



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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EDITORIAL

BY NOW, many of our readers have encountered a little item called Form 5434. This is the catchy title for the paperwork involved in joining a brand-new union called "Enrolled Actuaries". Even by government standards, this form is extraordinarily nose-y. In addition to asking after society membership (which makes sense) it requires information on formal education and age (which makes less sense). The rest of the form then asks after a 15-year resume (sense) to include salary history (nonsense). One would think that the government would be cutting back on these kinds of data banks in today's climate rather than adding to them.

Notwithstanding the paperwork involved, we are sure that many of our readers will seek to become Enrolled Actuaries. One possible reason is to solve what the Army used to know as mail-call blues. It is probably premature to predict precisely what the junk mail volume of an Enrolled Actuary will be. However, more cautious members may wish to buy an extra mailbox while the supply lasts.

There are additional reasons to join this union, of course. Consider the alternative: Who would want to be an Unenrolled Actuary? Herman P. Snodgrass, ASA, UA would form a rather distinctive signature block. There are other possible new designations as well. Suppose you are short on responsible pension actuarial experience but qualify in other respects . . . in other words, you're an almost enrolled actuary. There should be lots of these; the logical initials are AEA.

The other side of the AEA designation is, of course, the JBEA — just barely enrolled actuary. An ASPA member who has spent his last three years knocking out side fund valuations for some General Agent is ideally equipped for the JBEA designation. (His agent's company's chief actuary, on the other hand, may well be an AEA.) Another candidate for JBEA is an actuarial program drop-out with several years in the pension department and a BA in math from some school that gives a six-semester course in life contingencies.

One final designation is the EAJIC. This is an FSA who hasn't worked in the pension field since the top integration level was at \$4,800 and 4½% was a racy interest assumption. The letters stand for Enrolled Actuary, Just In Case. Only time will tell whether the JBEA or the EAJIC causes more problems for his client.

Elsewhere in this issue Mr. Levy learnedly discusses another part of the program — inundation of initials.

Only time will tell whether 5434 and its sons and daughters will be good for the private pension system. Let's hope so.

P.L.H.

UNRUH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Report of the Special Committee (Chairman Henry Unruh) on Valuation and Non-forfeiture Laws has now been submitted to the Board of Governors and the Board has authorized its release to the members.

The Committee decided that the Report should be restricted to *Actuarial Principles and Practical Problems with regard to Non-forfeiture Requirements* and further recommended that the review of valuation problems should be referred to another committee.

In the opinion of the Committee, the current non-forfeiture laws have worked well and the Report recommends that their basic structure should be maintained. Within this recommendation the report surveys the history and fundamentals of non-forfeiture benefits and deals with the many problems that have arisen in the operation of the current non-forfeiture laws. Certain changes in the non-forfeiture laws are suggested.

Copies of the Report will be mailed to the members in late January. This an important report and the Board is anxious that it be fully discussed by all members. Discussion sessions will be held at the Spring meetings in Houston and Chicago. Meantime, members are invited to put their comments in writing and send them to the Secretary of the Committee:

Charles Greeley
 Metropolitan Life
 1 Madison Avenue
 New York, N. Y. 10010

These comments will provide a background for the scheduled discussions.

Actuarial Meetings

Jan. 8, Baltimore Actuaries Club
 Feb. 12, Baltimore Actuaries Club
 Feb. 24, Philadelphia Actuaries Club

NOTE TO ALL CLUBS: Please send us . . .
 schedule of your monthly meetings. We
 like to publish them 2 months in ad-
 vance, if possible.