

other agencies. I am talking about things I know about, but I believe that in every instance I am citing examples that could have much wider application in the Federal statistical service.

I have grouped my comments under four major headings or topics. One is, "Problems of Coordination," in which I describe the machinery for coordination, another is "The National Data Center." Then I want to say a few words on the "Administration of Statistics in the Federal Service," and finally, my fourth topic is "Long-range Planning," looking into the future.

With respect to the topic of coordination, we do have an operating system in this Government which was established by the Committee on Government Statistics and Information Services back in 1933-34. That is when the Government asked the American Statistical Association to establish a committee, an overall committee, which would make a thoroughgoing review of Federal statistical work. I think that the revolution in statistics which has occurred since that time stems from the work of that committee.

They favored, not a central statistical agency, but a federal system of statistics, so to speak, a coordinated system, and they set in motion the machinery to bring that about; namely, a Central Statistical Board which existed for a number of years. It later became the Office of Statistical Standards in the Bureau of the Budget, where it still operates. You heard from Mr. Bowman yesterday, the Director of that office. I want to emphasize that that system can work very well, and I have cited in my paper some illustrations of it.

Example No. 1 is the joint labor force statistics produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census which has been a very valuable policymaking tool for the last 15 to 20 years. It has been described by Mr. Bowman, so I shall not go into it in detail, but I do want to emphasize that one of the advantages of that kind of a continuing statistical system is that you can tie in special studies. The Bureau of Labor Statistics issues special labor force reports, based on special samples, which can be related to the overall system of reporting in such a way that we get maximum utilization of the data. Here are some examples: "Work Experience of the Population in 1965, Poverty Areas of Our Major Cities; Adult Men not in the Labor Force." These numbers have already reached about number 80. This is an efficient way of combining special studies with regular reports.

Similar arrangements have been made by the Public Health Service and the Census. The Bureau of Labor Statistics published recently a summary of "Work Limitations and Chronic Health Problems," which was a joint Public Health Service and Census report. More recently, the Office of Economic Opportunity has joined in putting some of its studies into this general statistical system.

The coordination of State and local data is a much more complex problem. That is because State and local agencies have special needs of their own. It means that there is a tough problem of trying to get the nationwide coordination needed for national statistics in the midst of State and local diversity. Nevertheless, I can cite another example of success in this field. It was over 50 years ago, prior to World War I, that some of the State labor departments began collecting information on employment and payrolls for employers. During World War I the Bureau of Labor Statistics started collecting these data on a national basis. These two groups joined together and we had the Bureau