The Evolution of the *Survey of Current Business* as Statistical Clearinghouse and Basis for National Economic Accounting



Statistical Clearinghouse Basis for the National Economic Accounting Wesley Mitchell creates Mitchell publishes Business Cycles state-of-the-art economic 1913 database for cyclical analysis Rockefeller Foundation committee proposes 1914 independent research institute Committee on the Distribution of Income proposes independent 1917 economic research institute Central Bureau creates President Wilson creates Central 1918 Bureau of Planning and Statistics Statistical Clearing House Statistical Clearing House President Wilson closes 1919 closes with Central Bureau Central Bureau National Bureau of Economic 1920 Research (NBER) is incorporated NBER publishes Income In absence of Statistical Clearing House, Joint Census Advisory in the United States: Its Committee recommends regular Amount and Distribution, 1909-1919, Volume I publication of current, detailed industry statistics President's Conference on Unemployment is convened. 1921 **FAES Waste Committee** NBER organizes an advisory proposes National Industrial committee (expanding Information Service Joint Census Advisory Committee) Census Bureau publishes Survey of Current Business, based on new statistical clearinghouse NBER publishes *Income* in the United States: Its 1922 Amount and Distribution, 1909-1919, Volume II Business Cycles and 1923 Unemployment published Simon Kuznets receives Ph.D., 1926 joins NBER Committee on Recent Economic Changes of the 1928 President's Conference on Unemployment is convened Recent Economic Changes in the United States published 1929 President's Research Committee on Recent Social Trends is convened, with Mitchell as research director Bureau of Foreign and SCB Domestic Commerce (BFDC) 1930 takes over publication of Survey of Current Business from Census Bureau NBER appoints Kuznets director of national 1931 BFDC income studies Statistical Research Senate approves La Follette Division resolution for BFDC national 1932 renamed income study Economic Research Division NBER details Kuznets Recent Social Trends in the 1933 to BFDC for national United States published income study Kuznets completes national income study (based on data 1934 from Survey of Current Business)