

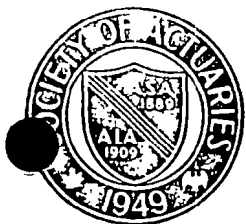


SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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# The Actuary

The Newsletter of the Society of Actuaries

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## THE SKANDIA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIA VOLUMES, 1967-1976

by Courtland C. Smith

David Garrick Halmstad was a very bright and special person who had the happy faculty of making his friends and associates feel valued just for being themselves. Before his recent death from a brain tumor, David gave us ten volumes from the Skandia Insurance Group's International Symposia on various medical impairments, with the simple request that we publicize them in *The Actuary* and then file them to permit ready accessibility. As ever with David, his manner was casual but his message conveyed a small treasure.

While most of the material in these volumes describes recent studies in the anatomy, physiology and related aspects of various physical and behavioral impairments which are of technical interest to life insurance medical directors, virtually every volume includes some papers on epidemiology and statistics that may be of interest to actuaries and concerned citizens generally. For example, the fourth volume, entitled *Alcoholic Cirrhosis and Other Toxic Hepatopathias* (Stockholm, 1970), includes information on alcohol consumption that is at least food—or if you prefer “drink”—for thought.

In the U.S. we tend to try to resolve social problems with legislation and then to offset any counter-productive effects with further legislation, and sometimes with outright repeal. We rarely study a problem or test a proposed solution on a limited scale first; therefore, we have no real consensus on the proper and most efficacious role of legislation in producing social change. Perhaps this is the price we must pay for having lawyers rather than scientists, physicians, engineers and/or businessmen predominate in

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## Halmstad Prize

David Garrick Halmstad died in February of this year at the age of thirty-nine.

The loss of one who had contributed so much to our profession in his brief span and whose promise for the future was even greater has moved a number of David's friends to attempt to extend the significance of his life beyond its untimely end. It is proposed to accomplish this by the annual award of a prize bearing his name as a memorial.

Since David's interests and accomplishments were most noteworthy in the area of research, it is proposed that the Research Committee of the Society of Actuaries screen the work in this field each year and submit the results of their screening to a Selection Committee consisting of the chairmen of the Society of Actuaries' Committees on Research, Computer Science, and Theory of Risk, and a representative of the Casualty Actuarial Society. This Committee would choose the recipient of the award.

It is expected that the wherewithal to pay the award would be obtained from the income of a fund to be built up from contributions by those who would like to join in this memorial. The Actuaries' Club of New York, whose programs over the years have benefitted so greatly from David's work, has made the initial contribution of \$200. The Society of Actuaries has agreed to receive the checks sent in by contributors. It is proposed that ultimately the accumulated contributions will be administered by the Actuarial Education and Research Fund. All wishing to join in this memorial should send their checks to the Society of Actuaries, indicating they are for the David Garrick Halmstad Memorial Fund. Such checks payable to the Society of Actuaries are deductible on U.S. Federal Income Taxes.

## THE INTERNATIONAL ACTUARIAL NOTATION

by Frank P. Di Paolo

In an article on the same subject, in the March 1976 issue of *The Actuary*, it was reported that the Sub-Committee on Notation of the International Actuarial Association had circulated a questionnaire among the various national organizations to sound out public opinion on the issue of linearization and expansion of the International Actuarial Notation.

In the same article, it was pointed out that the Committee on Standard Notation and Nomenclature of the Society had replied to the questionnaire saying “NO” to linearization and “YES” to expansion.

During the course of the XX International Congress of Actuaries, a Special Meeting on the International Actuarial Notation was held on October 30, 1976 which was chaired by Prof. J. J. Engel-friet of the Netherlands.

At the beginning of the Special Meeting, the Chairman released the replies to the questionnaire on the International Actuarial Notation submitted by 14 national organizations.

The 14 national organizations included Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, The Netherlands, New Zealand, The Society of Actuaries, The Casualty Actuarial Society, Sweden and Switzerland. Practically all national organizations replied “YES” to the questions dealing with expansion of the actuarial notation. Two organizations (The Society of Actuaries and Austria) opposed the introduction of the linearized notation. Six organizations (Argentina, Belgium, Great Britain, The Netherlands, New Zealand and Switzerland) favoured the introduction of a linearized notation as an alter-

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