

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTE

During 1943, the second war year in which a regular annual meeting of the Institute was not held, the business of the Institute was necessarily largely conducted by mail. As reported in the March issue of the *Annals*, the Secretary, the Editor of the *Annals*, and I met in Pittsburgh in January for discussion of the Institute's affairs. Since three members of the Board of Directors do not constitute a quorum, certain proposals arising from this informal meeting were submitted by mail to the whole Board for action. At the fall meeting of the Institute held in New Brunswick a quorum of the Board was present, Hotelling, Wald, Wilks, Craig, and action was taken on certain matters. The chief subject for consideration was future meetings of the Institute. It was agreed that again in accordance with the request of the O.D.T. no annual meeting should be planned for 1943. Because of the success of local meetings held in New York City in May and in Washington in June, it was voted to repeat these in 1944. The New Brunswick meeting was also very successful, and it is hoped that we may again hold our fall meeting in conjunction with those of the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America in 1944. The desirability of other local meetings in addition to those in New York and Washington was recognized but, so far, I know of no plans for any in 1944.

During the year two local chapters of the Institute were organized in Pittsburgh and Washington in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board of Directors, and these were recognized by the Board. The sponsor for the Pittsburgh group is E. G. Olds, and W. G. Madow has the same responsibility for the Washington chapter.

The Membership Committee for 1943 consisted of Vice-President Deming, Chairman, W. G. Cochran, P. S. Dwyer, and A. J. Lotka. As the result of their recommendation the following eighteen new Fellows of the Institute were elected by the Board of Directors: A. H. Copeland, J. H. Curtiss, J. F. Daly, C. E. Dieulefait, H. F. Dodge, Churchill Eisenhart, Will Feller, Milton Friedman, M. A. Girschick, M. H. Hansen, P. G. Hoel, Tjalling Koopmans, A. M. Mood, L. J. Reed, L. E. Simon, F. F. Stephan, W. R. Thompson, and Jacob Wolfowitz.

W. D. Baten, L. A. Aroian, I. W. Burr, and H. F. Dodge, at the request of the Board, continued to serve as a committee for securing additional library subscriptions to the *Annals*. Programs for the New York and New Brunswick meetings were in charge of Vice-President Wald, and that for the Washington meeting was arranged by W. G. Madow.

A proposal originating with Harold Hotelling that the Institute consider petitioning the Federal Government that the W. P. A. Computing Project be made a permanent computing group for the service of scientific research in the construction of important numerical tables, was referred to a committee consisting of A. R. Crathorne, Chairman, P. S. Dwyer, and Will Feller. As a result of their report, the Board appointed the following permanent committee on tabular computation, P. S. Dwyer, Chairman, Churchill Eisenhart, and Will Feller. It

is expected that this committee will cooperate with representatives of other scientific organizations interested in tabular computation.

The Nominating Committee for the recently held election of the Institute was A. T. Craig, Chairman, B. H. Camp, and J. H. Curtiss. G. W. Snedecor served the Institute as its representative on the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

To all of those mentioned the Institute is indebted, and for the Board of Directors I wish to thank them for their special contributions to the Institute.

I have reserved for particular mention the services of Vice-President Deming who was appointed by the Board the official representative of the Institute to deal with officials of the Selective Service Board in Washington relative to the deferment from military service of competent and experienced statisticians engaged in work important for the prosecution of the war. He gave much time and effort to this on his own initiative, and the Institute and all statisticians owe him much in that he has been very successful in convincing important Washington officials of the value of the services being rendered by good statisticians.

In December the Board with deep regret accepted the resignation of E. G. Olds who was completing his third year as Secretary of the Institute. No member of the Institute will need to be reminded of the devotion and efficiency with which he filled his office. A mere comparative inspection of his annual reports would reveal to anyone otherwise uninformed how much the Institute owes to him. During his term of office the membership of the Institute has approximately doubled and the financial position of the Institute has been markedly improved in spite of war conditions. For both of these favorable circumstances he deserves the greater part of the credit. In his present position as Chief Statistical Consultant with the Office of Production Research and Development of the War Production Board in association with Holbrook Working, he is still serving the cause of statistics as well as the war effort. The Institute will greatly benefit by the intensive work these men are doing in educating industry in the uses of statistical methods in the control of quality in production.

The annual election of the Institute just concluded by mail resulted in the election of the following officers for 1944: W. A. Shewhart, President; W. G. Cochran and Will Feller, Vice-Presidents; and P. S. Dwyer, Secretary-Treasurer. Professor Dwyer had been appointed Acting Secretary-Treasurer upon the resignation of Professor Olds. I need not remind the members of the Institute that the year 1944 remains critical for the Institute and that these new officers will need the fullest support.

C. C. CRAIG,
President, 1943.

February 15, 1944.