

Park Avenue

(8)

Harpenden

Herts

England

November 8<sup>th</sup> 1926

Dear Sir,

I am honoured by your invitation to take part in the working-out of your interesting proposal for the co-ordinated study of mathematical economics.

My interest in the subject has been intermittent; as you are no doubt aware my work has principally been in the theory & application of statistics.

During the next ten months my time will be fully occupied by statistical investigations which I

have undertaken, and in the summer  
by a prolonged vacation which I have  
promised myself.

[Much as I am interested in  
your proposal, I should prefer  
not to take any definite part  
in its <sup>development</sup> ~~realisation~~ till a year  
has elapsed. By that time you  
will know how far it is capable  
of realisation & I shall hope to  
adhere to the group that may be  
formed.] Meanwhile I should  
of course be happy to furnish a  
bibliography of my few writings  
on the subject.

With renewed thanks for your letter,

I am  
yours sincerely  
Arthur L. Bowley

761 A

Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> 1931

Dear Dr. Frisch,

I have your circular letter of October  
15<sup>th</sup>.

I have written to Dr. Roos approving a  
small number of the names he proposes  
as Charter Members of the Econometric Society,  
but saying that in my opinion such mem-  
bership should be restricted to persons of  
real eminence in Economics, Statistics or  
relevant mathematics, who are known by  
Council members outside their own country.  
If there is an actual vote I suggested a  
majority 3:1 of the Council as appropriate.

I think that it is a mistake to make a  
great number of Charter Members. Eminence,  
by definition, is rare.

I have at present no more names to

suggest for the United Kingdom, nor  
any to add to those already named  
for other European countries. The  
lists already circulated contain in  
fact very many names with which  
I am quite unfamiliar; but my  
scope of reading in econometric subjects  
has not been very wide.

I am

Yours sincerely

Arthur C. Bowley

U. B. Oslo  
Brev. nr.

761A

Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1931

Dear Dr. Frisch,

[I am, I think, in complete agreement with your letter of Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.

We ~~the~~ ought not to be hurried unduly in making arrangements with Mr. Cowles.

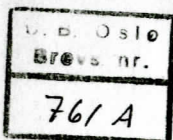
I suggest that the next step should be that he & the American members of Council put in writing in some detail a draft proposition for co-operation, & that this should be communicated to all members of Council, together with reasonable data of Mr. Cowles's standing & of the ~~work~~ research

work he has directed, & also of Mr. Nelson's  
qualifications.

While this is being ~~not~~ done, it could  
be ascertained if a meeting in London  
is possible.

I should myself be quite content  
to leave the whole affair in your hands.  
but I would not press that you should  
go to <sup>new</sup> York against your inclination  
& convenience. If you do so &  
pass through London I should be very  
glad to meet you.

Yours very truly  
Arthur L. Bowley



RECEIVED  
100 PARK AVENUE,  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

March 8<sup>th</sup> 1932

Dear Professor Frisch,

I am much obliged to you for sending me your "New Methods of Measuring Marginal Utility." I have called the attention of my colleagues to it, & am reviewing it for the Economic Journal.

My delay in acknowledgement is due to the fact that I found it so interesting & important that I worked carefully through it. You have indeed made a notable advance in the subjects you handle.

Overleaf I name some misprints.

Yours sincerely .

Arthur L. Bowley

① P.37.  $5(9) \quad -\log_e \alpha_2 =$

P.69  $f(15)$  Real ?  $+R$  for  $-R$

$f(20)$  "  $\overset{v}{u}_{12}$  for  $u_{11}$

near, that  
near - R

P.125 (11.50)

Real  $\phi = (-\overset{vv}{w}) + (-\overset{v}{w})$

②

131 .11.64 Real  $\psi(c)$  for  $\tau(c)$

135. General marginal principle

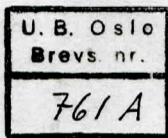
$> (G-w)\overset{vv}{w}$  not  $(G-w)w$

① og ② er feil og ikke selv  
hvert set.



I hope that it will be possible to arrange  
a European meeting this year.

Yours sincerely  
Arthur L. Bowley



COURTFIELD,

PARK AVENUE,

April 10<sup>th</sup> 1932

Dear Professor Fitch,

I have your letter of April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
and return your questionnaire, filled in  
except for n<sup>o</sup> 1.

My impression was that the question  
of the editorial council had already been  
settled; for I recently heard from Irving  
Fisher who asked me to serve in place  
of Divisia who wished to be excused. I  
wrote to consent.

I think that the Committee you propose  
is too large. The delay & expense of  
inter-communication would be considerable.

This is  
a different  
advice to  
only  
for  
C. G. B. B.

I doubt whether the Metric Committee of 14 persons is effective.

I should prefer a small committee of 5 or 6; one from each country where the membership is large or the economic work effective, with a rotation from time to time:-

- say Scandinavian - Frisch
- U.S.A. - Fisher or Ross
- England - Keynes or Bowley
- France - Darnois
- German language - Schumpeter
- & ? Italy - Amoroso
- & Poland - Jawadski.

I do not recommend the inclusion of Jini. He is notoriously a very difficult man to work with, & his personal

very pleased for all suggestions

I want you to know how highly appreciated you are

to refer paper to editor. I am in the paper work - but I am not sure I agree I agree myself.

contributions have not been such as to make his inclusion necessary.

For myself I should prefer not to serve, & only yielded to Irving Fisher's personal request.

The Editor will have the task not only of selection, but of compression - especially if the communications are paid. I think that a great deal of mathematical work published is overloaded with highly developed formulae & tables of doubtful utility.

"The essential is to have the data, the hypothesis, the method & the results."

The new series of Annals of the American Statistical Assoc. suffers from too great length, while in the Journal of the same Society the work is often too compressed.

This is of course for your consideration. Would it not be better simply to have Council?

Ad brev Arthur L. Bowley til R. Frisch 10/4-1932.

BLANK. To be filled in by Council Members of the Econometric Society and returned to the Editor, Professor Ragnar Frisch, Storgaten 2, Oslo.

Underline or cross out.

Remarks.

1. Advisory Editorial Committee.

The Council should serve as the Advisory Editorial Committee.

The Advisory Editorial Committee should be elected by the Council upon nomination by the Editor.

*See letter*

I support the election of:-

Altschul,	Mitchell,
Amoroso,	Ristg
Bowley,	Roos,
Darmois,	Schumpeter,
Divisia,	Snyder,
Fisher,	del Vecchio,
Gini,	Wilson,
Hansen,	Zawadzki,
Keynes,	Zenthen,

to serve on the Advisory Editorial Committee.

2. Assistant Editor

I recommend ..... appointed Assistant Editor.

*No opinion. Let the Editor nominate*

3. Spelling of the name of the journal.

I prefer "ECONOMETRICA".

I prefer "ECONOMETRICA".

4. Size of the journal.

I prefer

~~small 200-400 pages a year.~~

medium 400-600 " " "

~~large 600-1000 " " "~~

5. Intervals of publication.

I prefer irregular intervals.

I prefer quarterly issues.

I prefer ..... *3 issues per annum* .....

6. Authors' Fees.

I think there should be no authors' fees.

I think the authors' fees should be ..... per page.

*\$5 per 1000 words  
but maximum \$25 for an article*

7. Title page of the journal.

I propose the following modifications in the suggested title page:-

..... (date)

..... (signature of Council Member.)

*BOWLEY*

August 16<sup>th</sup> 1932

Dear Professor Frisch,

Mr. Divisia tells me that owing to illness - which I hope is temporary - he has asked you to organize the programme for the meeting of the Econometric Society on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

I have in preparation a study which (if I can complete it!) I should wish to bring before the meeting.

As a provisional title I would call it "The effect of economic forces on the <sup>frequency</sup> ~~frequency~~ curves of variation of incomes, prices and other phenomena: - a suggestion for study."

So far most of mathematical economics applies to averages, totals &c, or to variation of

these in time. But all phenomena are variable from person to person, place to place &c at one time, and these variations appear to have definite mathematical forms whose ~~constants~~ parameters have secular changes. Here is an interesting & important field of study.

I should propose to introduce the subject, with some illustrations, rather than to carry any investigation far.

I should be glad to know whether there is room in the programme for this, and ~~at~~ how long is allotted for the reading of a paper.

I expect to reach Paris on the evening of Thursday Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, and to leave on the

afternoon or late evening of Tuesday Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>.

I should be glad if a meeting of the Council could be arranged on Friday Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. If not, I hope that some ~~member~~ councillors will be present on that day, so that we can talk over matters before the meeting.

I am

Yours sincerely

Arthur L. Bowley

POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



Professor Ragnar Fusch  
~~Dalhousie~~

Oslo ~~Street 9~~  
Norway

U. B. Oslo  
Breve  
761 A

Park Avenue, Harpenden, England

21x32

Thank you for your letter of Aug. 25!

I willingly accept your amount.  
I want to the title of my paper.

A. L. Bartley



England  
March 5<sup>th</sup> 1933

Dear Professor Fusch,

I shall be glad to write  
on Edgeworth's work for *Econometrica*.  
I do not know how soon I shall  
get to it, but I should expect to  
have it done in time for the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
number if it is wanted then. I  
am making enquiries for an  
adequate photograph.

I am pleased with the ap-  
pearance & contents of the



first issue.

Jones & Co.

Arthur L. Bowley

May 17<sup>th</sup> 1933

Dear Professor Frisch,

I have tried to read J. Schmidt's paper, but cannot understand it. He does not make clear his objective or his results. As a substitute for other methods of curve fitting, if that is the purpose, it seems to be very complex. In any case I do not think it suitable for Econometrica in any form like its present form, but only for a more specialized journal.

I should have made a somewhat similar criticism on Shohat's paper on interpolation, except that his purpose is intelligible. His approach in §1. is unintelligible to me - his definition of  $\sigma_{n,n}$  is not lucid & he uses

$N$  without any definition, & his references only  
appeal to specialists in interpolation formulae.  
I hope that ~~the~~ mathematical papers in the  
future will be easier to understand.

We are hoping to find places at the  
School of Economics for some fewer  
teachers. There is a chance of being  
able to invite Allshul, but not  
Marshall.

I am trying to find time to write  
a paper on Edgeworth as you asked  
in February. I have obtained a  
fairly good photograph.

Yours sincerely

Arthur L. Bowley

U. B. Oslo  
Brev  
761 A

Park Avenue  
Harpenden  
Herts  
England  
August 31 1933

*Thank you very much  
for the enclosed  
pages -  
It would be nice  
if you could  
re-write the  
Office for  
the report  
re-write the  
the report  
re-write the*

Dear Professor Frisch,

I now send the typescript of a study of F.Y. Edgeworth's Life and Work for *Econometrica* as you asked in your letter of February 20. In view of the recent re-publication of J.M. Keynes' biographical Essays, I thought it would be superfluous to give many personal touches, and, indeed, I find it difficult to write for public reading of one with whom I was on terms of intimate friendship. I have therefore confined myself to a rather bald account of his life, but in some places I have been able to give more detail than did Keynes.

I am sending by post at the same time as this a photograph of Edgeworth when he was 61 years old Mr Nelson, as you asked.

I am going to Mexico with the international Statistical Institute, starting on Sept 20, and shall be away till Nov 19. During the first week of November I expect to be at or near New York. But it is hardly necessary for me to see a proof, if time presses.

I am

Yours sincerely

Arthur L. Bowley

U. B. Os  
Brevs. 57  
761A

Park Avenue Harpenden Herts England Jan 21 1935

Dear Frisch,

Professor Divisia, the President of the Econometric Society has requested me to organize the meeting of the European members of the Society this year, and for that purpose to form a Committee and to act as its Chairman. I venture to ask you to serve on this Committee. The duties of its members will be light and mainly advisory. In particular I may find it advisable to ask advice as to the suitability of papers offered to be read.

It was decided at the meeting held at Strass last September that the next reunion should be in Belgium or in Luxemburg. Further consideration has lead to the selection of Belgium, and Professor Dupriez of Louvain has consented to make the appropriate local arrangements. It was also decided that it was better to hold the meetings, not at capital cities with their expense and distractions, but at quiet places that had natural amenities. Professor Dupriez reports that Louvain itself is unsuitable owing to its inferior hotel accommodation, and suggests Namur. He says that there is an excellent hotel at the citadelles quite outside town, overlooking the town and the Meuse from a big hill and with plenty of walks in the woods and among gardens while remaining on the hills. At the end of September it is almost empty; they would

Very truly  
yours

my note

21/1-1935.

Certainly give us special terms and put a salon at our disposal'.

I consider this an excellent proposal, and shall be glad to have the consent of the Committee to it.

For the date of meeting I suggest  
Informal assembly and reunion Monday September 23

Papers and discussions September 23, 24, 25.

I shall be glad to have your views also on this.

I enclose a draft of a notice of the meeting, to appear, if the Editor consents in the April Economica. It is almost identical with that used in QOEE 1933.

Trusting that you will serve on this Committee and that you will be able to attend the meeting, and hoping for an early answer,

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

*Arthur L. Bowley*

Letter sent to MM. Haberler, Frisch, Marshak, Schneider, Staehle, Tinbergen and Zeuthen.

*European*

U. S. O S I O  
Brevs. nr.

761 A

Park Avenue

Harpenden

England

4/2/1935

Dear Frisch,

Thank you for your letter of Jan. 24th.

I think it better to send the enclosed amended notice to you rather than direct to Mr. Nelson. You may need to correct the French, and I presume you see proofs in any case.

Professor Zeuthen writes that the beginning of September suits Scandinavian University people better than the date chosen. But I think that others prefer the later date, and I am not making any change.

When a meeting is held in Denmark the date can be selected to suit local circumstances.

I hope that you will find that you can attend.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Z. Bowley

U. B. Oslo  
Brevs nr.

761 A

Park Avenue  
Harpenden Herts England  
24/7/35

Dear Professor Frisch,

Thank you for your letter of July 16th. I am writing to Prof. Dupriez and will tell him that you are coming to the meeting at Namur. I am very glad that you will give us a paper. I enclose some suggestions that I am sending to all readers.

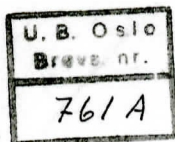
My daughter, Agatha has arranged to visit Norway with a party in August; they arrive at Oslo on August 12th. and spend a week or so in the mountains-- whether in your neighbourhood or not I do not know. I should be very glad if she could meet you. She is a psycholo-



25  
gist, working with children; aged ~~wt~~ years.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Z Bowley



B

MARLEY HILL,  
MARLEY LANE,  
HASLEMERE,  
TEL. 744. SURREY.  
England  
April 9<sup>th</sup> 1936

Dear Frisch,

I think that I shall be able to come to Oslo for the Mathematical Congress in July, & I am the more inclined to do so, as there is an Econometric section — I have no qualifications for taking part in the other sections.

Before deciding, however, I should be glad to know whether there is a real prospect of Hotelling, Roos, or other Americans being present, so that we could discuss the affairs of the Econometric Society.

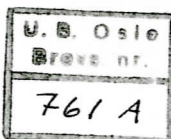
Would you also recommend to me

an hotel at moderate price, or what  
might be preferable a private home, such  
as is indicated in the circular announcing  
the Congress.

If I come, I expect that I should  
make a short tour in South Norway before  
the meeting. I shall have to return to London  
immediately after it.

Yours sincerely  
Arthur Z. Bowley

de. Yre



MARLEY HILL,  
MARLEY LANE,  
HASLEMERE,  
SURREY.  
TEL. 744.

England  
June 4<sup>th</sup> 1936

Dear Frisch,

Please accept my sincere sympathy on your recent bereavement.

Mr Klöcker has kindly undertaken to find me rooms for the week of the Congress. I hope to reach Oslo from Newcastle on the morning of July 9<sup>th</sup>, and I have asked Mr Klöcker to suggest a country or mountain resort not too far from Oslo for the two or three days before the Congress. Perhaps you would also make a suggestion.

I shall be very glad to join your gathering on July 16<sup>th</sup>. I must leave Oslo on July 18<sup>th</sup> and cannot take part in the excursions arranged after the meeting.

If you wish it, and there is room in the programme, I could communicate <sup>very</sup> short notes on either or both of the following: - (1) If  $\kappa^2$  is neglected, where  $\kappa = \mu_3/\sigma^3$ , we obtain slightly asymmetrical frequency curves from Pearson's system, Edgeworth's Translation, the second approx<sup>n</sup> to the normal curve of error, & the Wichsell-Librat Loi de l'Effet Proportionnel

Gini's

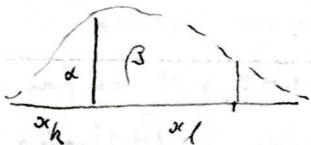
2) The standard deviation of [Gini's] Mean Difference is

$$\text{given by } \frac{n}{4} \sigma_g^2 = \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{d^2 x_k^2}{N} - \sigma \sum_{\beta=1}^1 (\beta - \frac{1}{2}) x_k \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\beta} (\alpha + \frac{1}{2}) x_k$$

where  $n$  is a sample of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is drawn from a universe containing  $N$ ,  
and  $N\alpha = 2k - (N+1)$ ,  $N\beta = 2l - (N+1)$ .  $n \ll N$  large.

In normal distribution this becomes

$$\sigma_g = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \times 1.07 = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \times 1.715$$



Yours sincerely

William E. Barlow

761A

MARLEY HILL,  
MARLEY LANE,  
HASLEMERE,  
SURREY.  
TEL. 744.

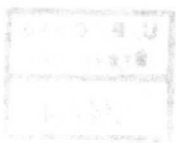
Oct 10 1937

Dear Professor Frisch,

The Econometric meeting at Annecy was interesting and well attended, though some countries were not represented. Lutfalla has undertaken to send you a report for Econometrica.

The only fellows present besides myself were ~~Frisch~~ and for a short time Anderson. I therefore consulted the meeting as a whole about the place of the 1938 meeting. Especially in view of a letter from Schneider, now at Aarhus, there was general agreement that the proposal made at Oxford last year should be carried out: viz. that we should meet in Denmark. Before writing to Prof Zeuthen and Schneider, however, I wish to have your approval. I am also writing to Divisia, Marschak, and Haberle: who are the European fellows who have been effective in the past. Allen will be in America next year.

We took a lot of trouble last year with proposals for revising the



MARNEY HILL

MARNEY LAKE

constitution. Apparently the whole question has lapsed; at least I have heard nothing of any further action.

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

Arthur L. Bowley

*[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

U. B. Oslo  
Brevs nr.

761A

MARLEY HILL,  
MARLEY LANE,  
HASLEMERE,  
TEL. 744. SURREY.

Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> / 537

Dear Frisch,

I wrote to you some time ago saying that it was proposed to hold the meeting of the European members of the Econometric Society in Denmark next year, and asking for your approval before writing to Zeuthen.

If I do not hear within say a week, I will take your assent for granted.

I also asked whether any





MEMORANDUM  
MAY 19 1900  
THE SECRETARY  
OF THE  
TREASURY

steps had been taken towards revising  
the Constitution as was discussed  
last year.

Yours sincerely

Arthur S. Bowley

76/A

OFFICERS

President  
ARTHUR L. BOWLEY  
Marley Hill  
Haslemere, England  
Vice-President  
JOSEPH A. SCHUMPETER  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

Secretary and Treasurer  
ALFRED COWLES 3RD  
Cowles Commission  
Colorado Springs, U.S.A.

Editor of *Econometrica*  
RAGNAR FRISCH  
University of Norway  
Oslo, Norway

# THE ECONOMETRIC SOCIETY

An International Society for the Advancement  
of Economic Theory in its Relation  
to Statistics and Mathematics

Marley Hill, Haslemere, England  
April 15, 1938

COUNCIL

The Officers of the Society and:

ALBERT AUPETIT  
Paris, France

C. BRESCIANI-TURRONI  
Giza, Egypt

IRVING FISHER  
Yale University

JOHN MAYNARD KEYNES  
Cambridge University

CHARLES F. ROOS  
New York, U.S.A.

WLADYSŁAW ZAWADZKI  
Warsaw, Poland

F. ZEUTHEN  
Copenhagen

Dear Frisch,

The Econometric Society has for some years not acted in accordance with its Constitution, in that there has been no annual meeting of its Fellows, and I think that it is expedient to regularise its procedure.

Since no change in the Constitution can take place except after an annual meeting of the Fellows, the first step is for the Council to 'fix the place and date of such meeting'.

I propose that we fix one to coincide with the American Meeting of the Society this summer, or if that does not take place, at the next Meeting in Europe or America.

I ask you to vote on the question on the enclosed slip, and to return it to me as soon as possible. In order that the Fellows should be notified in time, the Council's authorisation is necessary before the end of May.

At the Meeting it is open to the Fellows to take any action they please; but I should propose to ask them to recommend amendments of the Constitution somewhat as follows:-

Statute 3, last paragraph to read:

'The fellows represent the highest authority of the Society. The Council shall consult them on any vital question affecting the policy of the Society, obtaining their decision by mail-vote.'

Statute 8 to read:

'Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by the Council, and before becoming effective they must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of those voting in a mail-vote taken among all Fellows.'

If the Meeting approved these resolutions, then under the existing Constitution they would be submitted by mail to all Fellows. There remains the possibility of informal discussion at Cracow.

This procedure is not intended by me to lead to a general revision of the Statutes, since the correspondence that took place in 1936-7 showed that there was no agreement on the subject. In fact the decisions taken by the Council under their existing powers have so far been adequate for the needs of the Society. But I am uneasy at our breach of our own laws, and I think it wise to make possible amendment of the Constitution, if and when a majority of the Council and of the Fellows find it necessary.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Arthur L. Bowley

ing i  
owley  
Bowley's  
handwriting

*Ad brev fra Arthur L. Bowley til R. Frisch, 15. apr. 1938.*

# Constitution of THE ECONOMETRIC SOCIETY

An International Society for the Advancement of Economic  
Theory in its Relation to Statistics and Mathematics

## 1. SCOPE OF THE SOCIETY

The Econometric Society is an international society for the advancement of economic theory in its relation to statistics and mathematics. The Society shall operate as a completely disinterested, scientific organization without political, social, financial, or nationalistic bias. Its main object shall be to promote studies that aim at a unification of the theoretical-quantitative and the empirical-quantitative approach to economic problems and that are penetrated by constructive and rigorous thinking similar to that which has come to dominate in the natural sciences. Any activity which promises ultimately to further such unification of theoretical and factual studies in economics shall be within the sphere of interest of the Society.

## 2. MEMBERS

The Society shall consist of two classes of members: regular members and Fellows. Members of either class shall be subject to election. To become a regular member, a person must be proposed to the Council by two members of the Society. Once a year the Council shall nominate new members and these nominations shall be voted upon by mail by all members. No person can be elected to membership unless he is nominated by the Council.

During the first year following the organization meeting of the Society, the Council shall have the authority to invite eligible persons to become charter members.

## 3. FELLOWS

All Fellows of the Society shall be nominated by the Council and elected by mail-vote of the Fellows. Such nomination may be made at any time. To be eligible for such nomination a person must have published original contributions to economic theory or to such statistical, mathematical or accounting analyses as have a definite bearing on problems in economic theory, and must have been a member of the Society for at least one year. Each year the Council shall offer the members an opportunity to suggest nominees for fellowships.

The first group of Fellows shall be elected by the Council.

A meeting of the Fellows shall be held each year at a place and time designated at the previous annual meeting of the Fellows. In default of action by the Fellows, the Council shall have the power to fix the place and date of such meeting. The annual meeting of the Fellows shall represent the highest authority of the Society. In important cases, the annual meeting of the Fellows may decide by a simple majority vote to subject any decision of the meeting to ratification by mail-vote of all Fellows.

#### 4. OFFICERS

The President of the Society shall be elected for one year by ballot by the Council. The President shall act as chairman of the Council.

The first President shall be elected by those present at the organization meeting of the Society.

The Council may elect one or more of its members to act as Vice-Presidents of the Society for a period of one year.

The Council shall elect a Secretary and a Treasurer to serve for a period of one year. These two offices may be combined. The Treasurer shall present financial statements to the Council, which, in turn, shall submit the statements to the annual meeting of the Fellows.

#### 5. THE COUNCIL

The Council shall consist of not less than seven nor more than fifteen members. The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the Council. The other members of the Council shall be elected with a view to representing the various geographic areas in which the Society has members. These latter members of the Council shall be elected for three years by the Fellows upon nomination by the Council, the offices for approximately one-third of them terminating each year. The first Council shall be elected by those present at the organization meeting of the Society.

#### 6. ACTIVITIES

Any activities which fall within the sphere of interest of the Society may be authorized by the Council, such as local scientific meetings, international meetings under the auspices of the Council, and the issuance of publications reporting the activities of the Society or containing other matters of econometric interest.

#### 7. FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION

The dues for regular members and the dues for Fellows shall be fixed by the Council. Such dues shall be moderate in amount. Bequests and gifts may be received.

#### 8. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to this Constitution must be approved by a simple majority vote of those Fellows present at any annual meeting of the Fellows. Before becoming effective they must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of those voting in a mail-vote taken among all Fellows.

\*

\*

\*

This Constitution was adopted by general vote of those present at the organization meeting of the Society in Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A., December 29, 1930.

The meeting decided to leave desirable verbal modifications in the text of the Constitution to be made by a committee consisting of Ragnar Frisch, Frederick C. Mills and Charles F. Roos. This committee held a meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A., on December 30, 1930, and there decided upon the final phrasing.

Signed:

RAGNAR FRISCH

FREDERICK C. MILLS

CHARLES F. ROOS

*Uregistrert vedlagt til brevene fra Arthur L. Bowley til R. Frisco*

To the Fellows of The Econometric Society,  
at their annual meeting, Colorado Springs,  
July 18th, 1938

The Council of the Econometric Society has acted under Statute 3 of the Constitution in fixing the place and date of the Annual Meeting of the Fellows in default of action by the Fellows.

This Annual Meeting 'represents the highest authority of the Society' but there is no regulation as to what number constitutes a quorum. It is open to the Meeting to discuss any question and pass any resolution not contrary to the Constitution.

By a simple majority vote of those present amendments to the Constitution can be proposed and approved, but they only become effective after ratification by a two-thirds majority of those voting in a mail-vote taken among all the Fellows.

I venture to invite the Fellows to pass resolutions that are necessary to bring the Constitution into conformity with the existing practice of the Society. In fact the holding of an annual meeting that can be attended by Fellows living in Europe as well as by those living in America has proved to be impracticable, and such meetings do not take place. But without a meeting it is not possible to amend the Constitution, as some members desire, and in particular it is not possible to abolish the statutory necessity for an annual meeting.

I suggest the following resolutions:-

Statute 3, last paragraph to be altered so as to read: 'The Fellows represent the highest authority of the Society. The Council shall consult them on any vital question that affects the policy of the Society, obtaining their decision by mail-vote.'

Statute 8 to be altered so as to read: 'Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by the Council, and before becoming effective they must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of those voting in a mail-vote taken among all Fellows'.

These amendments would regularise our existing practise in not summoning an annual meeting.

Perhaps I should inform the Fellows that in 1936 and 1937 various proposals were put forward for amending the Constitution, but they did not lead to any general agreement. Those which I here suggest are of a different character, and in any case are necessary before other changes (if any are desired) can be made.

I regret that it is not possible for me to attend the Meeting.

Arthur L. Bowley

Haslemere, June 26, 1938

MARLEY HILL,  
MARLEY LANE,  
HASLEMERE,  
TEL. 744. SURREY.

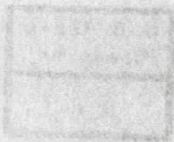
Oct. 20 1929

Dear Fritz,

Timbergen is duly elected  
to the Council, & we can carry out  
our plan for Schuchter as  
President & Timbergen as Vice-  
President.

I had a comfortable journey  
home after leaving you on August  
30th, and thank you and Mrs.  
Fritz (with her & the daughter my  
kind regards) for your kind hospitality.

The vision of you & Allen dis-  
cussing the more subtle meaning  
of the coefficient of substitution



MARREX HILL

MARBY LAND

HARDWELL

SHERRY

THE

amid the turmoil of embarras  
is a continual source of amusement  
to me.

Yours truly  
Charles E. Bowley

*Copy*

Oslo (Norway)  
Storgt. 9

Nov. 1st. 1926

Professor A.L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics.

Dear Sir,

I know from your extremely interesting book "Mathematical groundwork of economics" that you are interested in the applications of mathematics to economics. This is the reason why I take the liberty of writing you to ask your opinion as to an idea which I have discussed with M. François Divisia, Professeur d'économie politique générale à l'École nationale des ponts et chaussées, Paris.

The question is whether it should be possible to create an international circle to facilitate the exchange of ideas between mathematical economists and to contribute to a "mise au point" of the problems of mathematical economics.

From the enclosed copy of parts of a letter relating to the question, you will see the opinion of M. Divisia. I think that the développements of M. Divisia gives in a very precise form the arguments in favor of such an association, and I also think that his remarks as to the manner in which one should try to realize it, are very judicious.

I quite agree with M. Divisia that the first object to realize is a "cercle restreint". As to the practical measures, the best thing to do would probably be to commence with so little organisation-apparatus as possible. It would perhaps suffice that each member brought about a bibliography of his mathematical economic writings, with a short comment on each. These biblio-



1/11-1926

ographies had to be sent to one of the members who would assume the task of getting them duplicated together with a list of the names and addresses of the members. When each member was in possession of such a list he would be informed about the subjects of which the other members had made a special study. The direct correspondence between the members, to which such a list would probably give rise, should be the principle aim of the circle.

If this tentative should get a success, one could later on think of creating an international association or congress eventually with a periodical devoted to "econometric" problems.

These are of course only suggestions. I should be very glad if you would kindly let me know your opinion as to the possibility, the utility and the practical realization of such a circle.

Yours very truly

Ragnar Frisch

Dr. phil. Lecturer of economics and mathematical statistics in the University of Oslo

At the same time I have written to  
Professor Bortkiewicz, University of Berlin.  
M. Charles Jordan, Agrégé à l'Université de Budapest  
M. Slutsky, Maschkowa ul. 17/15. Moskau.

The Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial  
61 Broadway, New York city.

May, 22th, 1927

Professor A.L. Bowley  
London School of Economics

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find the draught of a memorandum relating to the establishment of a periodical devoted to the advancement of "econometrics". I should be highly appreciative of any opinion or suggestion which you may offer in this connection.

During the last months my time has been occupied by the working out of an essay on the analysis of statistical time series, so I have not been able to work on the realization of the plans relating to "Oekonometrika". During the coming months I hope however to be able to do so. I am going to travel over The United States and it is my intention to gather the opinions of the american economists and statisticians on the "Oekonometrika" plan.

My article on the analysis of statistical time series is not yet printed, but I have taken the liberty of sending you a typewritten copy.

Very sincerely yours

Ragnar Frisch

Storgaten 9,

O S L O, Norway.

March 16th 1932.

Professor Arthur Bowley,  
Cuttsfield,  
Park Avenue,  
Harpenden, Herts.

Dear Professor Bowley,

Thank you very much indeed for your kind letter of March 8th.

I am much obliged to you for drawing my attention to the misprints. Some of these I had already got myself as you will see from the enclosed "Errata". Two others I had not seen, namely the one on page 37 and the one on page 131. Would you be kind enough to mention these misprints when you review the book?

You listed with a question-mark the possible misprint on page 96 in formula (8.15), namely "+ R" instead of "- R". I believe that this is not a misprint. I think it should be "- R".

With best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ragnar Frisch.

RF/NB

Storgaten 9,  
O S L O,  
April 15th 1932.

Professor A.L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics.

My dear Professor Bowley,

Thank you very much for your letter of April 10th. I want you to know that I appreciate very highly the interest you show in the journal of the Econometric Society and ~~for~~ the thought you have given to this matter.

The body you speak about where you have replaced Divisia is, I think, not the Editorial Committee for the journal but the Advisory Board for the research work of the Cowles Foundation. I do not think that anything is as yet decided in regard to the Advisory Editorial Committee. Of course it is quite true, as you say, that if the Editorial Committee is made as large as I suggested it would not be very effective in the sense of taking part in the daily work of the journal. But I believe that this is not a very great drawback for such a committee. As I see it there are two purposes of such a committee. First, to give a certain representative aspect to the journal, and secondly, to give the Editor an opportunity of referring to some members of the committee papers about which he feels doubtful. Professor Fisher writes me that the Editor of the American Statistical Association, Dr. Ross, finds that his Editorial Board is useful for him chiefly as an excuse when there is some paper which he does not want to publish. If it should nevertheless be found that it would be advisable to make the Editorial Committee smaller, I think it would be just as well simply to let the Council act in this capacity. I notice that the persons you suggest for the Editorial Committee are all Council Members except Darmois and Keynes.

I agree most heartily with what you say about a great many of the mathematical works being overloaded with highly developed formulæ and tables. Your remark: "The essential is to have the data, the hypotheses, the method and the results", could well be taken, I think, as a guiding principle for the editorial policy of statistical and economical journals.

I have noticed what you say about Gini.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

RF/NB

Ragnar Frisch.

Storgt.9  
Oslo, Norway

August 13, 1932

Dear Professor Bowley:

Professor Divisia has asked me to help working out the program of the Paris meeting. I have just worked out a preliminary program which you will find enclosed. I would very much like to have your opinion about it.

You will see that I have tentatively entered you with a paper on non-atomistic demand, that is to say the situation that arises when there exists on the demand side organizations of one form or another. The subject is of considerable importance and it seems that you are particularly qualified to treat it. Of course, if there is some other subject you would like to treat instead of or in addition to this one, that would also be very welcome. We do hope that you are able to come and give us something. Please do not disappoint us.

I have placed you tentatively as the last speaker in the session. I anticipate that your paper will be the best in this session and I think it is a good policy to end with something significant. If you rather want another order, of course this can be arranged. The time at your disposal can also be changed to meet your needs.

Do you want to give your paper in English or French? Most papers will probably be given in French, but I see no objection to yours being given in English if you rather prefer that.

Will you drop me word about these things at your earliest convenience ?

With best regards, sincerely yours

P.S. The presidency I have indicated for the various days is very tentative. Possibly Divisia has already made some other arrangements in this matter.

sl  
nr.  
3

Aug. 23, 1932

Dear Professor Bowley:

Thank you for your letter of Aug. 16. I am so glad that you can come to Paris and give a paper. Using some phrase in one of your earlier letters I would like to suggest the following title of your paper: "The action of economic forces in producing frequency distributions of income, prices and other phenomena - a suggestion for study". This is more descriptive, it seems to me than the other title. May I use it in the program?

I shall be in Paris from Thursday night Sep. 29, and I suppose Divisia will be there. I am writing the European Council members trying to arrange a meeting on Friday Sep. 30.

Yours faithfully

P.S. I am entering your paper in session of general theoretical questions, Saturday morning. I have tentatively allotted you 30 min. But if you need 40 min. it will be all right.

Storgaten 9.  
OSLO,  
Norway.

12th November 1932.

Prof. A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
Aldwych,  
London.

Dear Prof. Bowley,

Please find enclosed format of the front cover and the inside front cover of *Econometrica* as now finally settled. On reflection, I decided to put the contents on the outside and the Editorial staff on the inside. I agree with you that this looks better. I am glad you raised this question in Paris. I had already been thinking very much about this point and your opinion in the matter helped me to decide.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

RF/Ch.

Ragnar Frisch.

OSLO.

20th February 1933.

Professor A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
Aldwych, London, W.C.

My dear Professor Bowley,

You will have noticed that in the first issue of *Econometrica* we had a paper on Cournot. Similar papers will appear on Wicksell, Pareto and others of the founders of mathematical economics and the application of statistics to those problems. We also want very much to have such a paper on Edgeworth. Would you be willing to prepare it? I hope you will. You are probably the economist best prepared to write such a paper.

If you accept, could you also procure a picture of Edgeworth? If so, please forward it to the Assistant Editor, Mr. William F. C. Nelson, 3rd, Mining Exchange Building, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and please forward the manuscript to me.

With best wishes,

Sincerely Yours,

Ragnar Frisch.



slo  
nr.  
B

Storgaten 9,

OSLO.

3rd May 1933.

Professor A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
Aldwych, London.

My dear Professor Bowley,

While in London I wanted to talk to you about Dr. Marschak, but my time was so short that I did not get so far. Marschak has been hit by the same trouble as so many other German scientists these days and under the present circumstances it is exceedingly difficult to get something elsewhere. I have heard that some steps have been taken in England to help this category of people either by giving them tentatively small jobs or in some other way. I think Marschak is one of those who deserves such help very much. In case you have anything to do with this sort of thing please try to do something for Marschak.

When I was in London I also talked this matter over with Robbins and he expressed a considerable interest in and sympathy for Marschak.

With best regards.

Cordially Yours,

Ragnar Frisch.

Storgaten 9,

OSLO.

25th May 1933.

Professor A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
Aldwych, London, W.1.

My dear Professor Bowley,

-----  
Thank you very much for yours of May 17th. I have read Dr. Schmidt's paper carefully and I quite agree with you that it is not suitable for "Econometrica". I think I understand his objective and also think that the whole thing can be expressed in a much simpler form. Enclosed you will find a brief article which I have written up exposing the main idea contained in his paper. It is not my master copy and I may somewhat have improved in the exposition in the copy which I sent to Schmidt.

If Schmidt agrees I think that this brief paper should be published in "Econometrica". It seems justifiable to allocate a few pages of "Econometrica" to this purpose. After all, Schmidt's idea may be of some interest to its readers.

In your letter you mention Shohat's paper in connection with Schmidt's. It seems to me that the two cases are rather different. Shohat treats a problem which is of central importance in much statistical work, and he does so in a lucid and penetrating manner. The comparison of the relative virtues of the various interpolation formulae ~~from~~ the point of view of convergency and stability respectively is, I believe, of fundamental importance. To my mind these two papers cannot be compared at all, neither in importance nor in immediate interest to Econometricians.

I am glad that the authorities of the School of Economics are considering the possibility of enlightening ~~Altschul~~ Altschul, but I am sorry that no such move is contemplated in the case of Marschak. I am trying to do something for him but I do not know whether I will succeed.

I am so glad that you have promised to write the paper on Edgeworth.

Sincerely Yours,

Ragnar Frisch.

P.S.

I have tried to send a letter to Professor H. S. Jevons, University of Rangoon, Lower Burma, India, asking him to write a paper on Jevons, his father, but the letter was returned undelivered indicating that the addressee

had left for England. Do you know his address in England?  
If so, please forward the enclosed letter to him.

London School of Economics  
Hertford Street  
London, W.1, England

My dear Professor Rowley,

Thank you very much for your letter of May 17th. I have read  
Dr. Schmidt's paper carefully and I quite agree with you that  
it is not suitable for "Econometrica". I think I understand  
his objective and also think that the whole thing can be  
expressed in a much simpler form. Enclosed you will find a  
brief article which I have written up explaining the main ideas  
contained in his paper. It is not my master copy and I may  
somewhat have improved in the exposition in the copy which  
I sent to Schmidt.

If Schmidt agrees I think that this brief paper should  
be published in "Econometrica". It seems desirable to  
allocate a few pages of "Econometrica" to this purpose. After  
all, Schmidt's idea may be of some interest to its readers.

In your letter you mention Schmidt's paper in connection  
with Schmidt's. It seems to me that the two cases are rather  
different. Schmidt treats a problem which is of central  
importance in much statistical work, and he does so in a  
logical and penetrating manner. The comparison of the relative  
virtues of the various interpolation formulas is a point  
of view of convergence and stability respectively is, I believe,  
of fundamental importance. To my mind these two papers cannot  
be compared at all, neither in importance nor in immediate  
interest to econometricians.

I am glad that the authorities of the School of Economics are  
considering the possibility of publishing it. I am  
sorry that so much time is contemplated in the case of Schmidt.  
I am trying to do something for him but I do not know whether  
I will succeed.

I am so glad that you have promised to write the paper on  
behalf.

Sincerely yours,

James Black

18

I have tried to send a letter to Professor H. S. Jevons,  
University of London, Lower House, India Office, but the letter  
is still in the post. The letter, and the enclosed, was returned  
undelivered indicating that the address

August 19th 1933.

in accordance with my offer in Paris last year, to come to the  
Professors Bowley and Zeuthen,  
COPENHAGEN.

It would be interesting to have a one-day course in the algebra of linear  
transformations and quadratic forms. I would like however to  
be assured that a worth while audience will be assured. If the

This is to ask if you can find room on the programme of the  
Leyden meeting for a paper by me with the title "Some Problems in  
Economic Macro-Dynamics". I am sorry to say that I have not been

able to prepare any abstract of the paper. The following is a very  
brief indication of contents. I define macro-dynamics (in

distinction to micro-dynamics) as a <sup>study</sup> set of the global phenomena, that  
is the phenomena as they appear <sup>when</sup> with the various variables are  
represented by ~~very~~ comprehensive indices, <sup>for instance</sup> when all consumption is

thrown into one variable, all production into another, etc. If it is  
wanted to develop a dynamic theory that is determinate (containing  
as many equations as variable) and further is able to really explain

the time shape of the solutions (length of cycles, <sup>value</sup> ~~set~~ <sup>of</sup> trends) then  
it is necessary to <sup>to</sup> at least at first concentrate on a macro-dynamic  
theory. Of course it is always possible to <sup>develop a micro-dynamic theory by</sup> introduce symbols with

subscripts and superscripts, counting variables and equations and  
finding the two numbers equal. Such a theory has only a formal  
value. A theory that shall have a real economical significance and

shall offer a possibility for statistical verification must be able to  
explain with considerable detail the time shape of the movement. <sup>of each basic variable</sup>

The paper I would like to present in Leyden will treat certain  
problems along these lines.

8. Q. 10  
1948

August 1948

If the Programme Committee finds it desirable, I am willing, in accordance with my offer in Paris last year, to come to the meeting a day before the official opening and to give for those who would be interested a one-day course in "the algebra of linear transformation and quadratic forms". I would like however to be assured that a worth while audience will be assured. If the Programme Committee is interested in this arrangement I therefore suggest that a notice is circulated to those planning to attend the meeting asking ~~which ones~~ <sup>who</sup> would sign up for this course. I think the course should not be held unless at least ten people sign up for it. The lectures may perhaps be designated in English "Colloquium lectures" and in French "Conference-leçons".

Best regards,

Sincerely yours,

RAGNAR FRISCH.

*(The following text is mirrored bleed-through from the reverse side of the page)*

the time shape of the solutions (length of cycles, etc. of trends) then it is necessary to at least at first concentrate on a macro-dynamic theory. Of course it is always possible to introduce symbols with subscripts and superscripts counting variables and equations and finding the two numbers equal. Such a theory has only a formal value. A theory that shall have a real economical significance and shall offer a possibility for statistical verification must be able to explain with considerable detail the time shape of the movement.

The paper I would like to present in London will treat certain problems along these lines.

Dslo  
nr.  
B

6th September 1933.

Professor A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
ALDWYCH, London, W.C.1.

Dear Professor Bowley,

Thank you very much for yours of August 31st with which was enclosed manuscript of your paper on Edgeworth. I find it a very good paper, exactly the kind of thing we want for "Econometrica". I have taken the liberty of indicating sub-headings and have also changed the order of some of the paragraphs. I hope these modifications will meet with your approval. The paper will probably appear in one of the early issues next year.

I have noticed that you are going to the Mexico meeting starting September 20th, that you expect to be at or near New York during the first week of November and that you will be back in England on November 19th. Would you be kind enough to drop a note to Mr. Nelson, Mining Exchange Building, Colorado Springs, Colorado, giving your address and the exact time you can be reached at or near New York. He may find it convenient to send the galleys of your paper direct to you in America. In any event I think it is very desirable that you should yourself read the galley proof.

Best regards.

Sincerely Yours,

Ragnar Frisch.

Jan. 24. 1935

My dear Bowleyer

Thank you for yours of Jan. 21. I think your plans for this years European meeting is excellent and agree to all you say. In particular I want ~~to say~~<sup>express</sup> that I most thoroughly agree to what you say about the meeting place: that it is better to hold a meeting not in a capital city with its expense and distractions, but at a quiet place that has natural amenities. To judge from ~~the~~ professor Lupries description Masur is excellent. I will do whatever I can to be able to attend the meeting, and from what I know now I shall be able to do so.

With best regards

cordially yours

Laguar -risch

P.S. The Ms. of the note regarding the meeting, which was enclosed with your letter, I have forwarded to the Colorado office for inclusion in the April issue. I take it that you do not need to see a proof. In case you have any change to make regarding the date or place etc. please send it direct to Mr. Nelson at the Colorado office.

Osl  
s  
18

21st February 1935.

Professor A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
ALDWYCH, London, W.C.

My dear Bowley,

Thank you for yours of February 4th with which was enclosed amended MS. of the notes regarding the European meeting of the Econometric Society this year. I notice that Zeuthen expresses the opinion that the beginning of September suits Scandinavian University people better. This is not so in the case of Norwegian University people. Our term begins in the very first days of September, so we should have to be away during the term anyhow, and this being so it would suit us better if the meeting could be held a little after the term has started. I think the date you have selected is all right. To make certain that there is now no misunderstanding I have forwarded the note to Divisia, asking him to retype it and forward it direct to Nelson.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ragnar Frisch.



2nd October 1935.

Professor A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
ALDWYCH, London, W.C.2.

My dear Bowley,

Thank you very much for the fine time we spent together in Namur. I think the meeting was very successful. At least I found it stimulating and learned a whole lot and I think it was the case for quite a few others too.

I hope you still have the list of papers, with the exact titles, that were presented (Rossi who had announced a paper was, as you will remember, not present). Will you please send this list to Dr. Stähle? He is writing up the report of the meeting and I think it may be useful for him to have this list and check it with his own notes. If you care to keep the list in your file for further reference, I am sure Stähle will be glad to send it back to you as soon as he has used it.

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ragnar Frisch.

April 20th 1936

Professor Arthur L. Bowley,  
Marley Hill, Marley Lane,  
Haslemere, Surrey.

My dear Bowley,

Thank you for yours of April 9th. I do hope that you will be able to attend the mathematical congress in Oslo in July. I hope it will be possible to arrange some small interesting econometric sessions. Unfortunately Roos and Hotelling will not be coming. I have just had word from them to this effect. I shall soon, however, go through the complete list of those who have indicated that they will come, and shall write individually to all those who are likely to be interested in econometrics.

I shall also look up the list of accomodation in private homes and shall write you about this in a few days.

Cordially yours

Ragnar Frisch

~~A.~~

B

Oslo  
nr.  
B

May 29th 1936

Professor Arthur L. Bowley,  
Marley Hill, Marley Lane ,  
Haslemere, Surrey,  
England.

My dear Bowley,

Please excuse me for not having given more attention to your inquiry about rooms in Oslo during the mathematical congress. After receipt of your letter I had a very trying time since my mother was seriously ill and died. However, I asked the secretariate of the congress to communicate with you in regard to rooms. I hope you have found something convenient. In any circumstances you ought to have this fixed before coming, because I think there will be a shortage of rooms in Oslo about the middle of July. I am so glad to see that you are coming. As you know the section IV of the congress will this year also include econometrics. Going through the list of papers I find to my regret that you have not sent in any announcement. But nevertheless we are counting on you to come. You have been put up as the chairman of one of the meetings in section IV.

I plan to gather a small group for dinner in my home.

It will probably be on Tuesday 14th. It will be composed of people particularly interested in econometrics. The day, July 14th, has been selected so as to fit in with the arrangements of the official program. I hope that we may have the pleasure of seeing you at this party. I write about this already at this time because the program will probably be rather crowded and arrangements ought to be made ahead of time.

Looking forward with great anticipation to seeing  
you in Oslo,

I remain,  
cordially yours

Ragnar Frisch

Oslo  
nr.  
B

Ragnar Frisch  
Vinderen  
pr. Oslo

June 10th 1936

Professor A.L. Bowley,  
Marley Hill,  
Marley Lane,  
Haslemere, Surrey,  
England.

My dear Bowley,

Thank you for yours of June 4th. I am very glad that you want to speak to us on the subjects mentioned. Both papers have been accepted and put on the program. I have indicated their titles as :

1. On slightly asymmetrical Frequency Curves.
2. The Standard Deviation of Gini's Mean Difference.

Cordially yours

Ragnar Frisch

sto  
nr.  
5

27th July 1936.

Professor A. L. Bowley,  
London School of Economics,  
Houghton Street,  
ALDWYCH, London, W.C.

My dear Bowley,

Please find enclosed two copies of the draft of the new Constitution of the Econometric Society along the lines we discussed in Oslo. Will you mark one of the copies with the corrections you think should be incorporated and return it to me? I shall then have it re-typed and sent to the United States.

As you will see, I have considerably reduced the influence of the Council upon the election of Fellows. I think the Council should be more or less an administrative body in connection with the election of Fellows. To make the election on real democratic grounds and to be sure to protect against any tendency to oligarchy, the whole and real influence should rest with the entire body of Fellows. I am even wondering whether the administration of the fellowship election should not be made by the Executive Committee instead of by the Council. There does not seem to be any objection to this so long as the administrating body in the case of this election has not any such influence on the results, as it will have in the case of elections of officers.

Until August 14th you may address me:-

Öigardseter,  
Hövringen.

Best regards,

Cordially Yours,

Ragnar Frisch.

DRAFT OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF THE  
ECONOMETRIC SOCIETY.

(Dictated by Ragnar Frisch 27/7/1936 and incorporating suggestions made by Professor Bowley during Bowley's and Frisch' conversations in Oslo in the middle of July 1936).

CONSTITUTION OF THE ECONOMETRIC SOCIETY.

An International Society for the advancement of  
Economic Theory in its Relation to Statistics  
and Mathematics.

Founded December 1929.

1. Scope of the Society.

The Econometric Society is an international society for the advancement of economic theory in its relation to statistics and mathematics. The Society shall operate as a completely disinterested, scientific organisation without political, social, financial, or nationalistic bias. Its main object shall be to promote studies that aim at a unification of the theoretical-quantitative and empirical-quantitative approach to economic problems and that are penetrated by constructive and rigorous thinking similar to that which has come to dominate in the natural sciences. Any activity which promises ultimately to further such unification of theoretical and factual studies in economics shall be within the sphere of interest of the Society.

2. Members.

The Society shall consist of two classes of members: regular members and Fellows. Members of either class shall be subject to election. To become a regular member, a person must be proposed by two members of the Society to the Executive

Committee described in Article 5. The Executive Committee shall nominate newmembers and these nominations shall be voted upon by mail by all members. No person can be elected to membership unless he is nominated by the Executive Committee.

### 3. Fellows.

The Fellows of the Society shall be elected by a mail vote of the Fellows. To be eligible for Fellowship a person must fulfil the following requirements:- 1) He must be an economist, 2) He must be a statistician, 3) He must have *some* knowledge of higher mathematics, 4) He must have made some original contributions to economic theory or to such statistical, mathematical or accounting analyses as have a definite bearing on problems in economic theory, 5) He must have been a member of the Society for at least one year.

Each year the Council shall offer the Fellows and ordinary members an opportunity to suggest candidates for Fellowship. For each of these candidates, as well as for others which the Council may add, the Council shall appoint a reporter whose duty it shall be to acquaint himself with the published works and standing of the candidate, and report his findings to the Council. The Council shall circulate these reports to the Fellows, together with its own comments, and invite the Fellows to make additional comments. After these additional comments have been circulated to the Fellows, the Fellows shall vote on the complete list of candidates proposed. The manner in which the ballot shall be taken and the votes counted shall be fixed by a bye-law *by* of the Council.

The Fellows shall represent the highest authority of the Society and any action which they take shall be by mail vote.

#### 4. Officers.

All the officers of the Society shall be elected by ballot by the Fellows upon nomination by the Council.

The President of the Society shall be elected for one year and be eligible for re-election a second year. The President shall act as chairman of the Executive Committee described in Article 5 and of the Council described in Article 6 and shall make all appointments not otherwise herein provided. The President shall have the power to refer at his discretion any matter to the Council or the Fellows.

Two or more Vice-presidents shall be elected for a period of four years. They shall not be eligible for immediate re-election. The Vice-president shall be chosen with regard to geographical distribution of members and shall serve as chairman of Programme Committees for meetings in their respective regions, and otherwise direct the activities of the Society within those regions.

A secretary, a treasurer and an editor-in-chief shall be elected to serve for a period of four years. They shall be eligible for re-election for additional periods of four years or less.

The duties of the secretary shall be to conduct all elections and to carry on all business of the Society not specifically delegated to other officers or committees.



The duties of the treasurer shall be to make all collections and disbursements of funds, to keep financial records and to make <sup>the</sup> annual financial reports to the Fellows.

The editor-in-chief shall be responsible for the editing of all scientific publications of the Society and shall have the duty of selecting a board of editors.

To be eligible as President, Vice-president or Editor-in-chief a person must be a Fellow of the Society.

#### 5. The Executive Committee.

The elected officers of the Society shall constitute the Executive Committee. Its duties shall be to nominate candidates for ordinary membership, to authorize activities which fall within <sup>the</sup> sphere of interest of the Society, to fix the membership dues and otherwise direct the finances of the Society, and to decide matters of policy, the President having, however, the power to submit any matter to the Council or the Fellows as described in Article 4.

#### 6. The Council.

The Council shall consist of the members of the Executive Committee <sup>together with</sup> of not less than five nor more than ten other members elected with a view to representing the various geographic areas in which the Society has members. These latter members of the Council shall be elected for three years by the Fellows upon nomination by the Council, the offices for approximately one-third of them terminating each year.

The Council shall be charged with the duty of nominating officers of the Society, and other Council members, to comment upon the candidates for Fellowship as described in article 3, and to consider any matter referred to it by the President.

## 7. Bye-Laws.

Bye-laws may be drawn up from time to time by the Council for the conduct of the affairs of the Society within the terms of the Constitution.

## 8. Amendments of the Constitution.

Amendments of the Constitution may be proposed by the Council or on petition to the Council by 25 per cent of the existing Fellows. They shall become effective upon being approved by a two-thirds majority of those participating in a mail vote taken among all Fellows.

Nov. 9, 1937

My dear Professor Bowley:

Thanks for your letter of Nov. 8. Which I just received. It so happens that both Deutgen <sup>in a year "follow-up" meeting!</sup> and Finberg are in the house today, and we are having party together with some other friends, and we are discussing ~~the next Scandinavian meeting~~ of the Economic Society - (1938)

Deutgen says that next year ~~it would not~~ be quite satisfactory to go to Copenhagen (or some small place near to it) because of a big Scandinavian Economic meeting in Helsinki - for <sup>that year</sup> Jagnee to this, and so do Finberg. <sup>most correct</sup>

We all think that the ~~best~~ thing would now be to ask the ~~Poland~~ people in Poland if a meeting can be arranged there (you remember that Poland was put on the list)

9/11-1937

- 2 -

some years ago). If a Danish meeting  
can not be arranged in 1938, we would  
recommend a breakfast in Helsingør, or some  
other place there. Timberg - will be back there  
in September 1938 and is willing to make  
the necessary arrangements. For 1939  
we believe the meeting should be in

Copenhagen - or rather some small place near

Copenhagen -  
We propose that you take the lead and take  
the necessary steps. With best personal regards.

Sincerely yours

Ragnar Tusch

F. Zetter

J. Timberg

Feb. 19. 1938

My dear Bowley,

Thanks for the announcement  
of the European meeting. I have  
immediately dispatched it. It ought  
if possible to go in the April issue.

Cordially yours

R.F.

April 19. 1938

Dear Bowley.

Thanks for yours of April 15.

I agree to your proposal of a Fellows meeting  
and also to the amendments of the Constitution  
which you propose.

Sincerely yours

Pagan Frisch

April 28, 1938

My dear Bowley:

The Managing Editor, W. Leavens writes me:

"A final announcement of the Bracon  
meeting should be mailed from London, re  
not later than May 15 to assure inclusion  
[in the July issue]."

Will you say to it that a MS. of the  
announcement is sent direct to Leavens,  
either for you or for the title, in Poland.

Sincerely yours

Ragnar Frisch