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Operations Research

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Urban Problems

Foreword

OPERATIONS-RESEARCH workers are increasingly turning their interests toward urban problems, as the SOCIETY's meeting programs and the recent founding of the Urban Sciences Section of ORSA attest, but the literature in this field is not yet as well developed as the importance of the problems warrants.

During the last four years, *Operations Research* has published fourteen papers that can be thought of as related to urban problems (see the list following this Foreword); they cover such subjects as crime,^[2,6] health care,^[11] election districting,^[9,10] citizen feedback,^[13] emergency service facilities,^[14] research issues and opportunities,^[1,3,7,8,12] and cost-effectiveness in transportation^[5] and water supply.^[4] However, this small collection represents only 3 percent of the 462 papers published in *Operations Research* in the years 1968-1971.

In this issue we achieve a goal sought for some time: a collection of nine papers on urban problems. The first gives a realistic view of the policy and administrative context of urban research, the next two give overviews of two mature urban research programs, and the other six deal with specific research projects.

We hope—and even dare predict—that this modest special section is a harbinger of much more published work in this field.

ARTICLES RELATED TO URBAN PROBLEMS PUBLISHED IN OPERATIONS RESEARCH, 1968-1971

1. RUSSELL L. ACKOFF, "A Black Ghetto's Research on a University," 18, 761-771 (1970).
2. ALFRED BLUMSTEIN AND RICHARD LARSON, "Models of a Total Criminal Justice System," 17, 199-232 (1969).
3. JOSEPH L. BOWER, "Systems Analysis for Social Decisions," 17, 927-940 (1969).
4. RICHARD DE NEUFVILLE, "Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Civil Engineering Systems: New York City's Primary Water Supply," 18, 785-804 (1970).
5. EDWARD N. DODSON, "Cost-Effectiveness in Urban Transportation," 17, 373-394 (1969).
6. PAUL GRAY, "Robbery and Assault of Bus Drivers," 19, 257-269 (1971).
7. HARRY P. HATRY, "Measuring the Effectiveness of Nondefense Public Programs," 18, 772-784 (1970).
8. FREEMAN HOLMER, "Management Research in State and Local Governments," 16, 1093-1099 (1968).
9. E. S. SAVAS, "A Computer-Based System for Forming Election Districts," 19, 135-155 (1971).

10. ———, HARRY LIPTON, AND LEONORA BURKHOLZ, "Implementation of an OR Approach for Forming Efficient Election Districts," **20**, 46–48 (1972).
11. RICHARD D. SMALLWOOD, EDWARD J. SONDIK, AND FRED L. OFFENSEND, "Toward an Integrated Methodology for the Analysis of Health-Care Systems," **19**, 1300–1322 (1971).
12. ARTHUR SPINDLER, "Social and Rehabilitation Services: A Challenge to Operations Research," **18**, 1112–1124 (1970).
13. CHANDLER H. STEVENS, "Science, Government, and Citizen Feedback," **18**, 577–591 (1970).
14. CONSTANTINE TOREGAS, CHARLES REVELLE, RALPH SWAIN, AND LAWRENCE BERGMAN, "The Location of Emergency Service Facilities," **19**, 1363–1373 (1971).

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