



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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**EXCERPT FROM X CANTOS**

We bring to our readers the conclusion of Kenneth E. Boulding's X Cantos which appeared in the Review Vol. VIII (1969) pp. 29-31.

**CANTO XII.**

A matrix is a set of roles  
 Arranged like banks of pigeon-holes.  
 It is a box of empty boxes,  
 Filled with nothing but paradoxes.  
 Their mathematical operations  
 Involve elaborate permutations  
 In which the x's and the i's and j's  
 Dance algebraical ballets,  
 And in the course of their gyrations  
 Solve simultaneous equations.

**CANTO XIII**

It gives a piece a certain unction  
 When each relation's called a  
     *Function,*  
 And if prestige is what we seek,  
 We write the functions out in Greek.  
 These intellectual acrobatics  
 Are fun, but are not mathematics,  
 For there are subtle traps immense  
 Where all that's symbol is not sense.

*Editor's Epilogue:*

Dr. Boulding's qualifications have been evident to the readers of "The Actuary" for some time and we are glad that the Program Committee has taken note of these by inviting him to speak at the Society's Denver meeting. □

**CONFERENCE ON QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN MANAGEMENT**

A Conference on Quantitative Methods in Management, sponsored jointly by the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, University of Pennsylvania, and by the Committee on Research of the Society of Actuaries will be held in Philadelphia, Nov. 19-21, 1970. It is open to all members of the Society of Actuaries and Casualty Actuarial Society.

The purpose is to explore a number of quantitative approaches to organizational, management and marketing problems, primarily as viewed by the staff of the Wharton School under Professor Russell Ackoff.

Attendance will be limited to about 50 persons. Members of the two societies have already received the application form. For additional forms write D. G. Halmstad, Secretary of the Committee on Research. □

**SOCIAL SECURITY NOTES**

Note No. 19, 1969, Social Welfare Expenditures in Fiscal Year 1969.

"At \$127 billion, expenditures for social welfare under public programs in fiscal year 1969 continued the pattern of the past four years with another 13-percent annual increase. Even when population growth and rising prices are taken into account, the increase in real terms was 8 percent." Detailed tables summarizing expenditures by type and fiscal year are presented.

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R. J. Myers and F. Bayo *Long-range Cost Estimates for Old-age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance System, 1969, Actuarial Study No. 69, September 1969, Social Security Administration, Washington, D.C., pp. 51.*

This is the latest in a series of actuarial studies reporting the results of valuations of the OASDI system. According to this report, immediately before the enactment of the 1969 social security amendments, the OASDI system was overfinanced by 1.16% of taxable payroll. On the basis of this report, Congress approved a 15% increase in social security benefits effective January 1970, using up the entire actuarial surplus.

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Maurice C. Hart *The Social Security Benefit Formula, Actuarial Note No. 64—January 1970, Social Security Administration, Washington, D.C., pp. 9.*

This note gives a concise history of the development of the social security benefit formula from 1935 through 1969. Included is a table showing the percentage increases granted by each set of social security amendments.

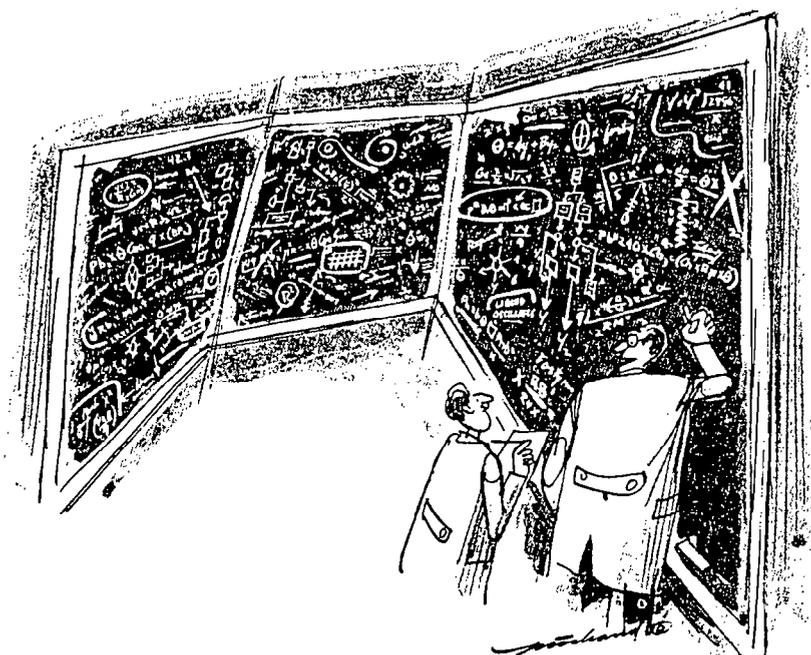
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Note No. 20, 1969, *The Fiscal Impact of the Social Security Program in Calendar 1968.*

"Economic expansion in 1968, unlike that in 1967, proceeded without interruption. Despite this fact, the surplus generated by the social security program in calendar 1968 was only \$1.5 billion, 60 percent of that attained in 1967 (\$2.6 billion). The reason is that while program expenditures grew more slowly in 1968 than in 1967, they still rose faster than program receipts which expanded no more than they did in 1967." More detailed analyses of receipts and expenditures are presented.

*Copies may be obtained gratis from Office of the Actuary, Social Security Administration, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D. C. 20201.* □

**COST OF INSURANCE? or ADJUSTED EARNINGS?**



"I'm getting close to the answer but can't for the life of me remember what the problem was."