



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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HOW MANY MEMBERS?

This article's aim isn't so much to provide figures that today's readers specially want, as it is to keep future historians from being thwarted by unavailability of membership figures that would have appeared in the 1979 *Year Book*. That *Year Book*, it will be remembered, died aborning.

We take this opportunity also to rectify a temporary miscount, perpetrated during that same hiatus period. Our 1980 *Year Book* reported, at p. 60, that we had 3,955 Fellows and 3,042 Associates on November 1, 1979; the correct numbers were 3,934 Fellows and 3,035 Associates.

There is a third matter. Desire for earlier *Year Book* emergence has prompted a set-back in our closing date for these membership figures. Formerly that closing date was December 1st; starting with 1979 it is November 1st. The significant effect of this change is that, in any attempted comparisons with prior and subsequent years, the figures for 1979 don't reflect the new Fellows (of whom there were 90) nor the new Associates (360) who qualified in the November 1979 examinations.

Executive Director John O'Connor reports that we can be assured that we really did have 7,697 members on November 1st, 1980; our faithful Chicago staff proved this by making a page-by-page count.

This reporter is confident that now that the dust has settled, our 1982 *Year Book* will revert to the tabular format with opening and closing totals used in past days.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

December 1, 1977 to November 1, 1980

	Fellows	Associates
Membership, December 1, 1977	3,469	2,694
<u>December 1977 to December 1978</u>		
Increase: By Examination	314	449
By Election		33
By Reinstatement	2	6
Total	<u>3,785</u>	<u>3,182</u>
Decrease: By Death	20	5
By Withdrawal	7	48
By Associates becoming Fellows		314
Membership, December 1, 1978	<u>3,758</u>	<u>2,815</u>
<u>December 1978 to November 1979</u>		
Increase: By Examination	189(1)	399(1)
By Election		20
Total	<u>3,947</u>	<u>3,234</u>
Decrease: By Death	13	6
By Withdrawal		4
By Associates becoming Fellows		189(2)
Membership, November 1, 1979	<u>3,934(3)</u>	<u>3,035(3)</u>
<u>November 1979 to November 1980</u>		
Increase: By Examination	276	756
By Election		22
By Reinstatement	1	8
Total	<u>4,211</u>	<u>3,821</u>
Decrease: By Death	14	8
By Withdrawal	8	29
By Associates becoming Fellows		276
Membership, November 1, 1980	<u>4,189</u>	<u>3,508</u>

(1) If November exam results had been reflected, there would have been 279 Fellows and 759 Associates. (2) This figure would have been 279. (3) These figures would have shown 4,024 Fellows and 3,305 Associates.

Social Insurance Committee Testimony

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Amend Law To Require Actuarial Certification

"ERISA requires that valuations of private pension plans be certified by qualified actuaries. A similar actuarial certification is required by P.L. 95-595 for pension plans covering federal employees. . . . The American Academy of Actuaries recommends that the Social Security Act be amended to enable the public to enjoy the same benefit of professional actuarial certification for the Social Security program." (Readers may note that actuarial certification was adopted for the 1981 Trustees Reports—see our October issue—but its permanence has yet to be assured by legislation.)

E.J.M.

HOW TO BECOME AN ARCHACTUARY

by Courtland C. Smith

ARCH (Actuarial Research Clearing House) is an informal journal for prompt dissemination of current actuarial research. A typical issue contains short papers on particular research topics, longer papers (with abstracts to help readers judge their utility), exchanges of letters, a few problems and solutions, translations of foreign-language items, and perhaps useful computer programs or references thereto. We also print proceedings of our Actuarial Research Conferences.

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Manuscripts in original or dark photocopies will be welcomed by any of the following at his Year Book address: Arnold F. Shapiro, Co-Editor; Courtland C. Smith, Co-Editor; Charles S. Fuhrer, our new Assistant Editor.

Ed. Note: Another valued ARCH service is publishing scripts sent to The Actuary that are beyond this newsletter's capacity to handle. One example is the batch of welcome comments from readers of Hilary Seal's "An Attempt to Convert American Actuaries" (March 1981 issue.)

E.J.M.