from Sheaterly

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

at

WILLIAMS COLLEGE

WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.

PROGRAM

September 2-5, 1947



Tuesday, September 2nd

2:00— 7:00 P.M.—Registration and Assignment to Rooms

Jesup Hall

7:00—10:00 P.M.—Opening Dinner

Currier Hall

Chairman: CLYDE W. HART, National Opinion Research Center
Welcome by JAMES P. BAXTER, President of Williams College
Introduction of International Delegates
Address by WILLIAM BENTON, Assistant Secretary of State

Wednesday, September 3rd

"Public Opinion and World Affairs"

9:00—11:45 A.M.—Round Table

Jesup Hall

PROBLEMS OF POLLING IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

Chairman: RENSIS LIKERT, Survey Research Center, Univ. of Michigan

Respondent Reaction in Different Countries
HERBERT HYMAN, National Opinion Research Center

Sampling Problems in Different Countries
R. J. JESSEN, Iowa State College

Asking Comparable Questions in Different Countries

JEAN STOETZEL, Institute Français d'Opinion Publique

9:00-11:45 A.M.-Round Table

Adams Memorial Theatre Studio

PROBLEMS OF STATE AND LOCAL POLLING

Chairman: RALPH O. NAFZIGER, University of Minnesota

How the Local Poll Can Be of Service in Assessing Community Opinion

ALFRED M. LEE, Wayne University

How the Local Poll Can Help in Community Research and Planning

JANE SHEPHERD, Washington Post

How the Local Poll Can Help in Improving Newspaper Practice

PAUL H. TRESCOTT, Philadelphia Bulletin

2:30-5:00 P.M.-Round Table

Jesup Hall

MEASUREMENTS OF INTENSITY AND INFORMATION

Chairman: CLAUDE ROBINSON, Opinion Research Corporation

Measurement by Scaling Technique

J. STEVENS STOCK, Opinion Research Corporation

Measurement Through New Types of Interview

JEROME S. BRUNER, Harvard University

How Can a Systematic Measurement of Information and Intensity be Made a Part of Polling?

WILLIAM A. LYDGATE, American Institute of Public Opinion

2:30-5:00 P.M.-Round Table

Adams Memorial Theatre Studio

"PSYCHOLOGICAL ERRORS" IN POLLING

Chairman: HADLEY CANTRIL, Princeton University

Psychological Errors in Relation to Research Design

DANIEL KATZ, Survey Research Center, Univ. of Michigan

Interviewer Bias: How Serious Is It and What Can Be Done to Reduce It?
FREDERICK F. STEPHAN, Princeton University

Criteria for Selection and Training of Interviewers

DON CAHALAN, National Opinion Research Center

5:00—5:30 P.M.—Preliminary Business Meeting

Adams Memorial Theatre

5:30 P.M.—Reception by President and Mrs. Baxter

Faculty House

8:00-10:00 P.M.-Round Table

Adams Memorial Theatre

NEW FIELDS OF USE FOR OPINION RESEARCH
Chairman: SAMUEL A. STOUFFER, Harvard University

Economic Prediction

LOUIS HARRIS, Elmo Roper

Labor Relations

DOUGLAS WILLIAMS, Fred Rudge, Inc.

Minority Group Prejudice

MARIE JAHODA, American Jewish Committee

Efficiency of Communications Media
BERNARD BERELSON, University of Chicago

Thursday, September 4th

9:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M.—Business Meeting and Discussion of Policy

Adams Memorial Theatre

Report of the Standards Committee Appointed at Central City

The Committee will present a plan for a new national organization

Action on the Report

Election of Officers

Discussion: Policies and Program for a New Organization

What Should be the Nature of the Official Journal

Standards Control by the Organization—The Desirability of an "Approved List" of Polls

12:30 P.M.—2:00 P.M.—Self-organized Luncheon Groups to Discuss Special Problems

Currier Hall

2:30-5:00 P.M.-Panel Discussion

Adams Memorial Theatre Studio

CODING VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

Members of the Panel:

ALBERT B. BLANKENSHIP, National Analysts, Inc., Chairman
ANGUS CAMPBELL, Survey Research Center, University of Michigan
RICHARD CRUTCHFIELD, Swarthmore College
HANS ZEISEL, McCann-Erickson, Inc.

Discussion Topics:

How Reliable are Present Coding Operations?

Office Coding vs. Field Coding

Relations Between Coding, Study Design, and Analysis

Coding and Analysis of Depth Interview Material

2:30-5:00 P.M.-Panel Discussion

Jesup Hall

WHAT IS THE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC OPINION UNIVERSE?

Members of the Panel:

PHILIP M. HAUSER, U. S. Department of Commerce, Chairman

HENRY DAVID, Queens College

DAVID B. TRUMAN, Williams College

RICHARDSON WOOD

JULIAN L. WOODWARD, Elmo Roper

Discussion Topics:

What Population Should the Polls Seek to Represent in a National Sample?

Can a Sample to Measure "Leader Opinion" be Constructed?

Can Polls Measure the Effective Support for Pressure Groups?

8:00-10:00 P.M.-Panel Discussion

Adams Memorial Theatre

POLLING AND THE POLITICAL PROCESS

Members of the Panel:

STUART CHASE, Chairman

ARCHIBALD M. CROSSLEY

GEORGE H. GALLUP

PAUL F. LAZARSFELD

ELMO ROPER

Discussion Topics:

What Have Polls Contributed to Democracy?

Possible Dangers of Polls to the Political Process

Should the Government Itself Conduct Polls?

Administrative Use of Polling Materials by Government Agencies

Friday, September 5th

9:00-11:00 A.M.-Panel Discussion

Adams Memorial Theatre

SURVEYS OF WORLD OPINION

Members of the Panel:

ELMO C. WILSON, Columbia Broadcasting System, Chairman

MARK ABRAMS, Research Services, Ltd. (England)

STUART C. DODD, American University (Beirut, Lebanon)

S. SHEPARD JONES, U. S. Department of State

KAREL NAPRSTEK, United Nations

Discussion Topics:

Is There Such a Thing as "World Opinion?"

Can Public Opinion Surveys Help in the Creation of Public Opinion as Well as in Measuring It?

What Limitations Are Placed on Polling in Different Countries?

What Agencies Can Most Effectively Carry on International Polling?

11:00—12:30 P.M.—Organization Meeting for an International Association

Adams Memorial Theatre

Chairman: GEORGE H. GALLUP

Report of the Committee on International Organization Appointed at Central City

Action on the Report

12:30 P.M.—Adjournment of the Conference

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

Executive Committee (Appointed at Central City)

CLYDE W. HART, Chairman

GEORGE H. GALLUP

ELMO C. WILSON

SAMUEL A. STOUFFER

JULIAN L. WOODWARD

PAUL B. SHEATSLEY, Secretary

Sponsoring Committee

WAHL ASMUSSEN PAUL F. LAZARSFELD

HADLEY CANTRIL RENSIS LIKERT

ARCHIBALD M. CROSSLEY ROY MORGAN

STUART C. DODD CLAUDE ROBINSON

HENRY DURANT ELMO ROPER

GUILLAUME JACQUEMIJNS WILFRED SANDERS

DANIEL KATZ FREDERICK E. STEPHAN, JR.

ARNOLD J. KING JEAN STOETZEL