



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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# The Actuary

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2. Replacing the special characters by numbers creates sequencing problems and detracts from readability.
3. The total expression quickly becomes unwieldy.

Yet, this plan represents progress on several fronts. It directly and systematically addresses the problem of computer-compatibility; it reduces the needed letters to the 26 of the English alphabet; it demonstrates that some of our present symbols aren't needed.

*Ed. Note: This brings to its end Mr. Reynold's informative series. We look forward to his reports of future notation developments.* □

## THIS MONTH'S QUERY FOR ACTUARIES

Never before has a newspaper's remark about actuaries stirred up so much mail to us. A record, that may stand for a while, was set by a piece in the March 21st *Wall Street Journal* describing a planned TV game show in which unemployed contestants are to display their qualifications "for a genuine job with a genuine employer".

After citing some unusual careers that may be featured, the article closed thus: "Mr. Vane (the directing executive) concedes that the demonstration part of 'Help Wanted!' may cut down on its ability to offer white-collar jobs. The show's producers haven't yet thought of an exciting way for, say, an actuarial statistician to show his stuff on the air."

We are most grateful to the readers who have drawn this to our attention. This month's query is:

What is an exciting way for an actuarial statistician to portray on the air just what the work entails, and also to demonstrate his or her own job skills, as the show will require?

Please send answers to the Editor at his masthead address, for summarization with attribution.

*E.J.M.*

### ACTEX STUDY MANUALS

Actex Study Manuals are available for all Fall 1983 exams except Part 9. New editions include Part 2 (much expanded), Risk Theory (slightly so), and Part 7 (complete for all four specialty options of 1983 syllabus). Particulars, if not already in your company, from: ACTEX, Box 2392, Framingham MA 01701.

*Richard L. London*

## TWO-TIMERS

There was a time when our students had the opportunity to display their fortitude, and perhaps to increase their chances of achieving a passing grade, by sitting for both of the separate sets of examinations administered by the then independent actuarial bodies, the Actuarial Society of America and the American Institute of Actuaries. Long before these two merged to form our present Society, joint examinations came into effect in three stages, viz.,

- 1929 Associateship, Parts 1-4
- 1932 All Associateship, Parts 1-8
- 1938 All Associateship and Fellowship Parts

In *T.A.S.A.* 50 (1949), 212, Reinhard A. Hohaus recorded the names of 35 members, dubbed "two-timers", who had earned Fellowship in both bodies "by passing separate and distinct examinations in each body from the first Associateship part to the last Fellowship part". Mr. Hohaus went on to comment thus:

"While this group, being closed to new entrants, can claim to be exclusive, they certainly will not be envied by the others who had the good sense or good fortune to have one or more examinations of either body waived. Incidentally, one of these others is the man who wrote all the Fellowship examinations in both bodies one year, and passed the first half and failed the second half in one body, and failed the first half and passed the second half of the other. That was a striking illustration of the need for joint examinations, because recurrence of such cases would certainly not reflect favorably on the prestige of the examination standards, etc., of the two bodies.

"A movement is under way to have the two-timers form an informal organization with purely social objec-

tives. I hope it materializes because it would be a unique experience to belong to an actuarial organization in which there will never be a debate as to the requirements for admission to membership."

If such a club materialized and still exists, its complement now is 16, five of them Canadian. Arrayed in order of Fellowship (in whichever body each got there the earlier), these two-timers are:

1924

Reinhard A. Hohaus

1925

William F. Poorman

1926

Joseph A. Budinger

1927-28

(None)

1929

Elgin R. Batho

Walter O. Menge

Carroll E. Nelson

1930

Harry M. Atrubin

Alton O. Groth

Benjamin T. Holmes

Daniel J. Lyons

1931

Joseph B. Glenn

John H. Miller

1932

George Kenigson

Thomas B. Morrison

1933

Harold R. Lawson

1934

(None)

1935

Edgar M. Jackson

We hope that some of these oldtimers seeing this may be moved to comment upon their motivations as they now recall them, and their reflections in retrospect upon the wisdom of having voluntarily endured those extra hours in purgatory.

*E.J.M.*

### COMMUNIQUÉ

We warmly welcome, as a sister actuarial publication, this monthly news-sheet being sent to its member-subscribers from the headquarters of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries.