Another evidence of foundation growth is afforded by recording the organization dates of presently large foundations. This serves to identify the 1940's and 1950's as the period of rapid foundation growth, although it is striking that the foundations established since 1950 are relatively small compared to those established before 1950. These data are contained in table 9.

On the basis of the meager evidence available, the following conclusions are suggested about private foundation growth:

(*a*) There was some growth of foundations relative to the rest of the economy in the 1930's and 1940's. This can be associated with the adoption of increased progressivity in estate and income taxes in the early 1930's plus the charitable contribution deduction under each tax.

(*b*) Since 1950, the total wealth of foundations has grown faster than the rest of the economy, but in this period the faster growth was probably due to the fact that their principal assets and corporate stocks were increasing in price faster than other assets. In terms of values of shares owned, the proportion owned by foundations appears to have been quite stable.

TABLE 9.—*Period of establishment of 5,050 foundations, by decades after 1900: by latest asset classes* [1]

Period	Number	Percent	Latest asset classes					
			$10 million or more		$1 million under $10 million		Less than $1 milion	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	5,050	100	175	100	800	100	4,075	100
Before 1900	18	(2)	1	1	9	1	8	(2)
1900 to 1909	18	(2)	8	5	5	1	5	(2)
1910 to 1919	76	2	14	8	36	4	26	1
1920 to 1929	173	3	27	15	65	8	81	2
1930 to 1939	288	6	45	26	100	12	143	3
1940 to 1949	1,638	32	54	31	299	38	1,285	32
1950 to 1959 [3]	2,839	56	26	15	286	36	2,527	62

[1] The 5,050 foundations tabulated here are those that had at least $100,000 of assets in 1962 and were thus included in the "Foundation Directory" and which also provided information to the Foundation Library Center as to date of organization.

[2] Less than 0.5 percent.

[3] Record incomplete; the fragmentary 1960—record (45 foundations) not included in table.

Source: "Foundation Directory," ed. 2, p. 13.

4. 1964 survey of foundations

In 1964 the Treasury Department conducted a survey of certain financial aspects of private foundations.[9] The survey involved initially selecting a sample of approximately 1,300 organizations whose Form 990–A was available (principally at the Foundation Library Center office in Washington, D.C.).

Certain parts of the information return, Form 990–A, are required by law to be made available to the public. The Foundation Library Center, a private, nonprofit organization, maintains a file of copies of this public part of the tax return for those exempt organizations which meet their definition of a foundation. The "Foundation Directory,"

[9] In the conduct of this survey assistance was obtained from the Internal Revenue Service and the Foundation Library Center offices in Washington, D.C., and New York City.