

NEWS ITEMS*

Seminars on

“Comparison of econometric models” and “The evaluation of econometric models”

Within the Conference on Econometrics and Mathematical Economics, set up in 1970 by the National Bureau of Economic Research with a grant from the National Science Foundation, two more seminars have been organized on a regular basis, one on “Comparison of econometric models”, the other on “The evaluation of econometric models”.

The reports of the meetings are available on request from Ms. Anna Tremblay, National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc., 575 Technology Square, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139, U.S.A.

At the same time some results of these seminars have been made available in published form: P.J. Dhrymes et al. (1972), “Criteria for evaluation of econometric models”, *Annals of Economic and Social Measurement* 1, no. 3, 291–324; G. Fromm and L.R. Klein (1973), “A comparison of eleven econometric models of the United States”, *American Economic Review* 63, no. 2, 385–393; (1974) “Econometric model performance: Comparative simulation studies of models of the U.S. economy, Part I”, *International Economic Review* 15, no. 2, 265–414. Furthermore, the *International Economic Review* of October 1974 and February 1975 will carry additional reports. A volume summarizing a conference held in February 1972 at the Brookings Institute is forthcoming from North-Holland.

The Computation Committee of the Seminar on Bayesian Inference in Econometrics

The Computation Committee of the Seminar on Bayesian Inference in Econometrics (NBER–NSF) seeks information about operational computer programs designed for Bayesian statistical analysis. Those who have such information are invited to send the following: name of program, what it does, input, output, computer language and machine, documentation, and conditions of availability to researchers. Information about programs under development is also of interest and should be categorized that way, including expected date of completion. Please send this information to Professor S. James Press, Faculty of Commerce, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, B.C., Canada.

Regional Science, Energy and Environment Conference (May 23–24, 1975)

An international conference on Regional Science, Energy and Environment will be held at Centrum voor Economische Studien, Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven on May 23–24, 1975, in cooperation with Regional Science Association (International) and its Dutch speaking section. Primary emphasis will be on the interrelationship of regional and interregional growth,

*As indicated in the September 1974 issue of *Journal of Econometrics*, two times per year we will publish news items of interest to the readers. All news items and correspondence should be sent directly to Walter Vandaele, JE News Items Editor, Harvard University, Graduate School of Business Administration, Soldiers Field, Boston, Mass. 02163, U.S.A.

energy shortages and environmental repercussions. For further information write to M. Chatterji, School of Management, SUNY-Binghamton, Binghamton, N.Y. 13901, U.S.A., or P. Van Rompuy, C.E.S., K.U.L., Leuven, Belgium.

Freight transport forecasting program, Canadian Transport Commission

Economic and Social Analysis Branch of the Canadian Transport Commission has been engaged in the construction of a large-scale interregional freight movement study in Canada which is aimed at the provision of medium-run conditional forecasts of traffic. The model being developed as an aid to regulatory and government investment decision making, and since it is hoped that it will be operational within a relatively short period of time, considerable attention has been paid at the design stage to the availability of statistical data; parallel with the conceptual development of the model, a large data bank has been organized.

The program is designed as a sequence of related phases, each dealing with a particular transport mode which are subsequently integrated; the first phase analysed the railway traffic, the second water transport, the third (current stage) integrates rail and marine models and includes explicitly foreign trade variable.

Interim reports will be issued as "discussion papers" and it is hoped to develop informal exchange of comments prior to the issuance of the formal report. Interested persons are invited to communicate with Dr. K.W. Studnicki-Gizbert, Executive Director, Economic and Social Analysis Branch, Canadian Transport Commission, 275 Slater Street, Ottawa, K1A 0N9, Canada.