

## NEWS

✉ QUANTUM, The Association for Quantification and Methods in Historical and Sociological Research (Vondelstrasse 56–58, 5000 Köln 1, West Germany), sponsored a special session on “Quantification and Methods in Social Science History” at the meeting of the German Historical Association in Mannheim on September 24, 1976. The chairman of the panel was Paul J. Mueller (University of Cologne). Jürgen Kocka (University of Bielefeld) and Erwin K. Scheuch (University of Cologne) presented papers on the general topic of the session from the point of view of quantitative history and *sociology respectively*. Kocka emphasized the *potentialities of quantitative history* for answering both old and new questions better. He analyzed the effects of specific German traditions in historical research (e.g., *historism*) on the delayed emergence of a “quantitative history.” Scheuch accentuated the opportunities inherent in the quantitative social scientific analysis of past times both for history and sociology. These papers were followed by reports describing the results of five major quantitative historical research projects in Germany. Franz Irsigler (University of Bielefeld) reported on the analysis of price levels and sales of corn in Cologne 1531–1797. Arthur E. Imhof (University of Berlin) reported on recent developments in the field of historical demography in West Germany, especially on his Giessen study. Diedrich Saalfeld (University of Göttingen) reported on the project “Urban Social Structure: The Case of Göttingen 1760–1860.” Heinrich Best (University of Cologne) presented a paper on his project “Cleavage Structure and Mobilization Processes during the German Revolution of 1848/49.” Finally Wilhelm H. Schroeder (University of Cologne) reported on his study of all Social-Democratic candidates for the German Reichstag 1898–1912.