personal and industrial and commercial

(1) Jack Revell assisted by Graham Hockley and John Moyle, *The Wealth of the Nation*, Cambridge University Press 1967.

(2) Jack Revell and Alan Roe, ‘National balance sheets and national accounting – a progress report’, *Economic Trends* No 211, May 1971.

Alan Roe, ‘The financial interdependence of the economy, 1957–1966’, No 11 in *A programme for growth*, published for the Department of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge by Chapman and Hall, November 1971.

companies sectors is released two weeks earlier. *Financial Statistics* also contains the detailed statistics for most of the various groups of OFIs from which the financial accounts are built up, as well as the partial balance sheet data referred to in the previous paragraph. It might be added that quarterly estimates of income and current and capital expenditure of each sector, are included in *Financial Statistics* as well as a large number of financial statistics such as interest rates, security prices, stock exchange transactions etc. Annual sector financial accounts are shown in the National Income Blue Book, together with the more detailed estimates of each sector's income and expenditure. The *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin* also contains quarterly financial accounts which, although compiled from the same source data, differ in a number of ways from those published in *Financial Statistics*. The Bank of England's financial accounts (which the Bank refers to as flow of funds accounts) are less detailed, with similar financial instruments being aggregated, to make it easier for developments to be discussed in the accompanying commentary. A further major difference is that the Bank's accounts are seasonally adjusted which again assists analysis and commentary. The seasonal adjustment of the financial accounts is an exceedingly complicated procedure, because of the constraint imposed by the matrix structure of the accounts.

Sources and methods

Many sources are utilised in the construction of the financial accounts but the central position occupied by the financial institutions in channelling funds between the various sectors has made direct inquiries to these bodies particularly important. No direct inquiries at all are made to the personal sector and direct information obtained from the industrial and commercial companies' sector is limited, so that estimates of financial transactions by both these sectors depend very much on information supplied by financial institutions. This can either be by way of counterpart figures (for example banks analyse their deposits and lending by sector in the returns they make to the Bank of England) or by residual, for example estimates of transactions in British government securities are available for the public sector, financial institutions and the overseas sector, while partial information is available for industrial and commercial companies and the balance is allocated to the personal sector. Considerations of economy and efficiency provide the justification for this approach. There are relatively few financial institutions compared to the number of industrial and commercial companies and, in general, they need to maintain detailed records of transactions etc. for their own purposes. Direct sample inquiry to the personal sector has been

tried and for some purposes is useful but does not provide satisfactory means of making regular estimates of financial transactions. At first sight it may be surprising that little use is made of direct information for the I and C companies sector. Company accounts are certainly an important potential source of information both for the financial accounts and the national income accounts proper but are subject to a number of serious disadvantages which have inhibited their use in the past. These include the different accounting years to which they relate, the amount of detail shown, and the methods of valuation adopted. However, work is now in hand to see whether company accounts can be exploited. This currently involves exploration of the existing registers of companies to provide a suitable sampling frame, itself no small matter given the very large number of companies in existence and the high proportion that are dormant. At the same time a direct statistical inquiry to I and C companies is being developed. A quarterly survey of various liquid assets and liabilities held by a number of mainly larger companies was another recommendation of the Radcliffe report although not implemented until 1970. This is now being extended, initially only for large companies, to become a complete, quarterly 'sources and uses of funds statement' covering all these companies' financial transactions. At a later stage it is planned to bring in a representative group of small and medium-size companies so that the inquiry can be used to make estimates for I and C companies as a whole. This will probably be done in conjunction with the estimates obtained from the much larger sample survey of company accounts mentioned earlier, but is likely to be a long way in the future. Information obtained from financial institutions will remain central to the construction of the financial accounts, apart from the value of having detailed information for individual groups of financial institutions in their own right.

The financial institutions

Financial institutions, as already mentioned, are subdivided into two main groups – the banking sector and OFI sector. The banking sector consists primarily of those institutions which are subject to the 12½ per cent reserve ratio requirements and calls for special deposits. It also includes the discount market (which is subject to other credit control arrangements), the National Giro and the Banking Department of the Bank of England – these latter institutions' operations are closely associated with those of banks. Not all institutions describing themselves as banks, nor even all those accorded some degree of banking status by various pieces of legislation such as the Companies Act are included in the Bank of England's list of banks. A

slight disadvantage of this approach is that if credit control arrangements are extended to existing institutions (or cease to apply to an institution) the scope of the sector alters and a discontinuity is introduced into the statistics. The Bank of England have recently overhauled inquiries to the banking sector. Previously there had existed a piecemeal system of inquiries, not always mutually consistent, and burdensome for respondents. A new integrated system provides for administrative and statistical returns made on a common date, using a common set of definitions and adopting a common basis of valuation. Some improvements and additions to the statistical information available for use in the financial accounts have resulted from the change. For example, sectorisation of deposits and loans has been improved and additional sectors have been introduced to meet international requirements. It is now possible to divide changes in the reported figures for foreign currency assets and liabilities between actual transactions and changes in sterling values arising from fluctuations in the exchange rate. The revised system was brought into operation in June 1975 but not all the additional information it provides has been incorporated into the financial accounts as yet. An article describing the new returns appeared in the June 1975 edition of the *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin*.

In principle all institutions which are financial and which are not banks (that is institutions included in the banking sector as described above) fall into the OFI sector. Financial institutions are defined to be institutions which obtain, convert and distribute available

funds as their main activity. Generally this definition provides an adequate distinction. In practice the OFI sector consists of those groups of financial institutions which are covered by statistical inquiries. Any other financial institutions fall by default into other sectors, mainly into Industrial and Commercial companies given existing methods of estimation. The following groups of (or individual) financial institutions comprise the OFI sector: Trustee Savings Banks (Special Investment Departments), Central Trustee Savings Banks, National Savings Bank (Investment Account), Municipal Savings Banks, Finance Houses, Building Societies, Property Unit Trusts, Unit Trusts, Investment Trusts, Insurance Companies, Superannuation Funds, Special Finance Agencies and the Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations. At 31 December 1975 Special Finance Agencies consisted of the following: Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, Commonwealth Development Finance Co. Ltd., Exporters Refinance Corporation, Finance For Industry Ltd. and Scottish Agricultural Securities Corporation Ltd.. Some indication of the relative size of these groups is given in Table 1 which shows the amount invested by each group (not of certain short term liabilities) in each of the last five years; more detailed figures appear in *Financial Statistics*. For comparison the banking sector's loans and investments have also been included in the table. It can be seen that in terms of amounts loaned and invested the banking sector is larger than the OFI sector but the gap between the two sectors was very small in 1975. Of the various groups of OFIs, building societies are clearly the largest and in 1975 they lent

Net acquisition of assets by Financial Institutions

Table 1

	National Savings Bank (Investment account)	Trustee Savings Banks (Special Investment departments)	Finance houses	Building Societies	Property Unit Trusts	Unit Trusts	Investment Trusts	Insurance		Superannuation Funds	Special Finance Agencies and Crown Agents	Miscellaneous	Total(1)	Banking Sector
								General	Long term					
1971	68	203	297	2,118	45	81	105	271	971	794	49	16	4,938	5,820
1972	120	241	324	2,309	68	289	551	372	1,270	1,002	22	19	6,491	12,918
1973	52	128	306	2,323	32	196	-35	341	1,322	1,271	2	8	5,865	21,308
1974	32	35	-111	2,580	0	34	-202	437	1,472	1,405	45	-26	5,621	13,460
1975	38	169	-106	4,063	89	216	-44	675	1,698	2,252	58	78	9,106	10,481
Total	310	776	710	13,393	234	816	375	2,096	6,733	6,724	176	95	32,021	63,987
<i>Number of institutions</i>	1	18	1,900	380	21	369	238	600		700	6	3		

(1) After deducting cost of share transactions not allocable to particular groups.

and invested nearly 45 per cent of the total invested by all OFIs. Superannuation funds and the long term funds of insurance companies vie for second place, the position changing from year to year. Both groups show steady growth, reflecting the fact that their funds come largely from regular contributions which, to a large extent, move in line with wages and salaries. It should, perhaps, be pointed out that although the National Savings Bank and the Trustee Savings Banks appear well down the list, only the Investment Account and Special Investment Departments respectively are classified as OFI groups (the National Savings Bank Ordinary Account and the Trustee Savings Banks Ordinary Department are treated as part of central government). Of the remaining groups, the investments of Unit Trusts and Investment Trusts have fluctuated considerably over the five years in response to the large swings in the prices of the securities in which they invest. Finance houses have not been major lenders during the period, their investments having actually

contracted in the latest two years. Finance houses have faced increased competition for consumer credit business and suffered from the re-imposition of terms controls in December 1973. Some of the larger finance houses were transferred to the banking sector, thus reducing further the size of the OFI group. Table 1 also gives the approximate number of institutions in each OFI group, not all are approached for returns because inquiries to several groups are operated on a sample basis.

All of the groups of OFIs mentioned in the preceding paragraph are covered by quarterly (sometimes even monthly) statistical inquiries, (and in most cases supplemented by an annual balance sheet inquiry); the inquiries are entirely voluntary and in a number of cases are conducted by the representative association of the financial institutions concerned. A number of government departments and the Bank of England are involved in the running of these inquiries, details of which are set out in Table 2.

Inquiries to Other Financial Institutions

Table 2

<i>Group of financial institutions</i>	<i>Association or department responsible for inquiry</i>	<i>Group of financial institutions</i>	<i>Association or department responsible for inquiry</i>
Trustee Savings Banks (Special Investment Departments)	National Debt Office	Investment Trusts	Bank of England
Central Trustee Savings Bank	Bank of England and Central Statistical Office	Insurance Companies	British Insurance Association, Association of Collecting Friendly Societies, and Department of Industry
National Savings Banks (Investment Account)	National Debt Office	Superannuation Funds	
Municipal Savings Banks	Central Statistical Office	i. Public Sector (other than local authorities)	Central Statistical Office
Finance Houses	Department of Industry	ii. Local Authorities	Central Statistical Office
Building Societies	Building Societies' Association, Central Statistical Office and Registry of Friendly Societies	iii. Private Sector	Department of Industry
Property Unit Trusts	Bank of England	Special Finance Agencies and Crown Agents	Bank of England
Unit Trusts	Bank of England		

Where a number of departments are involved in making inquiries to a particular group, the CSO coordinates the results to produce the figures published in *Financial Statistics*. To some extent this spread of responsibilities reflects departmental responsibilities. Thus the Department of Trade has a supervisory role in respect of insurance companies and it is appropriate that it should also collect statistics (the Department of Industry actually operates joint statistical services for the Department of Trade and the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection). The disadvantage of this approach is that it requires a high degree of co-ordination if the statistics obtained from various groups of OFIs are to be capable of being fitted together to provide estimates for the financial accounts.

Recent developments

As mentioned right at the beginning of this article,

quarterly financial accounts were introduced in the United Kingdom at the beginning of the 1960s following the Radcliffe report. The information system used to construct the financial accounts, although subject to continuous improvement, is largely of the same vintage and by 1972 it was recognised that a full-scale overhaul was needed. Although the major impetus for improvements in the system were deficiencies in the financial accounts estimates, – some of which had been there from the beginning but were tolerated in a brand new system, others that had developed by the late 1960s as financial activities increased rapidly in scale and diversity and new types of institution developed – there were two other major considerations. First, international systems of financial accounts had been developed which differed in varying degrees from the United Kingdom's own system. The United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) contains a detailed specification of a

system of financial accounts and the European System of Accounts (ESA), developed by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (SOEC) has a compatible but more detailed and even more rigorously defined system while the OECD publishes financial accounts in a fairly standardised form. The United Kingdom submits returns to the UN (and identical returns to the OECD), provides tables for OECD's publication *Financial Statistics*, and submits information to the SOEC on transactions and balance sheets, but not all the information needed for these purposes is available. The second consideration has already been referred to and is the development of national and sector balance sheets. It is right to consider balance sheets along with the financial accounts because they rely to a large extent on statistical inquiries to the same bodies, because the figures must be consistent, and also because the details of transactions in the financial accounts, combined with suitable price information, can be used to interpolate between successive benchmark balance sheet estimates obtained by direct inquiry, from published accounts or other sources. A thorough review of desirable improvements in financial statistics generally was undertaken, and consultations took place with users both inside and outside Whitehall. A development programme was eventually agreed, stretching over approximately ten years. This article is mainly devoted to the aspects of the programme affecting inquiries to OFIs but the programme contained a number of other major developments. Reference has already been made to the investigation of the greater use of company accounts and the introduction of direct returns to improve estimates for I and C companies (and to provide balance sheet estimates also), thus rectifying the present unsatisfactory situation of having virtually two sectors for which no direct information is available. Another development, already in hand when the review took place, was the complete overhaul by the Bank of England of inquiries to the banking sector which was referred to earlier.

Deficiencies

Returning to statistical inquiries to OFIs a number of deficiencies in the existing system were noted. Foremost among these were the omissions of whole groups of financial institutions from the inquiry system, Factors and Confirming Houses being good examples. Even among some groups covered by direct inquiries, coverage was incomplete. The reasons for this were various. In some cases the boundary of the group was defined pragmatically so that some small members of the group were not included in the inquiry and no attempt was made to gross up for them in the estimates. More importantly, inquiries to certain large groups carried

out on a sample basis, were based on inadequate or out-of-date registers* and the resulting estimates were known to be deficient. The problem of lack of adequate registers is really general to OFIs. It means that there is no information on the significance of the transactions of a residual group of institutions not covered by inquiries. This residual group can be narrowed down by introducing new inquiries to groups such as Factors or by improving existing registers so that the coverage of inquiries is improved, but the problem remains. A number of further problems arise from the composition of the OFI group themselves. In general terms groups consist of institutions that have similar legal or financial characteristics and are broadly engaged in the same kind of activity. Building Societies and Unit Trusts, for example, are groups that are reasonably straightforward. Where the institution is a company, it may have subsidiaries engaged in other activities, financial or otherwise, which it normally consolidates in its own accounts. One view is that these subsidiaries ought not to be consolidated in the statistics of financial transactions etc. for particular OFI groups because the rationale for the groups is that they isolate a particular type of financial activity. Only if the subsidiaries belong to the same OFI group or, if they are simply a means of holding investments, should they be consolidated. This principle has not been universally applied, at present, and the figures for insurance funds include some transactions by investment trust subsidiaries (these investment trusts are excluded as far as possible from the Investment Trust groups). Where institutions are engaged in more than one activity, classification is normally made on the basis of the major one. Thus a company doing some industrial leasing business but being mainly engaged in hire purchase lending, will be classified as a finance house. This, however, causes problems when business changes over the years and decisions about classification have to be made on an individual basis to avoid making frequent changes in coverage. The problem affects banks where the statistical classification follows administrative and supervisory decisions and, in recent years, a number of finance houses have been reclassified as banks, thus introducing discontinuity into both the banking sector and OFI sector statistics, as was mentioned earlier.

The other major deficiency of OFI inquiries was the variation in information collected. Common to most groups was the fact that inquiries covered only selected assets and liabilities, with details of the latter being particularly sketchy. The selection of assets and liabilities varied from inquiry to inquiry and there was also a

*A register is simply a list of institutions, preferably with some indication of size or importance, so that it can be used as the basis of efficient sample inquiries.

wide range of notes and definitions given with the inquiry forms. This applied to both quarterly transactions and annual balance sheet inquiries but with the balance sheet inquiries there were also differences in the method of valuation used. Some institutions reported at both book and market values; others at market values alone and others at book values alone. As mentioned earlier, national and sector balance sheets are of necessity based on market values and while it is possible, with appropriate supplementary information, to convert from book to market values, this is not a satisfactory long-term position.

New system of inquiries to OFIs

In order to overcome the deficiencies described in the preceding paragraphs a common standard for inquiries to OFIs has been devised which it is hoped can eventually be adopted for all groups. A key feature of the new standard system is a comprehensive annual balance sheet return, preferably showing the position at 31 December, and giving market values for relevant items. A standard list of asset and liability categories (containing eighty items) has been adopted as the basis for the returns. It should, perhaps, be added that it was not envisaged that all groups of OFIs would be confronted by the full list but that returns should distinguish separately any items significant for a particular group and the remaining items on the return should be built up from the standard list (with the proviso that there should be the facility for some form of follow-up and/or revision to the return if any of these remaining items suddenly became large).

While quarterly inquiries into financial transactions should ideally cover the same detail as the annual balance return, it has been accepted that in practice some selectivity might be necessary. The existence of comprehensive balance sheet information, of course, means that any major omissions in the quarterly inquiries are quickly revealed. It has been agreed that it would be easiest for respondents to report the levels outstanding at the end of each quarter of current assets and liabilities but with other assets and liabilities to report cash transactions. Details of transactions in real assets are also to be sought, distinguishing investment in new property separately.

In describing earlier the relationship between the financial accounts and the rest of the national income accounts reference was made to the balancing or unidentified item which reflects errors and omissions in the system as a whole. It is therefore equally important to improve the estimates of the income and the current and capital expenditure of OFIs. Although appropriation and capital accounts are only published for financial institutions in total, a special exercise was

carried out to produce complete sets of accounts for the various groups of OFIs, in order to discover how the unidentified item for financial institutions taken as a whole was made up from the unidentified items for each group. This investigation revealed that the components of the unidentified for some OFI groups were unacceptably large. While greater use of existing information such as published accounts, statutory returns etc. could improve the situation for some groups there might be a need to introduce special inquiries into income and expenditure for others.

To summarise, a new system of inquiries has been proposed which consists of quarterly inquiries into financial and capital transactions, a comprehensive annual balance sheet inquiry and possibly an annual inquiry into income and expenditure. It should be added that the new system is in some ways a minimum standard. The role of some groups of OFIs is so important (in terms of the size of funds channelled through them) that some fairly detailed statistics are required monthly. Many groups of OFIs already cooperate in monthly inquiries and it is intended that these should continue. Some groups of OFIs were already virtually operating the standard system (apart from the income and expenditure details) but to bring the inquiries for others up to the new standard would involve a major overhaul. Alongside the introduction of the new system of inquiries it is also hoped to improve coverage, bringing in some entirely new groups of OFIs and tidying up existing groups. To bring these plans to fruition an inter-departmental working party was set up to consider each group of OFIs, in turn, with the object of producing a package of proposals which could be put to appropriate OFI associations. Initial examination of the existing statistical inquiries for all groups of OFIs has been completed and in some cases a revised system has already been introduced. In a few cases it has had to be accepted that the adoption of the complete system is not feasible as a single step and, as an interim measure, it is now proposed that some feature of the new system should be adopted in order to remedy the worst deficiencies.

One major development which, although only designed to improve statistics for a single group of OFIs, could significantly extend the coverage of OFIs is perhaps worth mentioning here. The Department of Industry are to carry out a benchmark inquiry to consumer credit grantors (in respect of 1976) which will provide a basis for regular inquiries to an enlarged group, rather wider than finance houses which have been covered up till now. In order to carry out this inquiry it has been necessary to build up a register using conventional methods such as trade directories, telephone directory yellow pages, advertisements in

newspapers etc. and it is expected that a number of bodies will be picked up which, while the granting of consumer credit is their major activity, are not finance houses.

The annex to this article describes progress with the adoption of the new system of inquiries for some of the larger OFI groups. As well as these groups preliminary discussions have taken place regarding the coverage of Factors and 'Miscellaneous deposit taking companies' not included in existing statistical inquiries, but these have not resulted in proposals to the companies concerned to contribute to a regular inquiry. The term 'Miscellaneous deposit taking companies' refers to a number of deposit taking institutions on the fringe of the banking sector but not belonging to any of the other OFI groups. A number of the bodies which would have been included in this group will probably be institutions granting consumer credit, so further consideration has been deferred until the results of the benchmark inquiry to consumer credit grantors become available. It will be noted that progress with the implementation of the new system is rather uneven. The views expressed on further developments are those of the author and have not necessarily been accepted by the interdepartmental working party. All proposals for new inquiries or development of existing inquiries are a matter for negotiation with the bodies concerned.

Conclusion

Since the inception of the present development programme interest in the financial accounts and related statistics has increased greatly. The impact of the financing of the public sector borrowing requirement on the economy, the company liquidity crisis and the role of the financial institutions in providing medium-term finance to industry are all matters that have been discussed within the general framework of the financial accounts. Improvements in the quality and coverage of the financial accounts, resulting from the first stages of the development programme, are already appearing and it is hoped that, resources within the Government Statistical Service permitting, by the end of the ten-year time scale originally envisaged, the whole programme can be accomplished. At the same time, financial statisticians will endeavour to incorporate the continuing development of the financial economy in the way of new instruments and new institutions in the accounts. The most recent example of the latter is the newly created equity bank – Equity Capital for Industry – and arrangements are in hand to institute regular statistical returns from it. Equity Capital for Industry will probably be classified as an OFI belonging to the group of special finance agencies.

ANNEX

Trustee Savings Banks

The Trustee Savings Banks (TSB) are to be re-organised to form a third banking force. This will take place from 21 November 1976 and legislation giving the TSBs new powers from that date is now on the statute book. To take advantage of these new powers the many small, local TSBs have already re-organised themselves into fewer, large regional banks. At present only the Special Investment Department (SIDs) of the TSBs are treated as OFIs. The SIDs are allowed to invest in a wide portfolio of British government and local authority securities and deposit accounts placed with them attract a comparatively high rate of interest. The Ordinary Departments which offer savings accounts with lower rates of interest but also provide current account facilities must invest virtually all of their funds with the Fund for the Banks for Saving, a government account. They are therefore treated in the statistics not as OFIs but as a government agency. In future this division will disappear and the TSBs will operate like normal banks offering both current and savings accounts and also will be able to give personal loans. They will not, however, be permitted to lend to corporate bodies and the scope of their investments, although wide, will be regulated by the Treasury and they will be required to maintain various proportions of their investments in specified forms of assets.

The TSBs are directly under the supervision of the National Debt Office (NDO) and have been required to make statutory weekly returns containing details of individual investments to the NDO. These weekly returns, supplemented by a short monthly return, have enabled the NDO to produce statistics for the SID's pretty well as required under the new system. However, the new status of the TSBs will lead to some relaxation of the present very detailed supervision and the weekly return will be dropped. It is intended that it should be replaced by a system of monthly, quarterly and annual returns still combining supervisory and statistical requirements. The basis of the new system will be a standard balance sheet return which will be required monthly. A balance sheet type of return is preferable for monitoring reserve and asset ratios and has the further advantage that it is comprehensive. Rather than asking for the new return at the end of calendar month it is intended to use banking months (normally ended on the third Wednesday of the month). The monthly statistics obtained from the new TSBs will thus be consistent with those obtained from the banking sector and it will be possible, for example, to extend the present monthly measures of money stock with a statistic including deposits with TSBs. The balance sheet

return is also asked for quarterly, together with a supplementary return showing details of cash transactions which cannot be derived from balance sheet changes. A further annual supplement seeks market values of investments. The details of assets and liabilities obtained quarterly and annually conform to the standard list.

The TSBs present no coverage problems. The composition of the group is determined by statute and all are required to make returns. (One small change in coverage resulting from re-organisation is that the Birmingham Municipal Bank has become a TSB and is expected to amalgamate with one of the new regional TSBs.) There may eventually come a time when the TSBs are brought into the banking sector and will thus no longer be classified as OFIs.

Finance houses

This group will be expanded to include all institutions whose main business is the granting of consumer credit (other than banks), as defined in the Consumer Credit Act 1974. A small number of finance houses whose main business is not the granting of consumer credit will be excluded from the group as will unincorporated businesses initially. A benchmark inquiry in respect of 1976 is now under way to provide a sampling frame for regular inquiries. The benchmark inquiry, in fact, is intended to cover all institutions, other than banks and insurance companies, engaged in granting consumer credit. This is so that it will provide a sampling frame for a monthly inquiry to obtain figures of total consumer credit advanced, replacing the existing monthly inquiry into instalment credit advanced by finance houses. Some larger finance houses which are now recognised as banks contribute to this inquiry. However, quarterly and annual inquiries will relate only to the new group of consumer credit granting institutions. New quarterly and annual forms of return on the lines of the standard system are being introduced to replace the existing quarterly return which only seeks the levels of selected assets and liabilities. Because of the enormous divergence in size of consumer credit granting institutions, it is planned to operate a two-tier system of inquiries. Small institutions will be sent a simpler return, both quarterly and annually. The annual return will be a complete balance sheet but will not be very detailed, specifying only items which are likely to be generally applicable and important to such small institutions; the quarterly return will similarly aim to cover only transactions which might be significant. Such a system may obviously require modification in the light of

experience but it is hoped it will reduce the burden on small respondents.

The creation of the new OFI group of consumer credit granting institutions cannot take place until the results of the benchmark inquiry are available and this is not likely to be until 1978. However, existing contributors to the present finance house inquiry have already switched to the new form of quarterly return and this may enable some changes in the statistics to be made this year.

Building societies

Building societies (apart from four Northern Ireland societies) operate under the terms of the 1962 Building Societies Act and are obliged to make comprehensive annual returns to the Registrar of Friendly Societies. There are approximately three hundred and eighty societies, with comparatively few large societies, and statistical inquiries are therefore carried out on a sample basis involving at most a fifth of societies by number but up to 95 per cent of total assets. The present system of statistical inquiries, operated jointly with the Building Societies Association, includes monthly, quarterly and annual inquiries. The monthly inquiry basically obtains details of net inflow into shares and deposits and net outflow in the form of mortgages. The quarterly inquiry seeks details of investments and has a supplement which analyses Save As You Earn business. The annual inquiry is a reasonably detailed balance sheet at book values. There is also a comparatively new monthly inquiry introduced primarily to produce timely information about average prices and average loans for dwellings being mortgaged to societies, distinguishing between new and secondhand housing.

Various fairly minor changes are needed in the present system in order to bring it up to the new standard but a number of others are desirable given the size of the flows through building societies.

Quarterly details of liabilities other than shares and deposits and annual figures of relevant assets at market values are needed to bring the inquiries up to the new standard. Neither should cause problems and market values of quoted assets must already be given in the annual statutory return to the Registrar of Friendly Societies, although in respect of the end of each society's accounting year and not at a common date. Additional information that would be valuable includes quarterly analyses of shares and deposits by type (many societies now offer special terms for large deposits placed for a specified period) and possibly an annual analysis of shares and deposits by period remaining to maturity. At the same time the content of the various returns is being reviewed to eliminate any unnecessary overlap.

Unit trusts

This group consists of trusts authorised by the Department of Trade under the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act. Trusts operating in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are outside the scope of the Act and are not at present included in any OFI group. Statistical inquiries to Unit Trusts are carried out by the Unit Trusts Association and the Bank of England. The former collects monthly details of purchases and sales of units and total funds while the Bank operate quarterly and annual inquiries relating to quarterly transactions in assets and selected liabilities and corresponding annual details of holdings at market values. The changes needed to bring these inquiries up to standard are not extensive and are being incorporated in revised forms of return currently being negotiated. A few smaller trusts are not included in the inquiries at present nor is any allowance made for them in the published statistics. It is hoped that this small gap can be filled when new forms are introduced.

The operations of unit trusts are subject to conditions laid down by the Department of Trade which makes them a fairly useful and homogeneous group statistically. However, there has been a considerable growth recently of trusts catering for tax-exempt bodies such as charities, pension funds etc. and not available to the general public. It is therefore arguable that statistics for such trusts be presented separately. However, this would put an added burden on respondents since statistical returns are normally made by Unit Trust management companies on behalf of all their trusts and exempt trusts are not, therefore, separately identified.

Investment Trust Companies

At present this group includes companies that are either members of the Association of Investment Trust Companies or are listed as investment trust companies by the Stock Exchange. Statistical inquiries cover all such companies apart from about thirty small companies with assets less than £1 million. When the inquiries were set up all companies in the group enjoyed special taxation treatment but the 1965 Finance Act introduced a new definition of an Investment Trust company excluding companies with more than 15 per cent of assets invested in the shares of any one company. The tax advantage of recognition by the Inland Revenue as an Investment Trust company was increased by capital gains tax concessions granted in 1972. It is therefore intended that the OFI group of Investment Trusts will be restricted to companies recognised as such by the Inland Revenue. This will exclude a number of companies at present covered by the inquiry which will fall into the residual group of

OFIs, and will possibly be grouped with various financial trusts not covered at all at present, and brought into a new inquiry.

The present quarterly and annual returns cover only selected assets and liabilities with the coverage of the latter particularly deficient. However, market values of assets are obtained annually. To bring these inquiries up to the new standard would involve the provision of some extra information by respondents although the amount would not be very great. However, some smaller companies find difficulty in responding to the existing inquiries and various methods of keeping the additional burden to a minimum, possibly asking for slightly less than the full standard for OFI inquiries, are being considered.

Insurance Companies

Most insurers operating in the United Kingdom come within the scope of the Insurance Companies Acts 1958 to 1967. Such insurers include UK registered companies, including companies limited by guarantee, branches of overseas registered insurance companies and Lloyds Underwriters. Some other insurers are covered by other legislation such as the Friendly Societies Act, 1974. An important group in this latter category are Collecting Societies which write industrial assurance business. Apart from a few small friendly societies and other similar bodies (classified as non-profit-making bodies in the personal sector) all insurers doing business in the United Kingdom constitute the OFI group of Insurance Companies. Quarterly and annual statistical inquiries in respect of financial transactions are conducted by the British Insurance Association, the Association of Collecting Friendly Societies and the Department of Industry (in respect of insurance companies not belonging to the British Insurance Association) and cover all insurers apart from Lloyds Underwriters. The omission of Lloyds Underwriters from the statistics is important and it is hoped that this gap can be filled before too long. UK registered insurance companies with overseas subsidiaries also co-operate in a statistical inquiry covering both financial transactions with and earnings from these overseas subsidiaries which is primarily used in the construction of the Balance of Payments Accounts. As well as these statistical inquiries all insurers are required to make statutory returns. Those required under the Insurance Companies Acts are very detailed and consist of separate revenue accounts for various classes of business and a balance sheet distinguishing liabilities on long-term and general business. The distinction between long-term and general business, effectively between life assurance and various forms of accident insurance such as motor, fire etc. is most

important. Life assurance is basically a form of personal savings, either repayable at some specified date or on the death of the policy holder, and insurers must build up investments to match their liabilities. In the case of general insurance funds investments are held for liquidity and as reserves against exceptional claims. This distinction is maintained in the quarterly and annual statistical inquiries to insurers and separate statistics of the investments of long-term and general funds are published.

In order to bring the returns received under the quarterly and annual statistical inquiries up to the new standard a number of changes is required. At present returns collect selected assets and liabilities of long term and general funds separately. Some assets and liabilities such as share capital, general reserves, dividends due, overseas investment in subsidiaries etc. are not taken into either fund and will need to be asked for additionally so that all assets and liabilities can be accounted for. Some corresponding additions will be needed to the quarterly return. At present the annual return does not ask for market values of assets and these will have to be added. Insurers have been reluctant in the past to provide market values, arguing that, since assets acquired by long-term funds are held to maturity, market values could give a misleading picture of their financial position. However, market values are the basis of national and sector balance sheets and are essential to the derivation of personal holdings. In this latter context the British Insurance Association did make available to the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth estimates of their members' holdings of ordinary shares at market values and their agreement to making this a regular exercise and extending it to other relevant assets is currently being sought. Insurance companies have been subjected to a considerable increase in the burden of statutory reporting in the recent past so it has been accepted that a complete overhaul of statistical reporting as required under the new standard system cannot be started immediately. The addition of market values, which are of considerable importance, and some minor changes to bring the coverage of assets and liabilities on the present return (that is relating to the long-term and general funds) into line with those used for other groups of OFIs are possibly all that can be achieved for the time being.

In respect of insurance companies there is a strong case for the introduction of some direct reporting of revenue account information. Estimates at present rely on published accounts, statutory returns and details published by the Life Offices Association. There are problems of coverage, amount of detail available and timeliness which make the resulting estimates of

unacceptably low quality and the flows involved are very substantial. It would also be very helpful to have more information on types of premium and benefits paid for life insurance funds in order to enable analyses of this element of personal saving, consistent with estimates of the total net inflow into life assurance funds, to be produced. Statistics in this area are at present quite inadequate.

Superannuation and Pension Funds

In the context of OFIs only autonomous superannuation schemes which are funded (that is hold investments to match their liability to pay benefits) are relevant. There is no precise legal definition of a superannuation fund but most funds are schemes approved by the Inland Revenue and qualify for tax exemption on their investment income. Approval requires, among other things, that a scheme be *bona fide* with the sole object of providing benefits to employees in respect of service. Unapproved funds are small in number and dwindling. Unfortunately, Inland Revenue records do not, as they stand, provide a suitable register for statistical inquiries to superannuation funds. The present system involves separate inquiries to the superannuation funds of public corporations, local authorities and private sector funds. Funds in the first two categories are few and easily identifiable; inquiries to such funds are comprehensive. A register for inquiries to private sector funds was originally obtained from the Inland Revenue but has not been kept up to date. The estimates for this group of funds are therefore of very much poorer quality than for the others. It was originally hoped that the creation of the Occupational Pensions Board in the 1973 Social Security Act would lead to the establishment of a detailed register but this is now unlikely. Therefore, various alternatives are being investigated. There is certainly considerable information in the Inland Revenue, also the Department of Health and Social Security maintain a list of funds in connection with the processing of national insurance records, and these sources, possibly combined with a benchmark inquiry, could be used to put regular inquiries to private sector funds on a firm basis.

Quarterly and annual inquiries to public corporation and local authority superannuation funds have met the new standard for some time now. The inquiries to private sector funds fall a little way short and, while it is hoped that they can be brought up to standard, the greater range of size among such funds means that the need to avoid overburdening small funds must always be borne in mind. First priority is being given to the development of a register.

Revenue account information is also very deficient for funds other than those of local authorities, which

make a statutory return. The Government Actuary conducts a periodic inquiry into pension schemes and the latest inquiry, in respect of 1975, for the first time asked for detailed revenue account information for autonomous funds; this inquiry also obtained some revenue account details for schemes operated through life insurance companies. The results of the latest inquiry will be available shortly. Earlier inquiries had obtained some revenue account information and grand totals were combined with annual figures taken from accounts lodged with the Inland Revenue to provide regular estimates. However, the latter source became increasingly difficult to utilise and in future it will be necessary to find an alternative. The possibilities really amount to the use of the accounts produced by funds or some form of direct inquiry. Both depend on the development of a good register. At the moment the accounts of public corporation funds are being analysed to see whether they contain sufficient detail, are reasonably consistent etc. in order to provide statistical estimates. The Government Actuary's inquiry will, it is hoped, provide a reliable benchmark on which a new estimation system can be based.

Migration within Great Britain

S. L. Edwards, *Statistician and Mrs. M. Pender, Assistant Research Officer, Department of the Environment, South West Regional Office.*

With a steadily declining birthrate, the growth of population in Great Britain is slowing down to an extent which may mean a static population in the near future, perhaps even a declining one. Although this trend may not continue indefinitely it is likely that for areas within Great Britain (regions, sub-regions, and counties) the major source of population change will, in the foreseeable future, be migration between such areas. In order to produce better forecasts of population changes it is therefore necessary to obtain a better understanding of the migratory process.

Migration has been a subject of much investigation over the past hundred years beginning with Ravenstein in the 1880's⁽¹⁾ and more recently there have been, to mention but a few, important contributions to the literature by Gordon⁽²⁾, Weeden⁽³⁾, Creedy⁽⁴⁾, Langley⁽⁵⁾. Almost all studies have however been hindered by lack of suitable data at the appropriate geographical level. In the United States of America most work has been done at the inter-state level and in Great Britain at the regional level – areas which are far too large for most planning purposes. The data used have also been of insufficient detail in that they usually showed only gross flows analysed by sex and sometimes also by age. There is little information available on other characteristics of migrants and what there is is not linked; that is, a group of such characteristics cannot be applied to a specific flow.

It is hoped that these deficiencies will shortly be overcome. The Department of the Environment (South West Regional Office) have prepared a computer package for the extraction of statistics on migrants in matrix form (and also as input into a multiple regression analysis). This package will be used by the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) on their own computer to analyse the 10 per cent file of migrants from the 1971 Census of Population. The Department of the Environment will not have access to the census file. The purpose of this article is to describe the information on migration that will be available in the near future and to outline the uses to which it will be put by the Department of the Environment research team.

The data

The data in their original form on the OPCS migrants' file relate to individuals. The first requirement of the suite of programs is the creation of an 'extracted migrants' file' which will contain only information relevant to the present study (see Appendix) and will eliminate any possible identification of individual movers. The extracted file is therefore much smaller than the original file making it more amenable to detailed analysis and substantially reducing the cost and time of each run.

Thirty-five characteristics of migrants have been retained. Most of these refer to place of residence – 4 to residence 5 years ago, 4 to residence 1 year ago, and 4 to present residence. The rest are made up of social class and employment characteristics (11 in number) place of birth and personal characteristics (8 in number) and family characteristics (4 in number) – see Appendix.

Because of the complexities of programming and the amount of computer time still involved in a run, only 10 of the 35 characteristics retained on the extracted migrants' file will be analysed at any one time (up to 5 sets of 10 characteristics can be extracted in the same run however). Thus, in producing a table with area of origin as one axis and area of destination as the other, the program will analyse the data by another 8 characteristics and produce a separate matrix for each combination of these eight. For example, a matrix could be produced showing the migratory movements of 20–25 year old Welsh speaking, single, female clerks in manufacturing industry, in social class 3 and with 'A' levels! However, to ensure a reasonable number of migrants in each cell of the matrix the 8 characteristics will be sub-divided into very broad classes.

The axes will in most cases be the origin and destination areas. Although the information is stored on the basis of the new districts, it is proposed to carry out the statistical analysis for Great Britain on the basis of new counties only. For reasons of cost, time and resources available it is not intended to do a full district analysis, nor is it considered necessary for the purpose of the current exercise. It is possible however

to work to district level for particular regions or purposes. Such partial analyses will be possible provided that the matrix does not exceed 112×112 which is the maximum allowed for in the program; but to secure adequate numbers of readings in each cell the number of divisions within each characteristic would have to be limited.

The program to sort information from the 10 per cent file of migrants has been written in general terms so that it may be applied to other files on other projects. Nothing specific to the migrants' file is included in the sorting program, but this is part of a suite of programs some of which are of necessity specific to the current exercise. The other programs would need to be replaced for work on different files but the overall cost should be greatly reduced.

Normalisation

A second exercise involved normalising the migrant flow by origin and or destination populations of the same sub-groups. This means that migrants from or to one particular place would be expressed as a proportion of all the people in that place who had the same characteristics and thus the effect of different populations of areas will be standardised.

Another module in the program suite was required for this normalisation procedure, that is, dividing the elements of the migrants' matrix by those matching elements of the population matrix. These normalised figures together with a certain amount of exogenous data will be analysed by regression analysis.*

Involuntary migration

In the study of migration it is useful to separate the different kinds of movement. While moves based on change of job or residence could be included in the broad definition of migration there are other types of move which are more difficult to categorise. A person in prison or mental institution may change his address on admission, possibly during the course of his stay and again on discharge. Such involuntary moves cannot be said to belong to the normal process of migration. Similarly with the armed forces, many movements are involuntary. Students are another special category since the motivation for many of their moves is not quite the same as for normal migration. Prisons and mental institutions would therefore not be regarded as a former usual address and their inmates would not be

counted as migrants. However, students and members of the armed forces will be retained but will be studied separately.

Classification

A number of variables are sub-divided rather finely; for example, industry and occupation are disaggregated into 27 groups so that when coupled with other disaggregations, the observations in individual cells become very few. Thus, the classes need to be grouped in some way. Unfortunately, since there is no indication of the size of the flows to be expected, the process will have to depend largely on trial and error for the variables affected, or possibly by the use of various statistical techniques.

The Research Programme

Two main causes of migration have been suggested in the literature, that occurring because the prime mover (for example head of household) wants to change house and that because a change of job is involved (or because of retirement). It is intended to focus primarily in the current research programme on the latter type of move since short distance changes of residence without a change of work-place tend to be a feature of a stage in the life cycle and not migration in the regional planning sense. Much of the life cycle movement probably takes place within a district or at least within a county and will appear in the diagonal elements of an origin/destination matrix. Thus, if the diagonal elements are excluded this would have the advantage of concentrating the study on the movement motivated by economic influences. It would also reduce the variation between cells since those on the diagonal are expected to contain much larger numbers than the rest. Furthermore it will enable the effect of distance on migration patterns to be studied more clearly. At a later stage the intra-county moves will be analysed in conjunction with the inter-county moves to attempt to separate the housing from the employment stream in migration. This will be aided by information on change of occupation for one-year migrants although change of occupation may not be accompanied by change of employer, workplace or industry.

The 1971 census asked for information on present occupation at the time of the census and occupation one year previously. For one-year migrants it will therefore be possible to identify those people who have changed occupation irrespective of whether they changed workplace or industry when they migrated. This is not possible for the 5-year migrants because no such question was asked.

*The normalised flows will form the dependant variable in the regression. It is possible to use the absolute flows themselves as the dependant variable and to use the origin and destination populations as explanatory variables as in the classic gravity model formulation. However, in accordance with the arguments put forward by Young (6) it is intended to normalise by the product of relevant origin and destination populations, this being the most geographically neutral method available.

Effect of distance

A distance variable has been used in most migration studies in the past but it has not produced consistent results. It appears to be highly sensitive to the presence of other variables in that it seems to pick up their effects when they are omitted but, even within broadly similar specifications, its performance tends to differ. One explanation for this is that it tends to be measured very crudely especially from large areas such as regions. A 'centre' of a region is chosen, usually the supposed regional capital or a county town and either straight line distances or sometimes road distances are measured between these centres. Naturally these measures are arbitrary; they probably do not reflect average distance moved and it is doubtful if they even produce an accurate ranking.

It is therefore not known whether the variations in performance of this variable is due entirely to characteristics inherent in the variable or, at least in some part, to the arbitrary nature of its measurement. The present study will attempt to answer this question by measuring distance on a systematic basis. Centres of gravity of counties have been computed, weighted by population, and these were used as the centres from which the average distance travelled was calculated. Straight line distances have been used as a proxy for perceived distances from family and friends. Where access to or from an area is particularly difficult, for example in parts of Wales and Scotland, it is intended to use additional dummy variables.

A predictive model

Part of the research programme on migration is the building of a predictive model of the migratory process. To this end, exogenous variables will be drawn upon partly from the 'Indicators of Local Prosperity' project previously reported in *Statistical News*⁽⁷⁾, partly from other sources. Among the variables, representing various characteristics of the importing and exporting areas which it is planned to include, are income, unemployment rates, proportion of dwellings owner-occupied, proportion of dwellings rented from a local authority, average house prices, various other indicators of local prosperity and employment growth 1961-71.

Non-movers

Thus far the work has centred around people who migrate. The other side of the coin is those who remain, and perhaps it is just as important (more so in numerical terms) to question why these people do not move. Within the limited research resources available it is therefore intended to analyse the non-movers to determine whether their characteristics differ from those of migrants.

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APPENDIX

Information to be retained on extracted migrants' file

1. Person's birth place (countries).
2. Year of entry into Great Britain.
3. Father's birth place (country).
4. Mother's birth place (country).
5. Marital condition.
6. Sex.
7. Age.
8. Knowledge of Welsh/Gaelic.
9. Area of present residence, local authority.
10. Area of present residence, country.
11. Area of present residence, new town.
12. Area of present residence, region.
13. Area of residence 1 year ago, local authority.
14. Area of residence 1 year ago, new town.
15. Area of residence 1 year ago, county.
16. Area of residence 1 year ago, region.
17. Area of residence 5 years ago, local authority.
18. Area of residence 5 years ago, county.
19. Area of residence 5 years ago, new town.
20. Area of residence 5 years ago, region.
21. Area of workplace, old authorities.
22. Occupation one year ago.
23. Occupation, now.
24. Hours worked (weekly).
25. Industry.
26. Class of industrial establishment.
27. Socio-economic class.
28. Socio-economic group.
29. Social class.
30. Expanded employment status.
31. Class of residence - distinguishing private from non-private households to identify students, prisoners etc.
32. Relationship to head of household.
33. Family number within household.
34. Student next term/job next week - composite code to identify students, the permanently sick, the unemployed, the retired etc.
35. Academic and professional qualifications.

Employees' contributions to superannuation schemes in 1973/74

J. W. Gardner, *Statistician, Central Statistical Office*

This article describes a special exercise to obtain an estimate of employees' superannuation contributions in the 1973/74 tax year as a percentage of the total pay recorded on the PAYE tax deduction cards. The need for this estimate arose because changes in the tax and national insurance administration from April 1975 have resulted in a discontinuity in the form in which pay information is held on the deduction cards (dc's), and this pay has long been used in the estimates of aggregate wages and salaries in the National Accounts. For 1974/75 the last year before the change, pay was recorded both gross and net of employees' superannuation contributions and it was the gross figure that was used in the Accounts. From 1975/76 onwards only the net pay is shown, and it has been necessary to obtain a benchmark estimate of the difference between this and gross pay for a year close to the point of change-over, in order to bridge the gap. For this purpose staff of the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) kindly agreed to take a sample of twenty-eight thousand tax deduction cards from the records held at the Department's Central Office in Newcastle. The author also wishes to acknowledge the co-operation and efforts of the Inland Revenue staff, whose advice on the handling and interpretation of the data was essential for the satisfactory planning of the operation.

The new estimates of employees' superannuation contributions were based on tabulations prepared by DHSS from the special sample, and, as well as giving an estimate of the aggregate, the contributions were analysed as a percentage of pay by the industry and institutional sector of the employer. The latter results were used to help in the validation of the Newcastle sample, by enabling it to be compared with information available from other sources covering the contribution field. The sector sub-division was considered to be particularly significant, in view of the marked differences between pension arrangements in the private and in the public sectors. In addition to this breakdown it was decided to include for each person sampled, certain demographic information – age, sex, and for women, the marital status. The total information available for the sampled cases thus enabled tabulations to be

supplied analysing pay and contributions by industry, sector, age, sex and marital status, and by range of pay.

The coverage of the pay data in this sample differs in certain respects from the concept of wages and salaries used in the National Accounts, which includes, as well as the pay shown on the deduction cards, income in kind, whether taxed or not, and also the pay of employees whose earnings are below the tax and graduated insurance contribution limits, and for whom employers are not liable to complete tax deduction cards. The total of the income excluded (low earnings and income in kind) *plus* other adjustments to the national accounts basis amounted to some nine hundred million pounds in 1973, compared with the wages and salaries total for that year of thirty-eight thousand million pounds. This is a small percentage in aggregate, and does not greatly affect the estimates of employees' superannuation contributions, which are almost certainly small for the earners who had no deduction cards. None-the-less the exclusion of the mainly low earner categories does affect the analysis of pay by industry to a rather greater extent, since low earnings tend to be concentrated in certain industry groups. Also, the exclusion affects the distributions of pay by range obtained from the Newcastle sample, reducing the numbers recorded in the low income ranges.

Selection and processing of the sample

The DHSS Newcastle system for recording the graduated insurance contributions is one of the largest and most highly automated of its kind in the world. About forty million contributions relating to employment income (Class I), shown on the tax deduction cards, are posted to the computer each year, to the contribution accounts of the insured population. There are a small proportion of cases which cannot be posted to an account, and information relating to these is placed on a separate file on the Newcastle computer, known as the alpha file, awaiting further action. At the point in time when the statistical sample described in the present article was taken (about one year after the end 1973/74 tax year) the majority of the errors output for clerical correction had been posted to the correct

accounts; the residue *plus* certain nil and low value items for which no corrective action had been taken were left on the alpha file. It was necessary therefore, in the present exercise, for DHSS to sample this file as well as to take the sample of the postings to the main accounts file, in order to obtain a representative sample of all deduction cards.

The high degree of mechanisation of the data handling at Newcastle made the system particularly well suited to a sample-taking operation. The sample consisted of a systematic selection of one in thirteen of the contributors' accounts on one of the 100 ledgers from the main file, where each ledger held the accounts of essentially one hundredth of the population, ignoring those accounts to which no contributions relating to earnings had been posted in the 1973/74 tax year. In addition, a systematic one in thirteen sample of the contribution records on a section of the alpha file was taken, this section also representing roughly one hundredth of the total alpha file. All contribution records corresponding to deduction cards were included for each account selected on the main file, and since more than one deduction card may be associated with any one account, the total number of deduction cards selected from the main file (24,562), exceeded the number of accounts sampled (21,913). The number of deduction cards selected from the alpha file was 3,374. Both main and alpha samples were selected by computer, which punched for each deduction card a 'search' card containing the demographic information (main file cases only) and reference number to the microfilm record of the deduction card. The record was then located and additional information on gross pay and net pay was extracted as well as codes showing the industry and sector of the employer, which are entered by tax collectors on the header card at the front of the employer's PAYE record.

The extraction from the microfilm records of the gross and net pay was by no means a simple process, due to the variety of layouts on the different types of documents used by employers in their returns. Separate extraction procedures were necessary for each of the different document types. For each deduction card or substitute document manual credibility checks were made to the pay figures before they were entered on the search card.

The extraction procedures were carefully devised to minimise errors, many of which could not have been detected at the later computer credibility checking stages. The planning of this part of the work was greatly helped by a pilot sample of several hundred deduction cards, which were scrutinized carefully for potential difficulties.

The computer credibility checks indicated, as hoped,

relatively few errors. The total number of failures other than on the industry codes from these computer checks was less than a hundred deduction cards out of the total of twenty-eight thousand, emphasizing the high quality of work at the extraction and punching stages of the operation. Errors in the industry and sector codes were found in a larger proportion of cards, 5 per cent of the total. All of the cases rejected by the computer were further examined, referring back to the header card and to other information where necessary, and valid industry codes allocated.

The whole set of corrected cards were re-run through the credibility checks, so that finally a 'clean' set of sample data was ready for grossing-up and tabulation.

Discussion of the results

The wide range of classificatory variables attached to each sample item enabled a variety of interesting cross tabulations of the pay and contributions to be obtained. Only a few examples of the results can be given in this short article – further details are available from the Central Statistical Office on request. Some of the analyses, particularly those relating to industry and sector, used the deduction card as the basic unit of data. A deduction card is submitted by an employer each tax year for every person employed by him at any time during the year (with a low earnings exception discussed above). The deduction card may thus relate to an employment for the full year or for part of the year only. The data extracted for the sample did not allow the part-year cases to be distinguished from the full-year cases, so that analysis of the deduction card pay by range would be of little interest. The person unit described below was used in the distributional analyses by range. However the deduction card unit was the most appropriate in those analyses of pay and contributions by industry and by sector, and in the estimation of the ratio of contributions to pay.

The results gave sample estimates of contributions in money terms, and also expressed as a percentage of pay for those jobs in which contributions greater than 1 per cent were paid, including part time and casual jobs. In addition the proportion of deduction cards or jobs for which employee contributions greater than 1 per cent were paid, were also shown. For the whole economy, the proportion of deduction cards showing employee contributions was estimated to be 19.7 per cent. At industry level there were wide variations in the percentage of contributors – from 2 per cent of deduction cards in agriculture to 60 per cent in mining and quarrying. Generally the proportions contributing were highest in manufacturing industries, and in industries with a high public sector content. Within manufacturing the lowest contributors were in indus-

tries with the highest proportion of female employment – food manufacturing, and the textile and clothing industries.

The percentage of contributors and the value of contributions are shown by institutional sector in Table 1 below. It was expected that the allocation of the sample deduction cards by sector might be subject to rather greater error than the industry analyses discussed briefly above, and two-way tabulations by sector and industry were obtained from the sample, and this greater detail suggested that some adjustments to the data were necessary.

Despite this limitation some tentative conclusions may be drawn. The table shows that a much higher proportion of employees contribute to pension schemes in the public sector than in the private sector. Non-contributory pension schemes would, of course, be excluded from the proportions shown in this table. The average contribution rate for those making more than a 1 per cent contribution was also higher in the public than in the private sector in 1973/74. Overall, the public sector was estimated by the sample to have accounted for two-thirds of all employee contributions in that year, although the proportion of pay in the public sector was only about half of this. Within the private sector the table shows a very low proportion of contributors among those employees working for sole traders and partnerships. This proportion may well understate the percentage of employees in this group covered by pension schemes, since it excludes those who contribute to schemes run by insurance companies, where the contributions attract life assurance tax relief rather than superannuation relief, and consequently would not be shown on the tax deduction card. Within the public sector the relatively low proportion of contributors in the central government sub-sector excludes those employees, such as most civil servants, who were members of non-contributory pension schemes.

Table 2 below shows the proportion of men, married women and single women who contributed more than 1 per cent of pay to pension schemes in 1973/74, analysed by range of pay. This analysis in terms of persons, was obtained by summing the pay shown on each deduction card in the person's account, thus obtaining an estimate of the total earnings for each person for the whole of the tax year. As might be expected, the proportions of men contributing to pension schemes are much higher than of women, although single women were more likely to be contributors than married women, and for all groups, the proportions contributing increase with increase in pay. However, at the highest pay ranges, the proportion of women contributing was greater than that of men. The average contribution rate for those contributing

does not show a marked pattern with pay, although there is some tendency for the average percentage rate to increase with higher pay.

There is also a higher contribution rate for women than for men in the higher pay groups. Both this and the higher proportion of women contributing in these top pay bands may reflect the greater proportion of women in non-manual occupations than of men at these levels. Unfortunately, it was not possible to divide the deduction cards in the sample into manual and non-manual occupational categories.

Table 3 shows the proportions of men and women taken together contributing by pay range for different age groups. The increasing proportion with age of contributors is most marked between the age of fifteen and thirty; thereafter the increase in proportion is fairly slight, and at the highest age range shown, sixty to sixty-four, there is some fall off in the proportion of contributors.

Conclusions

The Newcastle sample of one in thirteen hundred persons with deduction cards gave an estimate of employees' contributions of five hundred and eighty million pounds for 1973/74, 1½ per cent of pay in that year. The estimate of the total is considered to be good, not least because of the agreement of these results when analysed by institutional sector group with alternative estimates. The quality of the sample was high, owing to the unique facility offered by the Newcastle system of a computer based operation, with its absence of response problems encountered in so many samples of persons. The quality of the extraction of the information from the tax deduction records on microfilm was also high, as evidenced by the low rate of failure of the computer credibility checks. In the course of the project many subsidiary analyses of the data were derived, including pay and contributions by range of pay, by sex, marital status and age.

Employees' superannuation contributions – by sector

Table 1

Sector	Deduction cards showing contributions of over 1 per cent of pay		Total contributions(1) £m	Total pay(1) £m	Contributions as a percentage of pay
	Percentage of all deduction cards	Average rate of contribution			
Companies	11	3.3	179.8	22,397	0.8
Sole traders and partnerships	3	4.1	8.1	2,678	0.3
Public corporations	55	4.2	113.5	3,829	3.0
Local authorities and charities	41	5.4	186.2	5,049	3.7
Central government	35	4.8	79.2	3,970	2.0
Total	19.7	4.2	582.5(2)	38,167(3)	1.5

(1) Sample estimates.

(2) Includes £15.7 million unallocated by sector.

(3) Includes £244 million unallocated by sector.

Percentage of employees contributing more than 1 per cent of gross pay

Table 2

Range of gross pay £	Males		Females(1)			
	Percentage(2) contributing	Average(3) contribution rate	Married		Single	
			Percentage(2) contributing	Average(3) contribution rate	Percentage(2) contributing	Average contribution rate
	per cent	per cent	per cent	per cent	per cent	per cent
0-199	3	5.3	1	—	3	
200-499	5	3.3	3	—	7	
500-749	9	3.4	6	—	6	
750-999	10	3.3	14	4.1	19	5.2
1,000-1,299	21	3.6	29	4.4	30	4.7
1,300-1,599	27	3.5	42	4.8	44	4.8
1,600-1,999	33	2.8	56	4.9	62	4.9
2,000-2,499	41	3.7	64	5.9	58	5.4
2,500-2,999	47	3.9	85	5.5	70	3.9
3,000-3,499	54	4.4	85	6.0	69	6.2
3,500-3,999	58	4.5	—	—	—	
Over 4,000	50	4.8	—	—	—	
Total	32.0		17.0		23.7	

(1) Separate estimates for widowed and divorced (not included in 'single' category above) not given because of small sample size.

(2) Percentage of persons contributing more than 1 per cent of gross pay.

(3) Average percentage contribution of those persons contributing more than 1 per cent of gross pay.

**Percentage of employees contributing, analysed
by age⁽¹⁾**

Table 3

Range of gross pay	Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64
£	Percentage						
0-199	1	2	2	3	2	1	5
200-499	3	8	9	3	3	5	7
500-749	8	8	14	5	8	6	12
750-999	11	17	11	19	12	15	19
1,000-1,299	10	26	27	31	30	30	22
1,300-1,599	-	24	31	30	38	45	38
1,600-1,999		25	38	38	39	43	44
2,000-2,499		26	44	38	44	52	46
2,500-2,999		25	45	29	54	58	-
3,000-3,499		-	43	44	68	65	
3,500-3,999			-	54	62	65	
Over 4,000				49	54	51	
Total	7.1	19.5	30.4	28.9	33.4	35.7	30.5

(1) Persons contributing more than 1 per cent of gross pay.

Social reports: Their contribution to integrated development planning

A report on the European seminar at Saint Pierre (Aosta Valley) Italy 20-30 April 1976

Valerie Imber, *Statistician, Department of Health and Social Security*

This was the first 1976 seminar in the series of seminars and expert groups organised each year by the United Nations under the aegis of the European Social Development programme.

An increasing number of European and non-European countries have engaged in publishing periodically national social reports, which make use of social statistics, social indicators and other means of documenting the state of social problems and the measurable effects of social policies. In addition to methodological matters relating to their preparation and presentation, an important question to be considered is how such reports could help to strengthen the social component of integrated development planning. It was thought that an exchange of experience and views on the subject should prove of interest both to countries which have already undertaken the publication of social reports and to those which intend doing so, and could at the same time encourage some harmonization in their preparation leading to better international comparability. The seminar should also contribute to the achievement of one of the major objectives, namely the study of 'the role of social reporting and social indicators in policy-making', adopted by the United Nations Commission for Social Development for the period 1976-1979.

Participants were selected by the United Nations on the basis of nominations by the National Consultative Councils who requested applications in the early part of the year.

The United Kingdom Consultative Committee provides administrative help to the United Kingdom Liaison Officer for the European Social Development Programme. It is a broadly based national committee set up to represent to the Department, the views of non-governmental organisations, professional associations, training institutions and individuals on the planning and implementation of the Programme. In

addition observers represent interested government departments.

Table 1 shows the distribution of participants between countries and international organisations. The majority of those taking part in the seminar were employed by government organisations; and, although some participants worked for voluntary agencies, these tended to be agencies with close links with government institutions. The UK members, Dr D. Fruin, Mrs V. Imber and Mr E. J. Thompson were all employed by central government departments – the Home Office, the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS), and the Central Statistical Office. Although the different patterns of government organisation make it difficult to compare the major interests of other participants, the following fields of activity were strongly represented: statistics, planning, employment, and social affairs. The last term covers a broad spectrum and was often more closely related to social security and income maintenance than to the provision of care as understood by Social Services within the United Kingdom. Differences in government organisations and political institutions between the various participating countries had a pronounced effect on the whole progress of the seminar, as these affect not only the ways in which national social reports can be integrated into the planning process but also the underlying conceptual framework upon which the social report and its role are based.

In some ways the subject matter of the seminar turned out to be more restricted than both the title and descriptive note suggested: the emphasis was placed upon 'social reports' and these were confined to national publications such as *Social Trends* in the United Kingdom and *Donnes Sociales* in France. A working definition of integrated development planning was adopted such that the term referred to a national joint approach to social, economic, and physical planning. Within this context it might have been useful if the

United Kingdom had been given the opportunity to present a paper on work arising out of last year's Central Policy Review Staff's report on 'A Joint Framework for Social Policy'. Some of that work might be more comparable to, say, the Netherlands Social and Cultural report than is the current publication *Social Trends*.

Summary account of participants

Table 1

International organisations	
United Nations	3
U.N.E.C.E.	1
I.L.O.	1
UNESCO	1
E.E.C.	1
European Centre for Social Welfare Training and Research	1
Countries	
Austria	3
Czechoslovakia	1
Finland	2
France	2
Hungary	1
Italy	11
Norway	2
Netherlands	3
Poland	1
Portugal	1
Romania	1
United Kingdom	3
Sweden	4
Switzerland	1
Turkey	4
Yugoslavia	1
Observers	
Columbia	1

The seminar was organised around four basic themes:

The social dimension of integrated development planning: requirements and instruments. The role of social reports;

Conceptual, methodological, and policy issues in social reporting at the national level;

Problems of coverage, structure, and style in national reports; and

Enhancing the effectiveness of social reports as instruments of national planning.

Papers were presented on each of these themes in plenary sessions. They were followed by a short discussion in plenary, rather longer discussion in groups (of which there were three) and a short plenary session where group rapporteurs and the general rapporteur presented the discussions and conclusions of the groups.

Despite the apparently clear distinction between the four themes, there was little logical order to their

presentation and each group session tended to cover the same ground, although the emphasis varied. Almost inevitably a considerable part of the discussion was devoted to the issues of neutrality and objectivity. It was generally accepted that social reports could not be strictly neutral, as the very fact of selecting data and analyses for inclusion in the report (like their actual collection in the first place) introduced an element of choice which reflected the general view of society. Many participants considered that this was as far as non-neutrality should go, whereas others considered that the reports should suggest ways of changing society according to predetermined goals. The view taken was very much dependent upon the potential role of the report in the planning and policy making process and the institutional framework of the country of reference. In this context, some participants considered that such reports should be purely descriptive, and should present information which could be interpreted and used differently by different groups in society; whereas others considered that they should be prescriptive in terms of national policy.

The presentation of the distribution of personal income was frequently discussed in this context, and highlighted the extent to which different philosophical standpoints and political heritages influenced the discussion. Those who considered that social reports should be prescriptive of policy stated that the very inclusion of an income distribution showed a widespread belief and desire for equality of incomes. Others pointed out that the same distribution could be considered as either good or bad by different groups in society. Thus the two different outlooks could lead to the production of reports similar in content if not in intent.

Despite these differences, it was agreed that the main purpose of a social report was to contribute to informed public opinion directly and through the mass media rather than to provide information of direct use to a planning system: a single report inevitably included too little information for such purposes. Neither a social report nor an integrated planning system were preconditions for each other, but a social report could play an indirect role in the planning system, not only giving the various pressure groups relevant information, but also by showing sectoral planners the relationships between their different fields of endeavour. To this extent, social reports could be seen as instruments in the dissemination of information; and the discussion of the role of social reports may be seen in terms of the extent to which information has inevitable policy implication, which in turn is dependent upon the same political and philosophical outlook being held by all members of a society.

Again, despite the difference in views over the extent to which the report should be orientated towards policy, there was general agreement that the body producing a social report should be independent of direction by the government. Those who considered that the report should be prescriptive rather than descriptive saw it as presenting goals for social policy to the government. However, independence of reporting had to be matched by good access to all sources of data, at local, regional, and national levels. In this context 'independent of direction' is the key phrase; and the institutional arrangements for achieving this independence will of course vary from country to country, according to the organisation of government and the principles upon which the public service operates. For example, in the United Kingdom, *Social Trends* is independent of government direction in the sense that there is no political control over its contents, and the apolitical nature of the British Civil Service means that the report cannot contain policy recommendations. A report which did include such recommendations would be produced through the Parliamentary system, or as a 'consultative document' along the lines of that recently produced by DHSS. On the other hand, the Social and Cultural Report of the Netherlands is produced by the Social and Cultural Planning Office which is considered to be institutionally independent of the government and as such can produce an independent critique of current government policy. This may be compared with the role of bodies such as the National Institute of Economic and Social Research in economic reporting in the United Kingdom.

The seminar also considered the more technical aspects of producing a social report and, in particular, emphasised the role such reports could play in identifying gaps in existing data. This of course impinges upon the general discussion of neutrality and objectivity and the extent to which social reports may be used to identify social problems. There are gaps in any data system which is inevitably based upon the social and political philosophy of the society, but it is possible that a pluralist society is more likely to have a wide data base than one where a single political philosophy dominates. For example statistics of marital conflict and family breakdown may be virtually non-existent in a country where the prevailing philosophy is of the view that marriage is a permanent institution. Similarly, it is difficult to collect statistics about some illegal acts, although these may be none-the-less relevant to key social problems. For example, families who are illegally evicted by means of harassment by their landlord are important in the assessment of the problems of the homeless; but since harassment is illegal, if it were known to the local authority then the

tenant would not be homeless by eviction. The landlord could be prosecuted for harassment of tenants but the very nature of the offence makes the tenant reluctant to do so.

There was also some discussion over the role of information about local authorities in the context of social reports and integrated development planning. Where planning is on a local basis, then local social reports would be useful. However, to the extent that integrated development planning is concerned with geographical equity regional information is necessary in a national social report. Finally, the use of local information as a research strategy was also considered. It may be better to examine the relationships between social phenomena through a series of intense, interrelated studies in comparatively small areas than to embark upon a national sample survey.

Finally, consideration was given to the introduction of social reports in the developing countries and the seminar concluded that 'It would be dangerous to assume that the concepts, social and political frames of reference, coverage and organisation of social reports in the developed countries can legitimately or usefully be applied directly to developing countries'⁽¹⁾. This conclusion is an integral part of the methodology of social reporting. The social report must inevitably take into account conditions within the society about which it is produced, and thus there can be no universal prescription as to what can or ought to be included.

By the end of the seminar, it was considered that social reports should have at least the following main characteristics:

They aim at deploying data to build up as comprehensive and balanced a picture as possible of the state of society.

They aim at uncovering the interaction between the various facets and elements of social reality.

They do not merely give a snapshot of the state of society and relationship within it at any given point in time, but aim at elucidating the general directions in which society is evolving and the perceivable changes in the relationships between its components. They are produced at regular intervals.

The separate production of economic and social reports was considered desirable because of the danger that the relatively new field of social reporting might otherwise be dominated by the more established economic reporting. However there should be co-operation in their development, since integrated development planning must take into account the situation in both fields.

Before the seminar, the United Nations Secretariat prepared a background paper which compared the social reports of twelve countries and a revised version

of this paper will be issued as a companion volume to the report on the seminar. Both publications should appear later this year.

The views and facts contained in this article are solely the responsibility of its author.

(1) Excerpts from 'Draft Conclusions and Recommendations as amended in Plenary'.

When planning is on a local basis, then the reports would be drafted, discussed, and the extent of integrated development planning is concerned with geographical, social, physical information is necessary in a national social report. Finally, the use of information as a research strategy has also been considered. It may be better to examine the relationships between social phenomena through a series of inter-related studies in comparative studies rather than to embark upon a national survey.

Finally, consideration was given to the introduction of social reports in the developing countries and the seminar concluded that it would be advisable to assume that the country's social and physical factors of related coverage and organization of social reports in the developed countries can legitimately or actually be applied directly to developing countries. This conclusion is an integral part of the methodology of social reporting. The social report must be viewed into account conditions within the society which it is produced, and that there can be no universal prescription as to what can or ought to be included.

By the end of the seminar, it was concluded that social reports should have at least the following characteristics:

They aim at depicting data to build up a comprehensive and balanced picture as a basis of positive and balanced socio-economic and socio-political state planning, development and reform.

They aim at uncovering the interaction between the socio-economic and political factors and demands of social reporting.

They aim at identifying the relationship between the socio-economic and political factors within a given point of time and place, and identifying the growth directions in which society is moving and the possibilities of which society is moving and the possibilities.

They are produced at regular intervals.

The seminar produced the economic and social reports was considered desirable because of the fact that the reports provide social reporting which is more established, but otherwise, the seminar should be considered as a positive step towards the development of integrated development planning and the role of social reports in the development of the country.

Before the seminar, the United Nations Secretary-General had requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prepare a report on the development of social reporting in the developing countries and a related session.

Notes on current developments

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

Population projections: regions and counties

OPCS has recently produced a new set of population projections for the standard regions of England based on the mid-1974 provisional estimates of population. In addition, for the first time, projections have also been made for the counties created by Local Government Reorganisation. Key statistics were issued in *OPCS Monitor Reference PP3 76/1* available direct from:

Information Branch (Dept SN)
Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
St Catherines House
10 Kingsway
London WC2B 6JP

The main features of these projections will form the basis of an article in *Population Trends 5* to be published in September.

More detailed results will appear in the forthcoming booklet *Population projections: regions and counties* to be published by HMSO later this year.

Enquiries about these projections to:
01-242 0262 ext 2183

References

OPCS Monitor (Reference PP376/1) available direct from OPCS.
Population Trends 5 (HMSO) due in September 1976 (Price £2 net).
Population projections: regions and counties, Series PP3 no 1 (HMSO) forthcoming.

Population Trends

The editorial of *Population Trends 4*, the journal of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, examines the latest trends in multiple births in England and Wales and concludes that there has been a downward trend in the number of twins and triplets born. Births of quadruplets (or higher order births) though still very rare, may have occurred more frequently in recent years, but it is uncertain whether this is due to more such pregnancies or increased skill in preserving the life of premature infants.

The first of the articles examines the relationship of perinatal mortality to maternal age and parity, social class, urban/rural residence and legitimacy.

The study of names can provide some interesting sidelights on population change – and lack of change. The second article compares the fifty most common names in 1975 with surnames 123 years ago and finds some remarkable similarities in the two lists.

An illustrated summary of recently published statistics from the 1971 Census of Population on travelling to work focuses on the commuter hinterlands of the British conurbations and the method of travel used.

The fourth article is a guide to OPCS giving a brief history of the Office, and describing the Office's activities and the problems being faced.

Population Trends 5, due for publication in September 1976, will include the following feature articles:

Abortion and fertility—an examination of the statistics

Classifying local areas—a new multivariate classification of all local authorities in Great Britain

Appendicitis—changes in incidence, treatment and mortality with a brief historical perspective

Local population projections—some observations on the mid-1974 based results including an account of how the projections are made (held over from *Population Trends 4*).

Population Trends can be obtained on subscription (£8.44, including postage, per year) from:

HMSO,
PO Box 569,
London,
SE1 9NH.

References

Population Trends 4 (HMSO) July 1976 (Price £2 net).
Population Trends 5 (HMSO) due in September 1976 (Price £2 net).

Other OPCS publications

Three more volumes appearing in the new range of OPCS annual publications for England and Wales are:

Local authority vital statistics—1974 figures of births, deaths, and population for local government districts, counties, standard regions and regional and area health authorities.

Mortality statistics: accidents and violence—1974 figures of deaths by type and cause, including a detailed tabulation of poisonings and accidental deaths by place of occurrence distinguishing accidents 'at work'.

Mortality statistics: area—1974 figures of deaths by cause for local authority areas and by cause, sex and age for standard regions, metropolitan counties and regional health authorities.

These volumes continue the series of statistics previously published as part of the *Registrar General's Statistical Review of England and Wales* parts I and II

which is being reformed into a number of separate volumes according to specific subjects.

References

Local authority vital statistics, 1974 (Series VS number 1) (HMSO) forthcoming.

Mortality Statistics: accidents and violence, 1974 (Series DH4 number 1) (HMSO) forthcoming.

Mortality Statistics: area, 1974 (Series DH5 number 1) (HMSO) forthcoming.

Scotland

Census 1971

The following regional reports (county report tables reworked for the new regions and districts) have been published since the list given in *Statistical News* No 33.

	Publication date	Price
Highland (including the three Island Areas)	May 76	£6.90
Borders	„	£3.00
Tayside	„	£2.70
Fife	June 76	£2.60
Strathclyde	August 76	£8.60

Census test

A small test of census question wording has been carried out in the Edinburgh area. The voluntary response was about 85 per cent, and nearly all of the respondents, for whom it was relevant, returned the supplementary postal questionnaire on educational qualifications.

The Registrar General's quarterly return

The Registrar General's fourth quarterly return for 1975, with provisional annual return, was published in June and the first quarterly return for 1976 is to be published this month.

HEALTH

Hospital in-patient figures for England and Wales for 1973

Preliminary tables from the 1973 Hospital In-Patient Enquiry⁽¹⁾ published in June follow the form of those published for earlier years and give selected summary tables for 1973 in advance of the detailed analyses which will appear in the main Report on the Enquiry to be published during the latter half of 1976.

The Hospital In-Patient Enquiry is organised jointly by the Department of Health and Social Security, the Welsh Office, and the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. It provides a wide range of statistics based on a one in ten sample of National Health Service (NHS) patients in all hospitals in England and Wales excluding psychiatric hospitals and departments. The sample consists of data submitted by hospital

authorities on some half million discharges including deaths each year to provide statistics of in-patient spells, discharge rates, waiting times for admission, duration of stay and use of beds; these are analysed by diagnosis, hospital department and region of treatment, source of admission, surgical operations and types of accident by sex, age, marital status and area of residence of the patient. These statistics serve both medical and administrative purposes, being used in, for example, the planning of hospital building, organising services and allocating resources, the surveillance of trends in hospital care and as background data for research projects.

The number of in-patient spells in NHS hospitals in England and Wales in 1973 decreased by 2 per cent compared with 1972, interrupting a continuous rise over recent years. Industrial action by NHS ancillary staff early in 1973 delayed some planned admissions and increased the size of waiting lists. Spells of maternity care were 4 per cent down compared with 1972 but they still accounted for one fifth of the total and constituted the largest diagnostic group with over nine hundred thousand hospital spells in 1973. The next largest groups were diseases of the digestive system and the respiratory system (nearly 10 per cent and over 8 per cent respectively).

The discharge rates of 1,022 per 10,000 population in 1973 was lower than in 1972 (1,041), and the fall was reflected in all age groups apart from children under 15. The overall rates for men (841) and for women (832) are very similar when maternity cases have been excluded. The male rates were higher in children aged 0-14 and from 45 onwards, whereas the female rates were higher for the 15-44 age group even after allowing for maternity cases. Rates for both men and women aged 75 and over were more than double those for age group 45-64.

The mean waiting time for hospital admissions in England and Wales in 1973 was 13.9 weeks, slightly more than in 1972 (13.4 weeks). The shortest mean waiting time was recorded for the South West Metropolitan Region (10.5 weeks) and the longest for the Sheffield region (nearly 18 weeks). The proportion of all admissions that were from the waiting list or booked cases again fell slightly to 39 per cent for men and 57 per cent for women. The average stay remained at 13.7 days, the same as in the previous two years, but the average number of beds used daily declined to 188 thousand compared with 192 thousand in 1972. Some 49 per cent of the beds were occupied by patients aged 65 years and over - almost the same proportion as in 1972 (48 per cent). The number of operations performed in 1973 (some 2.7 million) was 3 per cent less than in 1972.

Of the half million spells in hospital due to injuries, over eighty thousand were attributed to road traffic accidents (some six thousand fewer than in 1972) and nearly ninety thousand to accidents in the home (almost ten thousand fewer than in 1972). Almost one-fifth of the spells due to home accidents were attributed to adverse effects of medicinal agents.

Reference

(1) *Report on Hospital In-Patient Enquiry 1973 Preliminary Tables* (HMSO) (Price 80p net).

Mental illness and mental handicap statistics

A steady decline in the total number of patients, particularly long-stay patients, in both mental illness and mental handicap hospitals, is the most prominent trend illustrated in a Department of Health and Social Security Statistical report published in May 1976. The report, which is based on the Mental Health Enquiry for 1973 and is one of a regular series, contains statistics and commentaries on recent trends and major changes.

For mental illness hospitals and units, the number of in-patients resident at the end of 1973 was 94,185, over twelve thousand less than at the end of 1970. This mainly reflects the marked decrease in long-stay patients (five years or more) of about three thousand each year. As methods of treatment and care develop and community services expand, fewer patients than in previous years are requiring long term in-patient care and, as greater efforts are made at rehabilitation, discharges of existing long-stay patients are rising.

Total admissions to mental illness hospitals and units are almost constant, but the pattern of admission has changed: re-admissions have risen and now constitute about two-thirds of all admissions. First admissions – particularly for schizophrenia and depressive psychoses – are falling. However first admissions of patients with conditions related to excessive alcohol consumption have risen at over 10 per cent per annum.

Similarly, for mental handicap hospitals and units the number of resident patients at the end of 1973 was 51,797, approximately three thousand, six hundred less than at the end of 1970. Here too the decline occurred mainly among the long-stay category, reflecting greater community care through other services. Admissions have increased – to 11,501 in 1973 compared with 10,697 in 1970 – but well over half of these are now for short-term care, to relieve those who are caring for the mentally handicapped in the community. First admissions fell to 1,547 in 1973, in line with the declining trend of 11 per cent per annum observed since 1970.

Reference

Psychiatric Hospitals and Units in England. In-patient statistics from the Mental Health Enquiry for the year 1973. Department of Health and Social Security Statistical and Research Report Series No 12 (HMSO) (Price £2.95 net).

In-patient care of the mentally ill

A statistical study of in-patient care of the mentally ill by R. J. Eason and J. A. Grimes of the Department of Health and Social Security was published in the May edition of *Health Trends*. The study follows the release last year of the White Paper *Better Services for the Mentally Ill* (Cmnd. 6233) which describes the community based psychiatric services now being developed to replace the previous service based on large mental hospitals. The transition from the old to the new system of care will have a dramatic effect on in-patient services. Already, over the last twenty years, new forms of treatment for psychiatric illness have resulted in changes in the style of in-patient care. At the end of 1954 before the new style of care had developed, there were over a hundred and fifty thousand in-patients of psychiatric hospitals; by 1974 this had fallen to ninety-five thousand, the lowest figure since 1903. Over the same period however, admissions rose from seventy-two thousand to over one hundred and eighty thousand. Various levels of in-patient provision have been recommended in the White Paper and in circulars issued to hospital authorities by the Department of Health and Social Security and these levels generally provide far fewer in-patient beds than have previously been available. The purpose of the *Health Trends* paper is to examine the use of in-patient beds in recent years so that comparisons may be drawn with the recommended levels of provision in the future community based services and assessments made of probable developments. In-patients of mental illness hospitals and units have been categorized into a number of groups to facilitate comparison with the various types of in-patient care that will be available in the future. Four main groups have been used: acute mental illness (including children and adolescents), elderly severely mentally infirm, the 'old' long stay and the 'new' long stay.

The acute mental illness group consists of patients with lengths of stay of less than one year, excluding the elderly severely mentally infirm. The trends in recent years show a gradual decline in the number of occupied beds from a rate of 0.56 per thousand population in 1963 to 0.46 in 1971, and it is estimated that the numbers will fall to 0.40 by 1981. This figure is consistent with the Department of Health and Social Security's guideline planning figure of 0.50 beds in a psychiatric unit if 80 per cent bed occupancy can be achieved.

The elderly severely mentally infirm are defined as

all patients aged 65 and over, suffering from certain specified 'dementia' conditions. The purpose in analysing this group is mainly to allow their numbers to be separated from the other groups, however it is estimated that the number of such in-patients in 1981 will be approximately 2.5-3.0 per thousand population aged 65 and over; although as the proportion of the population aged 75 and over is expected to increase in the near future, these may prove to be underestimates.

The 'old' long stay are those patients admitted several years ago and treated by therapies now considered out of date. It is not easy to rehabilitate these patients and provision must be made for the continued care of many in hospital. It is estimated that the seventy-two thousand 'old' long stay patients at the end of 1971 will decline at approximately 9 per cent per annum, to about twenty-eight thousand in 1981 and about four thousand by the end of the century. The 'new' long stay are defined as those patients admitted since 1970 who despite modern therapies still require long term residential care. On the basis that current trends in non-hospital services continue, there will be 0.33 patients of this type per thousand total population in psychiatric hospitals in England and Wales in 1981. Although the paper only considers in-patient services directly, it inherently assumes in its projections that other services will continue to develop as they have in the past, that is that hospital and local authority community services will continue to expand. Future changes in their rates of growth, and further advances in scientific knowledge, cannot be taken into account.

Health Trends is circulated free to doctors having a contract with the National Health Service. Other interested persons can obtain it on application to the Department of Health and Social Security at a nominal fee of 10p.

References

Health Trends, 1976, Volume 8 No 2 (Price 10p net).
Better Services for the Mentally ill Cmnd. 6233 (HMSO) (Price £1.35 net).

Incapacity statistics

Statistics of certified incapacity for work produced by the Department of Health and Social Security and described in *Statistical News* (5.14, 10.18 and 16.19) are now available in respect of the period 3 June 1974 to 31 May 1975. Details can be obtained from:

Statistics Branch, SR3C,
Department of Health and Social Security,
10 John Adam Street,
London,
WC2N 6HD,
Telephone 01-217 3051.

SOCIAL STATISTICS

Social work in Scotland

Scottish Social Work Statistics 1974, the fourth annual digest of statistics for Social Work Services in Scotland, was published on 7 July 1976.

The contents of the digest are similar to those of the third issue, though the total number of tables is 149, an increase of 13. Various aspects of social work services are covered, including services to children, families, the physically handicapped, the mentally disordered, the elderly, persons on probation and those released from detention. The publication contains detailed analysis of the operation of the children's hearings system, which in April 1971 replaced juvenile courts in Scotland. There is also information on social work staffing, training and finance. Most of the tables show national figures, but a section of local statistics provides figures for each of the 52 local authorities which were until May 1975 responsible for social work services. An additional section provides figures for each of the new local government districts of day care and residential provision, the only services for which reallocation to the new boundaries was possible. Where possible, comparisons are made with corresponding figures for 1973, and in some cases historical figures are given for 1964, and the five years 1970 to 1974.

A new system for the collection of statistical information about social work services in Scotland was introduced on 31 March 1976 (see *Statistical News* page 32.23). For most aspects of social work no statistical returns were made by local authorities between 31 December 1974 and 31 March 1976. As a result there will be no 1975 issue of *Scottish Social Work Statistics*.

For further information, please contact:

Mr S. S. Housley,
Social Work Services Group,
St Andrew's House,
Edinburgh,
EH1 3DB.

(Tel. No. 031-556 8501, extension 2704).

Reference

Scottish Social Work Statistics 1974 (HMSO 1976) (Price £3.35 net).

MANPOWER AND EARNINGS

Articles on manpower planning

The April 1976 issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette* contained three further articles of interest to manpower planners (see *Statistical News* 33.21 etc). The first article concerned the probable supply of new graduates in 1976 and estimates of the number who might be available for employment in the United Kingdom. The other two articles described the use of

manpower planning techniques in particular companies faced with different problems, including the staffing of new establishments. There were two further articles in the May issue of the *Gazette*. The first, extending the article on school leavers published in the May 1975 issue, gave projections of school leavers to 1981 and details by level of qualification of those likely to be available for employment. The second article examined the application of activity sampling techniques to work patterns in retailing.

Reference

Department of Employment Gazette, April and May 1976 (HMSO) (Price 90p net).

Persons with qualifications in engineering, technology and science Census of Population 1971 Great Britain

A 10 per cent sample of the information returned by persons in Great Britain who indicated that they had degrees or equivalent qualifications in engineering, technology and science on the 1971 census questionnaire is analysed by age, sex, country of birth, country of reported address twelve months before the census, economic position, occupation, industry and region.

The thirty-two tabulations setting out this analysis comprise two main sections, one showing the total population aged eighteen and over at first degree level or equivalent, whilst the other is concerned with that part of the population holding postgraduate qualifications. The contents of each of the tables are shown in a listing chart. This indicates the population covered and the variables cross-analyzed.

The publication is complementary to the two previous publications drawing upon data from the 1961 census and the sample census of 1966 and published by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. It should be noted that in 1961, 1966 and 1971, information on qualifications was collected from a 10 per cent sample of the population. All three sets of tabulations are therefore liable to sampling errors, and care should be taken in making comparisons between them.

Reference

Persons with Qualifications in Engineering, Technology and Science Census of Population 1971 Great Britain, Department of Industry: Studies in Technological Manpower No. 5 London 1976 (HMSO) (Price £7.50 net).

Survey of labour costs in 1974 in distribution, banking and insurance

As part of an EEC survey, employers' total labour costs in 1974 in retail and wholesale distribution, banking and other financial institutions and insurance in Great Britain were surveyed by the Department of Employment (*Statistical News* 24.25). Results for Great Britain were published in the June 1976 issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*.

Characteristics of the unemployed—1976

A sample survey to examine the characteristics of unemployed adults in Great Britain was made in June 1976, similar to that conducted in June 1973 (*Statistical News* 22.29, 25.22 and 26.15). The object was to obtain corresponding information at a time of considerably higher unemployment. A simple random sample of one in sixty of the unemployed aged 18 and over registered at each local office of the Employment Service Agency (ESA) and with the Professional and Executive Recruitment Service yielded information on about eighteen thousand persons. This compares with a one in thirty sample of some sixteen thousand, five hundred in the 1973 survey. The coverage of both surveys was broadly the same as that of the regular unemployment counts, the principal exclusion being unemployed school leavers and other young persons registered at Careers Offices.

The survey should yield valuable information not normally collected in the regular unemployment counts, and also enable cross tabulations on the variables to be made. The 1973 survey gave results of particular interest on the prospects of finding work, attitude to work, occupational pensioners among the unemployed and on those who were still registered as unemployed six months later. Questions on these and other topics were retained in the 1976 survey so that direct comparisons may be made; in addition questions on vocational training were introduced. Information on the benefit position of the unemployed (which is held in unemployment benefit offices of the Department of Employment) cannot now be easily linked to unemployment registrations at the employment offices of the ESA and so has not been collected in the 1976 survey.

Further information will be obtained from a follow-up enquiry on whether, and for what reason, registrants in the sample have left the unemployment register in the following six months. The early results should be available in September. As in 1973, key results will be published and discussed in the *Department of Employment Gazette*. Further information can be obtained from:

Department of Employment,
Statistics B2,
26 King Street,
London SW1.
Telephone 01-214 8021.

Unfair dismissal: applications to industrial tribunals

Articles describing completed unfair dismissal applications made to industrial tribunals in 1975 were published in the April and June issues of the *Department of Employment Gazette*. The articles present data on the

outcome of applications and discuss a variety of characteristics of the individuals and employers involved in tribunal cases.

References

'Unfair dismissal cases in 1975.' *Department of Employment Gazette*, April and June 1976, (HMSO) (Price 90p net each).

New Earnings Survey 1976

It is hoped that results of the New Earnings Survey 1976 (*Statistical News* 32.27) will be published in the October issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*, one month earlier than in recent years. There will be a range of general results and of streamlined analyses of key results for particular major collective agreements and wages councils, industries, occupations, age-groups and regions. These and the more detailed analyses will again be published in a separate six-part publication.

Average salaries in production industries

The estimates for October 1975 in the new annual series of estimates of average earnings of full-time non-manual employees in index of industrial production industries in the United Kingdom (*Statistical News* 29.26 and 32.27) were published in the July 1976 issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*.

Estimates of wages separately from salaries

Prior to 1971 the National Income and Expenditure Blue Book gave a breakdown by industry group of the wage and salary bill showing wages separately from salaries. From 1971 this subdivision has no longer been shown in the published statistics, both because it had become difficult to make the estimates using the available data, and because the distinction between wage earners and salary earners particularly in the service industries was becoming increasingly hard to define. However, the subdivision was still calculated and made available to the small number of interested users on request (*Statistical News* 14.14).

The data situation changed with the introduction by the Department of Employment of the New Earnings Surveys in 1968 and in each year from 1970, giving very detailed breakdowns of earnings by occupation and by industry. The main interest of users of the wages and salaries subdivision has been to study the movements of pay relativities of broad occupational groupings, and it is now considered that the Surveys meet these needs in much greater detail and provide greater flexibility than the twofold analysis of the Blue Book table. In the interests of economy therefore, the Central Statistical Office will no longer calculate the split between wages and salaries in the national accounts figures.

London weighting indices

Indices measuring changes between April 1974 and April 1976 in prices and additional costs experienced by persons working in London compared with those experienced elsewhere in the United Kingdom were published in the June issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*. This series (*Statistical News* 30.32) provides information for updating the allowances recommended in 1974 in the Pay Board's report on London Weighting (*Statistical News* 26.16) or other negotiated London allowances.

ENERGY

Digest of United Kingdom Energy Statistics 1976

The 1976 edition of this yearbook was published in August. (The corresponding pocket information card, which accompanied last year's *Digest* in November, was this year published with *Energy Trends* in June.) The content of the latest edition is much the same as in previous years, with nearly one hundred tables giving up to eleven years' data on supplies and uses of coal, other solid fuels, petroleum, gas and electricity, all measured in original units, together with a number of summary tables that aggregate the different fuels in therms, tons of coal equivalent and tonnes of oil equivalent. There are also tables on prices and price indices, and on quantities and value of foreign trade, in fuels, together with charts and diagrams to illustrate some of the main trends through time. The coloured pullout chart of UK energy flows that was included in last year's *Digest* has not been repeated this year, but it is hoped to produce one next year which will reflect both the changed treatment of oil refineries (see below) and the increased importance of indigenous crude oil production.

Some fairly important conceptual changes have been made in three of the tables in the energy section of the *Digest*.

The energy coefficient and the energy ratio

The Energy Coefficient is an elasticity coefficient which relates the percentage change in total inland energy consumption to the percentage change in GDP. Over spans of more than about five years, this coefficient has been fairly stable and previous *Digests* have included triangular tables showing its value for all spans of years between two and twenty. During the last few years the coefficient has become very unstable and its usefulness as a descriptive statistic has declined. In the 1976 *Digest* a new simpler and rather more stable 'macro' economic statistic has been introduced. This is the Energy Ratio, which shows the overall input of

energy per unit of national output and has been expressed as tons of coal equivalent per thousand pounds of GDP.

The definition of 'primary fuel'

Two conceptual changes have been made. First, the definition of *primary fuel* has been changed so as to treat the activity of fuel processing more consistently as between fuels and in order to align UK practice in this respect with the concept of 'primary fuel and equivalents' used by the major international organisations. Hitherto, only petroleum products delivered for use as fuels (rather than crude oil) have been taken as primary fuel and consequently, petroleum refineries have been treated differently from power stations, gas works and coke ovens. This difference can be defended on the grounds that crude oil as such is not ordinarily used as a fuel and that significant quantities of the products derived from it are used for non-energy purposes. As against these arguments, petroleum refineries have an input of a raw material the bulk of which is destined for energy use, and they process this material into 'more highly desired forms' for particular purposes just as do power stations, gas works or coke ovens. As from this present *Digest*, crude oil has been defined as the primary fuel, petroleum products are defined as secondary fuels, and petroleum refineries are treated as secondary fuel producers.

Secondly, net foreign trade and the stock change in secondary fuels of *all* types (coke and other solid fuel products, petroleum products and electricity) have been treated as 'primary fuel equivalents'. Such flows of fuels into or out of the United Kingdom are net additions to or reductions in its available supply of energy and are in this respect 'equivalent' to primary fuels. A corollary of this change is that imports and exports of electricity are now shown as electrical energy and not (as hitherto) in terms of the estimated amount of primary fuel that would be needed to generate that electricity.

These two conceptual changes are reflected in all the tables in the 'Energy' section of the *Digest* and have been introduced in the *Digest* issue of *Energy Trends*. The full energy balance (in Table 10) has also been rearranged so as to show uniformly fuels as column headings and 'origins and destinations' (treating stock changes and secondary fuel producers as 'destinations') of fuels as row headings. In this new format, the overall thermal supply and use account consists of three sub-matrices covering respectively, primary supplies (and equivalents), the transformation industries, and final users. In this format it is possible to show with great economy of space the thermal losses incurred in the secondary fuel producing industries: in

their respective rows, inputs are shown with negative signs and outputs are shown with positive signs, so that the conversion losses appear as negative figures in the 'Total' column. (This particular convention is that adopted by the International Energy Agency and OECD in their Energy Balances.)

Fuel purchases in the energy sector

A matrix of the estimated value of energy transactions was first published in the 1969 edition of the *Digest* and this related to the year 1967. The matrix was constructed quite independently of the work being done on input/output in the national accounts context by the Central Statistical Office and the format of the energy matrix reflected the categories of 'transactor' and 'product' that were of interest to energy statisticians and economists. Thus 'final consumers' meant final users of energy and they included industry and transport (which are of course 'intermediate' and not 'final' consumers in national accounts terminology). Again, non-energy use of petroleum was distinguished although such a 'subclass' of a commodity would not ordinarily be distinguished in a classical transactions matrix. Apart from this case, the row headings were consistently industry (or foreign trade) categories, but the column headings covered a bloc of commodities followed by a bloc of industries.

In the 1976 *Digest* the format of the energy matrix (Table 9) has been re-cast so as to follow more closely the conventions of a 'classical' transactions matrix with columns denoting commodities (fuels) and rows denoting industries or other consumers. The term 'final user' has been used rather than 'final consumer' so as to avoid possible confusion with national accounts terminology. Commodities (rather than industries) have been shown as columns and industries (rather than commodities) as rows – so as to follow the current convention in constructing quantitative energy balances.

A more detailed explanation of the coverage of the new table is given in the text of the 1976 *Digest*.

Survey of stand-by electricity generating plant

At the request of the Department of Energy a survey was carried out in 1975 by the Business Statistics Office (BSO) to obtain information about the ability of firms in manufacturing industry to generate electricity from their own plant in the event of interruption of the public supply. The survey, carried out under the Statistics of Trade Act was directed to some forty-two thousand firms employing twenty or more persons, and it was particularly concerned with the stand-by capacity of those firms relying partly or wholly on the public electricity supply system. Information was also

gathered about capacity for routine autogeneration on a regular rather than a stand-by basis.

About 80 per cent of firms approached responded to the survey. It seems likely that a high proportion of the firms who did not respond do not possess stand-by plant and no attempt has been made to include estimates for non-respondents.

By arrangement with the BSO the main results of the survey, including tables giving trade and regional analyses of respondents with stand-by plant and, separately, other generating plant, were published early in July in a 'Business Monitor', copies of which can be obtained from normal HMSO outlets.

Some of the more important facts obtained from the survey are that 7,222 of the firms responding reported having some stand-by plant, totalling approximately 1.55 GVA. (1GVA=1 million kVA.) These firms reported a total of approximately 6 GVA of peak demand on the public supply which was 26 per cent covered by their stand-by plant. There were 749 firms that reported routine autogeneration, that is those generating electricity on a regular rather than a stand-by basis, for which 4.60 GVA of plant was available. These firms reported a total of approximately 2.9 GVA of peak demand on the public supply, against the interruption of which they possessed only 0.14 GVA of stand-by plant.

The rate of commissioning of stand-by plant appears to have increased in 1974 (possibly following the 1973/74 emergency and the three day week) and whereas the average capacity per firm with plant already installed was 218 kVA, the average new capacity per firm with plant on order was over 300 kVA.

The following are estimates of total stand-by capacity available at the end of the periods shown:

GVA			
Pre-1973	1973	1974	1975 (to April)
0.419	0.779	1.353	1.549

In the majority of cases, stand-by plant (existing and on order) is fuelled by oil.

British Gas Corporation

The fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the British Gas Corporation for the financial year 1975/76 was published on 27 July, 1976. The report is in a similar form to those of previous years, summarising in the body of the report the main events and results for the year. Appendix II gives statistics for the industry from 1966/67 to 1975/76 and Appendix III gives statistics for the Regions for 1975/76. The report costs £1.50.

INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

Business Monitors Annual Census of Production 1971— Summary and Enterprise Tables

Business Monitor PA 1002, the final part of the Report on the Census of Production 1971, will be published shortly. As in the 1970 Monitor (C.154), there are a number of tables summarising results previously published in the separate industry monitors (PA 101 to PA 603) together with a set of tables analysing census data by enterprise. In addition to analyses of enterprises by size of employment and net output, and of the 100 largest enterprises in manufacturing industries Orders III–XIX of the Standard Industrial Classification (revised 1968) tables are included which present data for overseas controlled enterprises. Similar information was last published for the 1968 Census (Part 158 table 43).

This Business Monitor can be obtained from:

Her Majesty's Stationery Office,
P.O. Box 569,
London SE1 9NH,
(01-928 6977),
Price £3.80

or through any Government Bookshop.

Further information on this Business Monitor and on the censuses generally can be obtained from:

Mr R. J. Egerton,
Business Statistics Office,
Cardiff Road,
Newport,
Gwent,
NPT 1XG.

Newport 56111 (STD code 0633) Ext 2455.

A new Study in Official Statistics

A new study, entitled *The measurement of changes in production* was published in July as No 25 in the series of Studies in Official Statistics. This publication describes the index of industrial production and the output-based measure of gross domestic product following the change of the base year from 1963 to 1970 and the consequent re-calculation of the weights in the light of changes to the values of net output between those years. It brings up-to-date the descriptions in terms of the 1963 based indices given in Studies in Official Statistics No 17.

The book begins with a discussion of the general concepts of the measurement of output, the choice of base year and the problems involved in assessing changes in the quality of production. A second chapter deals in some detail with the index of industrial production and includes an analysis of the various types of indicators used, the weighting procedures adopted, the adjustments made to eliminate distortions due to

the different length of calendar months and a note of the more important changes to indicators made since the publication of the previous study in 1970. Appendices give a full list of the series and weights used in the index together with a list showing how these series are allocated in the analysis of industry by market sector.

A further chapter is devoted to those industries which make up the remainder of the gross domestic product, namely agriculture and the distributive and service industries. The derivation of the base year weights is described and the main changes to the indicators used between the 1963-based and the 1970-based indices are listed. A full list of the annual and quarterly series used with their respective weights is given in an appendix.

A full description of the method used to derive seasonally adjusted figures is provided in an annex.

Reference

The measurement of changes in production Studies in Official Statistics No 25 (HMSO) (Price £1.05 net).

Index of industrial production for Scotland Scottish Economic Bulletin

An index of industrial production for Scotland with 1970=100 is contained in the *Scottish Economic Bulletin*, No 10 published July 1976. This is a new index replacing that based on 1958 which was discontinued after 1971 because of its outdated base and because of the progressive shortage – prior to receipt of regional data from the new system of industrial statistics – of reliable measures of Scottish output.

The index which has now been constructed has net output weights derived from the 1970 Annual Census of Production. It will have a quarterly frequency, the quarterly data being for the most part that obtained from the Business Statistics Office (BSO) quarterly sales inquiry. As far as possible the methodology adopted is akin to that used for the UK index of industrial production. A full discussion of the method of construction of the index and of its results is presented in the *Scottish Economic Bulletin*.

It is anticipated that the results of the index will be published each quarter by means of a press release. Initially the index will not be seasonally adjusted. It is hoped that future work will include both the revision of the old index series and its linking to the new series and that this will enable a seasonally adjusted index to be developed.

In addition to the discussion of the index of industrial production, the current number of the *Scottish Economic Bulletin* also contains a note on sources and methods on the latest estimates of Scottish Gross Domestic Product 1966 to 1974. The Bulletin begins with a

review of the Scottish economy, and this discussion is supported by charts and tables of the main economic indicators.

Reference

Scottish Economic Bulletin, No 10 July 1976 (Price £1.40 net).

List of Business Addresses

The Business Statistics Office has now compiled a Classified List of Manufacturing Businesses which can be purchased by the public. The list sets out in alphabetical order within each Minimum List Heading in Orders III–XIX of the Standard Industrial Classification (Revised 1968) names and addresses of industrial units which have given consent for such information to be published.

Following the 1968 Census of Production, the Business Statistics Office published in thirteen volumes a Directory of Businesses. This also provided address lists classified by industry but in addition gave information about other industries whose principal products were also sold by the businesses listed. It has not been possible to provide corresponding additional information in the Classified Lists now available but the List does meet a known demand for names and addresses of industrial units classified by their main activity.

The List is based on the register of manufacturing businesses which is maintained by the Business Statistics Office primarily as a mailing list for conducting statistical inquiries. The register is regularly updated with information obtained in statistical returns and from other sources such as Companies Registration Office and the Department of Employment. Since much of the information has been collected in statutory inquiries carried out under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947, particulars of individual businesses cannot generally be disclosed without contravening the provisions of the Act unless written permission has been given. However, in each Annual Census of Production since 1970 contributors have been asked if they were willing to have the names and addresses of their businesses included in a classified list. The consents given have permitted the preparation of the current List which was assembled from information available at October 1975.

Inquiries conducted by the Business Statistics Office are usually addressed to the 'establishment', which is defined as the smallest unit which can provide the information normally required for an economic census, for example, employment, expenses, turnover and capital formation. In most cases the establishment coincides with the individual factory, plant or site – the 'local unit'. It may not, however, be possible for businesses which operate at more than one site to

provide the required information in respect of each address. Returns to the annual censuses may therefore cover activities at more than one local unit. The Classified List provides the name and address of each manufacturing local unit. All non-manufacturing units such as warehouses, garages or offices are omitted from the List; this means that the Head Office of a business may not be shown.

Classification to the appropriate Minimum List Heading is in the main based objectively on the value of sales of particular commodities reported quarterly by the establishments to the Business Statistics Office. Where a quarterly return relates to an establishment which covers more than one address, each local unit has been given the classification of the establishment as a whole, since no information on the pattern of sales of local units was available. In some cases classification of establishments was derived from other sources, principally from a statement of the nature of their activities given in the Annual Census of Employment.

The complete list contains approximately 24,500 business addresses and covers close to 60 per cent of the employment in the manufacturing sector. An estimate is given in the list for each Minimum List Heading of the employment covered by the units listed as a percentage of that for the Minimum List Heading as a whole.

The charge for a complete List is £100. Orders for the Classified List of Businesses should be addressed to:

The Librarian,
Business Statistics Office,
Cardiff Road,
Newport,
Gwent,
NPT 1XG.

Lists for individual Minimum List Headings are also available; a price list for these will be provided on request to the Librarian. Further information about the Lists may be obtained from the above address, telephone (Newport 0633) 56111, ext 2751.

Arrangements can be made for the List to be supplied on magnetic tape in ICL 1900 format. For systems other than the ICL 1900 the purchaser would have to arrange the necessary conversion.

The effects of the three-day week

In July 1974 the Department of Industry in consultation with the Department of Employment commissioned a study of the effects of the three-day week which covered the first three months of 1974. A report was published by HMSO in June.

The purpose of the study was to ascertain whether there were improvements in productivity during the

three-day working; whether any increases in productivity were permanent and whether any lessons could be drawn from the experiences of the three-day working which would be of interest to business in general when deciding long-term policies.

The report, based on a sample of firms, does not confirm the widely held belief that there were major increases in productivity during the period of three-day working. The output of the firms included in the sample averaged about 83 per cent of normal output. The working week averaged about 79 per cent of normal working hours.

The cause of this modest increase, management and employees agreed, was better communications between them and a common desire to maintain earnings. Gross earnings of employees averaged about 85 per cent of those of normal time. Where profit figures were produced by the companies, these revealed severe reductions in profits and, in some cases, losses. When the emergency ended profits were generally restored to their normal level.

A few companies used the emergency to improve industrial relations. Small companies, where they were reasonably good at the start of the emergency, were more successful in maintaining their effort and morale throughout the three-day working. Efforts to negotiate four-day working week agreements after the emergency were unsuccessful. The evidence suggests that the ten-hour working day resulted in flagging efforts during the last two working hours. The period of extra effort was limited by growing fatigue and increasing disenchantment with the cause of the emergency.

The report suggests that there is scope for improvement of productivity from existing investment. Lessons that the three-day working provided for individual firms are listed as:

- the benefits of better forward planning;
- the need for sound information and planning systems to aid decision making;
- the benefits of improved communications between management and employees; and
- the potential for saving energy.

Reference

The Three-Day Week. A report on a study of consequential industrial action and re-action during the first three months of 1974. (HMSO) (Price £2.00 net).

HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

House prices and advances

In May 1976 the Department of the Environment published for the first time, results from new monthly returns of house prices and advances made by building societies. The new enquiry is conducted with the co-operation of the Building Societies Association and supersedes quarterly returns, made up to the end of

1975, of average prices of new dwellings mortgaged with building societies. Figures will be published, once a quarter, by press release and subsequently in *Housing and Construction Statistics*.

The new monthly survey has several advantages over the previous quarterly enquiry. First there is wider coverage of the building society movement: information is provided by a panel of building societies covering 90 per cent of the movement's total assets compared with 75 per cent for the previous return. Secondly, separate series of simple average house prices are obtained at both mortgage approval and completion stages. The approval stage figures provide the more up-to-date indicator of price trends whereas the series based on completions gives more accurate figures for dwellings actually purchased because a small, but significant, number of mortgages approved do not result in completed transactions. Thirdly, figures are collected for existing dwellings as well as for new ones. Fourthly, figures of average advances are produced both for new and existing dwellings at mortgage approval and completion stages.

More detailed information on building society lending – for example distribution of prices and deposits, proportion of first time purchases, regional house prices – will continue to be published from the 5 per cent sample survey of the building society mortgages.

Figures from the new enquiry have been published for 1975 onwards. To provide comparable figures for earlier periods, the new series have been linked with the results from the quarterly return of new dwellings prices and the sample survey of building society mortgages.

Reference

Housing and Construction Statistics, quarterly, (HMSO) (price £1.40 net).

Construction industry statistics: new orders and output

Historic series for new orders and output statistics have recently been collated by the Department of the Environment. For contractors' orders for new work the series runs quarterly from 1957, the first year for the collection of these statistics, and it is available both at current prices and at constant 1970 prices seasonally adjusted. The output series, also at current prices and at constant 1970 prices seasonally adjusted, runs quarterly from 1955 and is available separately for contractors and for public authorities' direct labour departments. These series can be obtained from:

Statistic Construction I Division,
Room S11/15,
Department of the Environment,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB.
Telephone: 01-212 7142.

Commercial and industrial property 1975: Facts and figures

This new publication has been produced by the Statistics Directorate of the Department of the Environment, in order to bring together in convenient form a wide variety of background statistics relating to commercial and industrial property. Most of these statistics are also published elsewhere. It contains seven sections, covering the general picture (hereditaments, rateable values and floorspace); shops; rents; new construction; controls (Office Development Permits and Industrial Development Certificates); financial; and new towns. The material is presented by means of tables and graphs, with notes.

A limited number of copies are available on application to:

Statistics Directorate,
Department of the Environment,
Room S11/11,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB.
Telephone: 01-212 8814

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Food consumption

Detailed estimates of food supplies moving into consumption in the United Kingdom covering the most recent four calendar years are published annually each September/October in the *Food Facts* series, and also in *Trade and Industry*.

A shortened version, giving a comparison between 1974 and 1975, prepared to meet requests for more up-to-date statistics was published in *Food Facts* number six on 21 June 1976.

The estimates relate to total supplies of food moving into consumption (after deductions for exports, non-food uses and waste) divided by the estimated population to give average consumption per head. A table showing the nutrient content of the diet derived from animal and vegetable sources separately has been included with these provisional estimates for the first time.

Estimates of consumption of alcoholic drinks are included, based on statistics collected by HM Customs and Excise of the quantities of spirits, beer and wine retained for use in the United Kingdom.

Agricultural Censuses and Surveys

The June 1975 Census of Statistically Insignificant Holdings

The results of this census in England and Wales were published in a Statistical Information Notice on 26 May 1976(1).

The December 1975 Agricultural Census

The main results of this sample census in England and Wales were published in a Press Notice on 13 February 1976(2).

The results for glasshouse items and for machinery items were published in a Statistical Information Notice on 26 May 1976 (1).

The March 1976 Sample Enquiry

The results of this enquiry in England and Wales were published in a Press Notice on 13 May 1976(3). These show that dairy cows and beef cows decreased in number compared with March 1975. The pig breeding herd was larger than year before. The egg-laying flock decreased slightly during the year, but growing pullets were unchanged in numbers compared with March 1975. There was a sharp fall in the number of whole-time female workers, partly offset by an increase in the number of part-time female workers.

The April 1976 Sample Pig Enquiry

The results of this enquiry in England and Wales and in the United Kingdom were published in a Statistical Information Notice on 15 June 1976(4).

EEC Survey on the Structure of Agricultural Holdings 1975

United Kingdom participation last year in a European Economic communities' survey on the Structure of Agricultural Holdings was reported in the February 1975 issue of *Statistical News* (28.21).

Provisional unraised results for England and Wales covering the data collected in the supplementary survey only were published in a Statistical Information Notice on 14 April 1976(5).

References

- (1) Statistical Information Notice (Stats. 138/76) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
- (2) Press Notice No 32 issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
- (3) Press Notice No 148 issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
- (4) Statistical Information Notice (Stats. 155/76) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
- (5) Statistical Information Notice (Stats. 99/76) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The April 1976 pig sample census—Scotland

The results of this census in Scotland were published as a Scottish Office Press Notice on 26 May 1976 (Press Notice No 542/76).

These results confirm that the expansion which began last summer continues. Compared with last December total pig numbers are up by about eight thousand (1½ per cent) and over the year they have risen by fifty

thousand (nearly 10 per cent). There has, however, been a drop of about a thousand pigs (2 per cent) in the breeding herd since December last but a seasonal decline in breeding numbers is frequently recorded in the spring.

Final results of the December 1975 Scottish Agricultural Census

Final results of the Scottish Agricultural Census held on 1 December 1975 were published as a Scottish Office Press Notice on 22 March 1976 (Press Notice No 259/76).

Cattle numbers have fallen for the first time in nine years. The numbers of dairy cows and beef cows have dropped by 4 per cent and 3 per cent respectively. The size of the sheep flock has fallen slightly but the pig herd, from a low point of five hundred and twenty-seven thousand in April 1975, has steadily expanded and in December was only one per cent smaller than a year earlier. Total poultry numbers have declined by one per cent. The trends of declining hay production (2 per cent reduction) and increasing silage production (4 per cent increase) continued. In total the number of persons employed in agriculture has fallen by 2 per cent.

Agricultural publications

Annual Digest of Welsh Agricultural Statistics 1974/75(1)

The latest issue of this Digest (published in June) contains information on agricultural holdings, crop acreages and livestock numbers from the June 1974 Agricultural Census, yields from the 1974 crop harvest, and statistics of types of farming and size of business. It also includes information about production; average market prices at certain Welsh marts; details of farm rents and land prices and data relating to the farming grants and subsidies and price guarantees.

Information about output, inputs and net farm income per farm in Wales – parallel to that published in *Farm Incomes in England and Wales* – is published later in the year as a Supplement to the *Annual Digest of Welsh Agricultural Statistics*.

(1) Produced in Wales by HMSO Reprographic Division, Cardiff.

Agricultural statistics in Northern Ireland

The Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture 1974–75

Published in July, contains a wide range of the more recent statistics on agriculture in the Province, including output forecasts for 1975–76. The information in this *Review* is in imperial units; a special supplement

containing equivalent metric units will be published in September.

In conjunction with the changeover to metric units the opportunity has been taken to adjust size classes in frequency distributions of livestock numbers and crop areas to correspond as far as possible with United Kingdom and European Economic Community practice. One result should be to provide more information on the larger enterprise and farm business units in Northern Ireland agriculture.

References:

Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture 1974-75, Economics and Statistics Division, DANI, 1976.

Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture 1974-75; Metric Supplement, Economics and Statistics Division, DANI, due in September 1976.

Both publications, free, on request, to:

Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland,
Belfast,
BT4 3SB.

Annual enquiry into agricultural rents in England and Wales

Since 1960 the Land Service of the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service (ADAS) together with the Economics Divisions of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) have been conducting an annual enquiry into agricultural rents in England and Wales, with the encouragement of the National Farmers' Union, the Country Landowners' Association and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. The information collected is used to indicate for the annual reviews of agriculture how one element in farmers' costs, namely rent, has changed, and to provide detailed data on the movement of farm rents in connection with landlord and tenant matters under the agricultural holdings legislation. The information is also of use in the development of prices and incomes policies.

The sample

Land Service Surveyors in the regions are responsible for obtaining details of agricultural rents from landowners and land agents who are willing to provide this information for the land which they own or manage. No attempt is made to select randomly from the universe of landowners, there being no comprehensive register of landowners. However, there is no reason to believe that the estates for which returns are made are not representative with respect to rents of all estates. In the annual agricultural census, held in June, every occupier of agricultural land in England and Wales is obliged by law to complete a postal questionnaire, which includes a question on the area of land owned and rented. The rent enquiry usually covers about 30 per cent of the total agricultural acreage which is let in the whole of England and Wales, although it usually covers a slightly

lower percentage of holdings. The sample is well distributed regionally over the whole country.

Data collected

The forms used in the enquiry ask for details for each farm on an estate of the area and of the rent payable in mid-October of the current and previous year. Those co-operators who participated in the enquiry in the previous year are asked both to verify that the details for the previous year have been recorded correctly and, if there has been a change in rent or acreage on any farm, to record the new rent and how it was agreed, that is, whether it was with a new tenant or with a sitting tenant. If there was a new tenant, they were asked to state whether the rent paid was as a result of a tender for the farm or the result of less formal negotiations; if there was a sitting tenant, whether or not the rent was fixed by an arbitrator. The enquiry also records the date of the previous rent change. Under the agricultural holdings legislation, the period between rent changes must be a minimum of three years unless the area of the holding has been altered or there has been a voluntary agreement as to rent. If however the landlord has carried out an improvement to the land or buildings during the year, he is entitled to charge the tenant extra rent. The enquiry reports whether or not such an improvement has been made since the last change.

Co-operators are also asked to indicate whether the rent reflects any substantial non-agricultural element such as a superior farmhouse, or high intensity of equipment such as glasshouses or poultry houses, and whether the land is owned by the Ministry of Defence, the National Coal Board or a small holdings authority. This information helps decisions about the inclusion in the average result of rent for such holdings.

Results

The results of this enquiry, analysed by counties and MAFF administrative regions are published each year in an ADAS Technical Report entitled 'Farm Rents in England and Wales'. The analysis concentrates on the identical sample of farms for which data are available for two consecutive years. Thus the change in rent is measured from one year to the next on a constant sample. Most of the average results are obtained by weighting the sample observations for any county or acreage size group by the proportion of the total tenanted acreage in that county or size group, recorded by the most recent June agricultural census.

The average rent for a group of farms at any time includes not only the rent for all farms irrespective of how recently their rent was changed, but also those rents settled in the year of enquiry. These current rents could

be expected to differ from the average of all rents when there have been changes in the level of agricultural profitability. For example, the average rent for all farms in England and Wales in October 1975 was £8.95 per acre, but £9.94 per acre for farms whose rent had been changed since 1974. In 1975 the enquiry also collected information about the distribution over the year of the term dates of tenants. Over 60 per cent of all term dates were Michaelmas (September/October) and Lady Day (end of March).

Copies of the latest published report, which presents the results of the 1975 enquiry, may be obtained from:

Publications Branch,
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,
Tolcarne Drive,
Pinner,
Middlesex, HA5 2DT.

It is entitled ADAS Technical Report 19/7 'Farm Rents in England and Wales', April 1976.

HOME FINANCE

The cost of capital, finance and investment

An article in the June 1976 *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin* develops a measure of the cost of financial capital, from all sources, needed by companies to acquire their physical assets. It is suggested that the trend of the real cost of capital and of profits moved (downwards) roughly together in the 1960s; in the last two years there has been a divergence, with the cost rising but profitability declining. (This article is a sequel to that in the March 1976 Bulletin which discussed the decline in profitability.) It is suggested that this changing relationship may be related to the low volume of physical investment in recent years.

Yield curves for gilt-edged stocks

An article in the June Bulletin describes how the construction of the yield curve (fitting a model to yields on actual stocks to produce a 'par yield curve') has been modified to eliminate an anomaly which appeared in the curve between four and six years in 1975. The article summarises the theory on which the model is based; but a fuller description is given in Bulletin articles of December 1972 and September 1973. (Offprints of these two articles are available).

Copies of the Bank's Bulletin and of offprints of articles may be obtained, free of charge, from:

The Economic Intelligence Department,
Bank of England,
London,
EC2R 8AH.

DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME

Estimates of the distribution of income: 1973/1974

Estimates of the distribution of income for 1973/1974, together with an outline of the methodology, have been published in the June issue of *Economic Trends*. These estimates will also appear in 1965-75 *National Income and Expenditure* (Blue Book) and in *Social Trends* No 7.

Like the corresponding figures for 1972/1973, the current results relate to total income before and after tax, including non-taxable social security benefits and income below the tax threshold. The unit of observation is the tax-unit. A summary of the results in terms of percentage shares received by given quantile groups is:

Quantile group per cent	Before tax per cent	After tax per cent
Top 1	6.5	4.5
2-5	10.6	9.8
6-10	9.7	9.3
Top 20	42.4	39.1
21-40	24.2	24.4
41-60	16.8	17.3
61-80	10.5	11.8
81-100	6.1	7.3
Median	£1,550	£1,348
Total (million)	£52,219	£44,172

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STATISTICS

Revision of Outer Metropolitan Area (OMA)

Following reorganisation of local government authorities in April 1974 the Department of the Environment redefined, for statistical purposes, the Outer Metropolitan Area (OMA). The boundary of the OMA has now been drawn so that no new local authority district is split.

Details of the areas included in the revised OMA including a map showing the original and revised boundaries are available on request from:

Department of the Environment,
Statistics, Planning and Regional Division,
Room S6/16,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB.

A stamped addressed envelope, minimum size 30 x 22 cm should accompany all requests.

Scottish Central and Local Government Statistical Liaison Committee

The Scottish Office has established a Committee to liaise with local government on statistical matters. The Committee is to fulfil a similar role to that of the

National Local Government Statistical Liaison Committee in England and Wales. The first meeting of the committee was held on Wednesday 26 May 1976.

The Chairman of the Committee is Mr W. J. Fearnley, Chief Statistician, Scottish Office and the Secretary is Mr J. Arrundale, Statistician, Scottish Development Department. The membership includes representatives from the different departments which make up the Scottish Office and from those other central government departments whose responsibilities extend to Scotland. The local government side includes representatives from both Regional and District Councils and from the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities. Any correspondence or inquiries concerning the work of the Committee should be addressed to the Secretary at:

Room 5/67,
New St Andrew's House,
St James Centre,
Edinburgh,
EH1 3SZ.

OVERSEAS FINANCE

An inventory of United Kingdom external assets and liabilities—end-1975

An article in the Bank of England's June 1976 Bulletin continues the annual series of estimates of the United Kingdom's external assets and liabilities, and gives figures for the end of 1975.

Copies of the Bank's Bulletin may be obtained, free of charge, from:

The Economic Intelligence Department,
Bank of England,
London,
EC2R 8AH.

Presentation of the balance of payments

In the June 1976 issue of *Economic Trends* a change in the presentation of the balance of payments accounts has been introduced in the regular quarterly article on the UK balance of payments. The change results from a different treatment of foreign currency borrowing under the exchange cover scheme by public sector bodies. This borrowing, previously included within investment and capital flows, has been reallocated within the accounts and is now included as an item of official financing. Additionally, the balance previously described as the 'total currency flow' has been retitled the 'balance for official financing'. A technical note in the article explains more fully the reason for this change in the grouping of balance of payments transactions.

Reference

Economic Trends, June 1976 Central Statistical Office (HMSO) (Price £1.45 net).

INTERNATIONAL

European Economic Communities consumer purchasing power parities for 1975

As foreshadowed in *Statistical News* 29.34, the United Kingdom, along with other member countries of the EEC, took part in a community survey of retail prices in the autumn of 1975. The survey was organised by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (SOEC) in collaboration with the national statistical offices and covered a wide range of goods and services directly purchased by households. Great emphasis is laid on the strict comparability of items priced. Prices were collected only in the capital cities. This work is part of a wider project concerned with real comparisons of gross domestic product and its principal sub-aggregates among the member countries of the EEC.

First results of the survey were published by SOEC in two volumes in the Eurostat series in July. *Survey of Retail Prices and Consumer Purchasing Power Parities 1975* gives purchasing power parities between the nine EEC countries for consumers expenditure excluding housing and health. Separate parities including housing are available for the original six member countries. *Consumer Prices in Autumn 1975* gives the average price in national currency, for each item in the 1975 Survey.

Other publications of the European Communities

The following publications of the European Communities have been received since the last list was published in *Statistical News*.

Eurostat News

Frequency about six issues per year
1976

No 1, 2, 3/4 This is a new publication by the Statistical Office of the European Communities, on a similar vein to *Statistical News* though, at the moment, it is less ambitious. It has two aims, to provide information on the work and activities of Eurostat, and to announce the appearance of Eurostat publications. Each issue is in two parts: Part 1 entitled 'News Items' and Part 2 entitled 'Eurostat Publications'.

Statistical Studies and Surveys (études et enquêtes statistiques) 1975

No 2 Annual investments in fixed assets in the industrial enterprises of the member countries of the European Communities, 1971-1973.

No 3 The measurement of industrial concentration: a reassessment based on European data, by Louis Philips.

No 4 Statistical study of Community external trade in the supply of manganese.

CLASSIFICATION

Postponement of introduction of revised Standard Industrial Classification

It was reported in *Statistical News* 21.23 and 26.18 that the present Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) was being revised to a basis closely corresponding to *Nomenclature générale des activités économique dans les Communautés Européennes* (NACE). The planned adoption of this revised classification is to be postponed.

It had been intended that the revised SIC would be introduced on the occasion of the rebasing of the national accounts and other major economic statistical series on to the year 1975; and that the results of industrial inquiries relating to 1975 and, in some instances, one or two subsequent years should be coded to and presented on the basis of the revised, as well as the present (1968), SIC in order to provide an accurate linkage between the two classifications in economic time series.

The work of drawing up the new classification, which in many respects is substantially different from the present one, is virtually complete but the new severe limitations on staff resources have made it impracticable for the government departments conducting and processing industrial inquiries to prepare for the overlap of statistics described above. For this reason the introduction of the revised SIC is to be postponed and the rebasing of statistical series on the year 1975 will proceed on the basis of the 1968 SIC. Subject to resources being available it is intended that a fully revised SIC will be published in 1980 in readiness for the subsequent rebasing of statistics on to the year 1980, which will, it is expected, take place in 1983. Until then industrial and economic statistics will continue to be classified according to the 1968 SIC, though some minor modifications to that classification will be considered for earlier implementation.

Meanwhile a very detailed reconciliation of the 1968 SIC with NACE is being prepared in the Central Statistical Office to enable departments to provide statistics to the Statistical Office of the European Communities on a uniform basis as close as possible to NACE.

SURVEY CONTROL UNIT

Surveys assessed

In the second quarter of 1976 116 proposals for new surveys were assessed by the Survey Control Unit. Table A indicates the gradings given for these new surveys, and Table B compares the totals for the four previous quarters. A brief description of the grading system used was given in *Statistical News* 21.15.

Table A New surveys assessed during second quarter 1976

Type of Survey	Initial grading				No grading given	TOTAL
	Unrecognised	Under consideration	Provisionally recognised	Fully recognised		
Small ad hoc	—	2	14	67	1	84
Other ad hoc	—	3	2	9	10	24
Continuous	1	—	—	7	—	8
TOTAL	1	5	16	83	11	116
Percentage of total	1	4	14	92	9	100

Table B New surveys assessed in the last five quarters

Quarter	New surveys
2nd quarter 1975	94
3rd quarter 1975	104
4th quarter 1975	78
1st quarter 1976	80
2nd quarter 1976	116

Of the one hundred and sixteen new surveys, fifty six were addressed to households or individuals, thirty to businesses and thirty to local authorities. The increase in new surveys assessed over the corresponding quarter for 1975 is mainly due to the introduction of a new collecting system for social work statistics in Scotland which uses twenty one separate small inquiries, replacing existing forms.

Appointment in Northern Ireland

Department of Manpower Services, Northern Ireland

Mr Slattery – formerly Senior Lecturer in the Department of Economics at Queen's University, Belfast, has been appointed to the new post of Research Director. He took up his duties in January of this year.

GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL SERVICE

Appointments and changes

Central Statistical Office

Mr I. B. Beesley, Statistician, Central Statistical Office, was promoted to Chief Statistician on 1 June and is on loan to HM Treasury, to succeed *Mr A. R. H. Glover* as head of GEP2 for a period of not more than two years.

Mr D. C. L. Wroe, Statistician, previously attached to the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth was promoted to Chief Statistician on 7 June to succeed *Mr Green* as head of Branch 10 in the Central Statistical Office.

Mr D. W. Flaxen, Chief Statistician in the Department of Employment, transferred to the Central Statistical

Office on 5 July to succeed *Mrs M. Nissel*, who resigned on the 14 April, as head of Branch 13.

Department of Industry

Mr R. W. Green, Chief Statistician in the Central Statistical Office, transferred to the Department of Industry on 1 July to succeed *Mr Wainwright* as head of Branch B. EcS5.

Department of Employment

Mr B. A. Wainwright, Chief Statistician in the Department of Industry, transferred to the Department of Employment on 1 July to succeed *Mr Flaxen* as head of Branch B. Statistics Division.

Department of Health and Social Security

Mr A. R. Smith, Director of Statistics (Under Secretary) in the Civil Service Department, transferred to the Department of Health and Social Security on 7 June to succeed *Mr Rudoe* as Director of Statistics and Research.

Mrs C. Palmer, Statistician in the Department of Energy, was promoted to Chief Statistician on 1 July on transfer to the Department of Health and Social Security to succeed *Mr Francis*.

Retirement

Department of Health and Social Security

Mr W. Rudoe, CB, Director of Statistics and Research (Under Secretary) in the Department of Health and Social Security, retired on 30 June.

Mr K. M. Francis, OBE, Chief Statistician in the Department of Health and Social Security, retired on 30 June.

List of Principal Statistical Series and Publications

1974 EDITION

Amendment list no. 8 — April to June 1976

Introductory note

In the *List of Principal Statistical Series and Publications*, second edition 1974 (HMSO Price 80p net), it is stated that details of important amendments and additions to the list will appear quarterly in *Statistical News* thus enabling users to keep their copies up to date. Accordingly a list of amendments covering the period April to June 1976 is given below. Offprints of this list can be obtained from the Central Statistical Office, Telephone 01-233 7261.

Amendments to Part I. List of Principal Series

Population and Vital Statistics

1 (b) Annual (mid-year) estimates

Delete 'Annual estimates of the population of England and Wales . . . areas'

Insert 'Population estimates'

Amendments to Part II. List of Publications

Page 41

Add Census 1971, Migration Regional Reports pts I & II

Page

Page 42

Health and Personal Social Services Statistics for England

Delete £3.00 (1974) Substitute £3.80 (1975)

Page 43

Northern Ireland Education Statistics

Delete: '2 volumes (No 18, 1975, 95p and No 19, 1975, £1.50)'

Substitute: '2 volumes (No 19, 1975, £1.50p and No 20, 1975, £1.50p)'

After 'Passenger Transport in Great Britain add: Population estimates 1974, 1975 (series PP1 no 1) Annual Office of Population Censuses and Surveys 1

7, 8

Page 44

Report on Hospital in-patient enquiry, Preliminary tables

Delete 42p (1969) Insert 80p (1973)

Statistics of Education Volume 2 School leavers

Delete 1973 £3.00 Substitute 1974 £3.85

Statistics of Education Volume 5 Finance and Awards

Delete £1.70 (1972) Substitute £2.70 (1974)

Page 45

Wealth

Delete 1973 15p Substitute 1974 20p

34.46

Alphabetical Index

The index to *Statistical News* covers the last nine issues. Page numbers are prefixed by the issue number e.g. 26.31 signifies issue number 26, page 31.

Generally speaking articles relating to United Kingdom, Great Britain, England and Wales or covering several geographical groups are not indexed under these groups, but topics with a significant regional interest are indicated e.g. regional earnings. Articles and notes dealing particularly with Scottish statistics are indexed under 'Scotland' as well as the topic, e.g. 'Scotland, population projections', and similarly for Wales and Northern Ireland.

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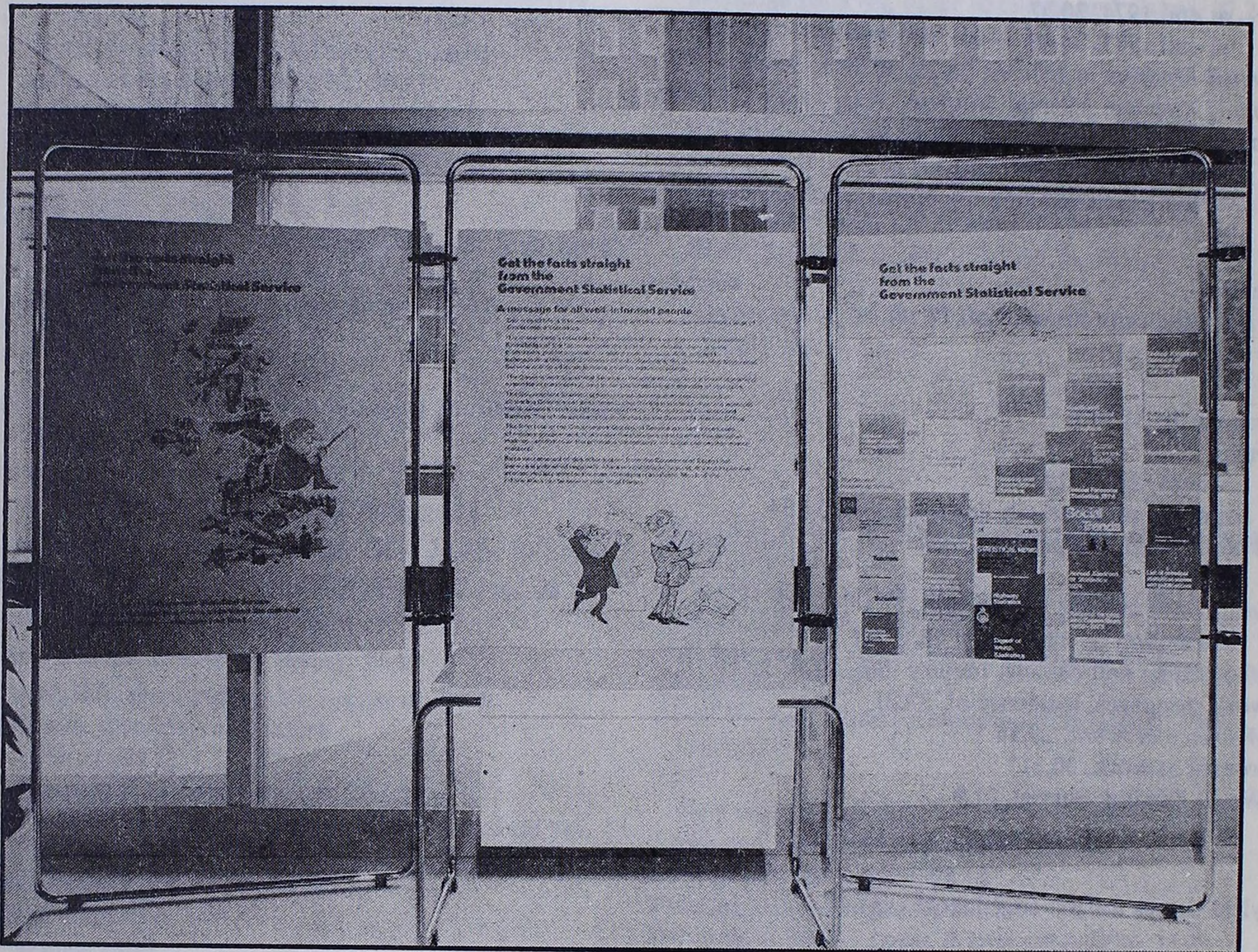
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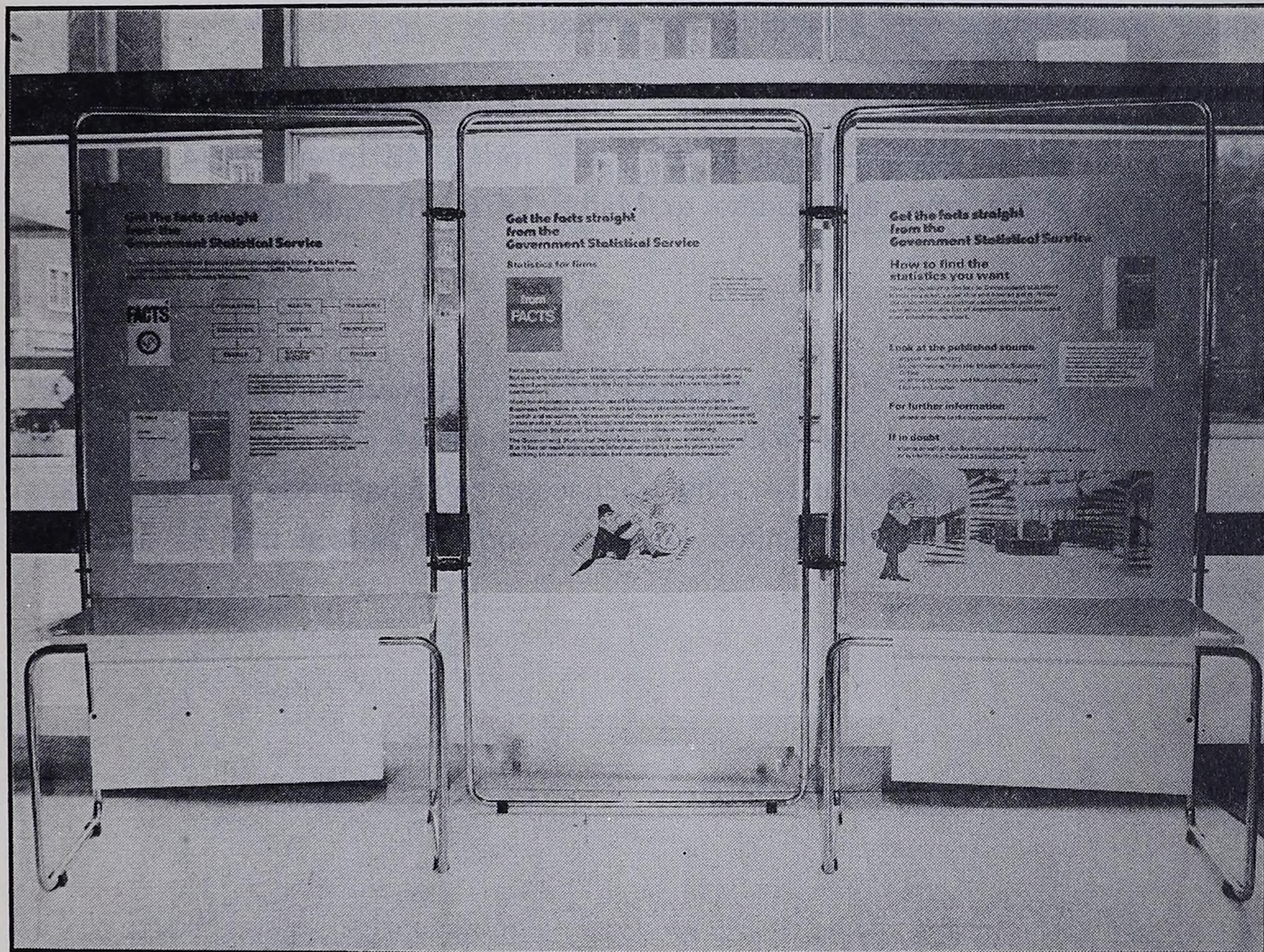


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