

Appendix:

BLS Publications

From its beginning, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has conducted a substantial publications program. Initially, the Bureau published annual reports, issuing 25 volumes for the years 1885-1910. Each presented the comprehensive findings of a specific survey or study, covering such topics as strikes and lockouts, convict labor, industrial education, and technological displacement of workers.

Supplementing these, the Bureau conducted special investigations, frequently at the direction of Congress, producing 12 special reports between 1889 and 1905. These covered such subjects as marriage and divorce, slum conditions, social insurance, and labor legislation.

The Bureau also provided Congress with reports on such topics as labor disputes and pension systems, later published as House or Senate documents. Two notable examples were the 19-volume *Report on Condition of Woman and Child Wage-Earners in the United States* (1910-13) and the 4-volume *Report on Conditions of Employment in the Iron and Steel Industry* (1911-12).

From 1895, when Congress authorized publication of a periodi-

cal, until 1912, the Bureau issued the bimonthly *Bulletin*. This presented original work, digests of State reports, summaries and digests of foreign labor and statistical papers, and summaries of current legislation and court decisions.

In 1912, the Bureau discontinued the annual reports and the bimonthly *Bulletin*, issuing instead a series of bulletins, published irregularly, each covering a specific program area. In 1915, BLS introduced the *Monthly Review*, changing the name to *Monthly Labor Review* in 1918.

Over the years, BLS added such periodicals as *Labor Information Bulletin* and *Labor Developments Abroad* and published such special volumes as *Activities of the Bureau of Labor Statistics in World War II* (1947), *The Gift of Freedom* (1949), and *BLS Centennial Album* (1984).

At present, BLS publishes bulletins, numbered continuously from 1895; reports, a series started in 1953; and one quarterly and five monthly periodicals. These periodicals, reflecting the importance of the major recurring statistical series, are *CPI Detailed Report*, *Current Wage Developments*, *Employment and Earnings*, *Monthly Labor Review*, *Occupational Outlook Quarterly*, and *Producer Price Indexes*.

In addition, BLS issues some 200 national and 1,300 regional news releases each year and summaries of survey results in advance of fuller publication in bulletins, providing timely distribution of the Bureau's latest data.

There have been several special sections in the *Monthly Labor Review* giving historical perspective: "50 Years' Progress of American Labor" (July 1950), "Seventy Years of Service—The Story of BLS" (January 1955), and "Fifty Years of the MLR" (July 1965). The Bureau has published subject indexes for the MLR—Bulletins 695 (1941), 696 (1942), 1080 (1953), 1335 (1960), 1746 (1973), and 1922 (1976). In addition, there are indexes to each volume, now presented annually in the December issue.

The Bureau also has produced numerical listings and subject indexes for the bulletins and reports, including *BLS Publications, 1886-1971*, *Bulletin 1749* (1972) and *BLS Publications, 1972-77*, *Bulletin 1990* (1978).

Periodically, BLS has published bulletins explaining its statistical methods and procedures, beginning with *Methods of Procuring and Computing Statistical Information of the Bureau of Labor Statistics*, *Bulletin 326* (1923). In the 1950's, the Bureau issued two editions of

Techniques of Preparing Major BLS Statistical Series, Bulletin 993 in 1950 and Bulletin 1168 in 1954. Under the title *BLS Handbook of Methods*, the Bureau continued with Bulletins 1458 (1966), 1711 (1971), 1910 (1976), and 2134-1 (1982) and 2134-2 (1984).

BLS published *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, Bulletin 439, in 1927 as a compendium of historical data, issuing the most recent edition, Bulletin 2217, in 1985.

In sheer volume, the largest number of bulletins have presented wage data, published currently as *Industry Wage Surveys* and *Area Wage Surveys* (previously *Occupational Wage Surveys*). Two major series on contract provisions were the 19-volume set, *Collective Bargaining Provisions*, Bulletin 908 (1947-50), and the 21-volume series, *Major Collective Bargaining Agreements*, Bulletin 1425 (1964-82). In 1947, the Bureau issued the first *Directory of Labor Unions in the United States*, Bulletin 901, publishing the last edition in 1980.

One of the Bureau's most popular bulletins is the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, which it revises every 2 years—most recently as Bulletin 2205 (1984).

In recent years, BLS has expanded its analysis and publication of labor force data on women, minorities, and families. For example, in 1978, it introduced the quarterly report *Employment in Perspective: Working Women* and, in 1980, another quarterly report, *Employment in Perspective: Minority Workers*, with data on blacks and Hispanics.

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Chapter II. Carroll Wright

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