

your attention, Mr. Chairman, to the fact that I have several members of my staff with me who might be called upon to assist in answering any questions, if necessary. They are Mr. Milton Moss, who works in the national accounts area, Miss Margaret Martin, who works in the labor force and population area, and Mrs. Cassedy, who works with Mr. Moss in the area of the national economic accounts.

I have a prepared statement which, with your permission, I will submit for the record.

Representative BOLLING. Without objection, it will be included.

Mr. BOWMAN. But, to save the time of the committee, I will try to summarize the important items in that statement orally rather than read it in the hope that this will provide more time for questioning if the committee wishes.

In introduction, I would like to call attention to the fact that the last two decades are decades in which major improvements have taken place in Federal statistics. I would like the record to show that in my opinion, this subcommittee has had a great deal to do with the improvements that have taken place.

I am particularly interested in, and strongly support, the present emphasis of the subcommittee on the need for strengthening coordination and integration efforts, and also the need for greater attention to the availability of the information in interrelated forms. Only in this way can the information be of maximum usefulness for economic analysis and for the broad problems of social improvement and the various action programs in that direction which the Government is undertaking.

In my presentation, Mr. Chairman, I would like to do several things. First of all, I would like to review some of the progress that has been made in the various statistical fields and do it in such a way as to make it possible for the committee to see the way in which my office attempts to coordinate and improve the integration of the various statistical programs. In doing this, I will call attention to some of the major methods which the office uses in achieving its purposes.

First, as you will see as I illustrated with various programs, the office utilizes the authority which is given to it in the Federal Reports Act and in the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act to shift statistical programs or basically statistical series from one agency to another when this seems desirable in the interest of a better development of a statistical series.

Secondly, I would like to call attention to the fact that another way which a coordinated and integrated statistical program is promoted is through the review of budget requests and the way in which the statistical programs are incorporated into the President's budget. This committee deserves considerable credit for having suggested the "special analysis" which is presented with the budget each year and in which the statistical programs are put together into a single document.

A third method which the office uses and which was also developed to some extent by this committee, is the use of outside task forces which bring expert guidance in the development of statistical programs. Internal task forces, interagency committees of one sort or another are also used to develop ideas concerning the necessary changes that should be made in statistical series and how they should be better integrated and made more consistent one with the other.