

bein, who was termed by *Newsweek* the American Medical Association's "smoothest orator," the other side was given. Said Fishbein, "Once a government establishes this principle of deductions from envelopes of the wage earners—and I am citing history here—the technique spreads like the skin diseases that start with a macule or a pimple and before you know it, you are red all over. The worker will suddenly discover that his deductions from his pay envelope amount almost to what he calls his 'takehome' pay. [National health insurance] will interfere with our private hospitals, whose funds are raised out of the spiritual beliefs and understanding of great religious and great trade and community groups and will make every hospital in the United States dependent on a government agency for its income. The system will discourage philanthropy, and finally, worst of all, will deter young men who respect the medical tradition, young men of scientific beliefs and desires, with intellectual curiosity, from entering the profession. . . . A young fellow who wants to make the most of himself will be bound by the chains of government."

Voluntary plans—Blue Cross and Blue Shield—did quite well in the following years. As *Newsweek* reported in January of '48, those two plans for prepaying hospital and doctors' bills had grown so fast "they were unwieldy. The Blue Cross has 85 locally organized corporations in 47 states; the newer Blue Shield has 48 corporations in 29 states. Last week, a merger was announced." Roy E. Larsen, president of Manhattan's United Hospital Fund and former director of New York's Blue Cross, told *Newsweek* that the success of voluntary medical prepayment plans is an adequate answer to advocates of compulsory government health insurance. Only 300,000 of the two million federal employees, said Larsen, now participate in the Blue Cross plans "because of the difficulties of handling subscription payments without the cooperation of the employer. . . . In this important instance the much-maligned American businessman is way ahead of a federal administration which has preached medical protection for the low-income wage-earner for the past fifteen years."

The '50s were ushered in with the publication of Orwell's *1984* in '49; the major war of the next decade would be one of words between two juggernauts jousting for the dominant world position. Δ

### ONE VOICE (continued from page 3)

be the offspring of Andy Webster, whose disciplined approach was exemplified by an unwavering adherence to the now-familiar format of the publication. Andy's achievements must have been legion, because the speeches at the Chicago retirement dinner for him in October 1978 were numerous and lengthy. Without missing a beat, *The Actuary* has continued under the experienced leadership of Jack Moorhead—the first editor to appear on the masthead of the Academy's *Newsletter* (forerunner of *The Actuarial Update*.)

One hallmark of *The Actuary* is its ability to generate letters from its readers. Such a response must be heartening to an editor, because it proves that some people, at least, are reading the publication and paying attention to it.

The Casualty Actuarial Society's newsletter, *Actuarial Review*, was first published in 1974, largely through the efforts of Matt Rodermund, who continues as editor even though now retired from gainful employment. Without the luxury of office staff to help with publication efforts, the editor does most of

that work himself—most recently from a hospital bed. From its inception, the tone and format of the *Actuarial Review* have been a bit brash in an attempt to pique the interest of readers—a goal which seems to have been achieved with the recent expansion of space devoted to letters from readers.

The Academy's monthly newsletter has gone through a succession of editors—80% of whom have gone on to become presidents of actuarial bodies in this country. The coverage in this publication has also changed, as has the evolving role of the Academy itself, from an initial emphasis on certification matters to today's concern with the more general relationships between the actuarial profession and its many publics, such as the government and the accounting profession.

*The Actuarial Review*, *The Actuarial Update*, and *The Actuary* all respond to specific needs. They have built up a readership that would likely look unfavorably on any attempt to combine them. Experience suggests that any positive response to Norm Crowder's suggestion on the matter of consolidation steer clear of the newsletters, at least at the outset. Δ

### Contributions Sought for Hanson Memorial Prize

Personal and corporate tax-deductible contributions of \$100 are being solicited for the John Hanson Memorial Prize, which will be awarded under the auspices of the Actuarial Education and Research Fund (AERF). John Hanson, who died suddenly in December 1984, was a pioneer in pension funding theory and pension accounting. Contributions should be sent to Maryrose Sloan, John Hanson Memorial Prize, AERF, 500 Park Boulevard, Itasca, Illinois 60143.

### Notice of Disciplinary Action

At its March 22, 1985 meeting, the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Actuaries adopted a recommendation from the Committee on Discipline to approve a settlement agreement between the Academy and Alfonso D. Keh.

Under the terms of the approved settlement document, the member will be suspended for a period of time equal in length to his probation under sentence from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (Criminal Action 84-00051, April 27, 1984). The member had been convicted by the court of fraudulently and knowingly importing, transporting, and selling counterfeit computers. This activity was determined to be a violation of Section 1(a) of the Guides to Professional Conduct, which states that "The member will act in a manner to uphold the dignity of the actuarial profession and to fulfill its responsibility to the public."