Chart 2.-Estimated savings\(^1\) in number of orphans under age 18 in 1953 resulting from improvement in mortality from 1920 to 1953

1 Estimated total number of children who would have been orphans in 1953, if children under age 18 in 1953 had been subject to the same risks of orphanhood as children under age 18 in 1920, is represented by the full length of each bar.

Because mortality rates are somewhat lower for married persons than for all persons of the same age, sex, and race, the estimates of 1920, 1930, and 1940, which made no allowance for this factor, overestimate somewhat the number of orphans. Information on death rates by marital status was first developed on a national basis from the 1940 Census and became available in 1945.

The estimates for full orphans in 1920, 1930, and 1940 incorporated an upward adjustment, based on 1921 data for England and Wales, to take account of the fact that the death of the father and mother are not independent events. On the ground that data of this type are not available for the United States and, more important, that mortality from infectious diseases, especially from tuberculosis, has dropped sharply in recent decades, the 1949 and 1954 estimates for full orphans in table 1 do not incorporate such an allowance. If the full adjustment based on the 1921 foreign data were applied, the estimated number of full orphans in 1949, for example, would be 140,000 instead of 80,000. Without doubt, an estimate so inflated would exaggerate the number of full orphans in the United States under the health conditions of recent years. On the other hand, future estimates of their number could well incorporate the higher mortality rates of the widowed surviving parent, if more reliable data on the mortality of widowed persons are developed.

Proposed Social Security Budget for 1955–56

On January 17, 1955, President Eisenhower submitted to Congress the Budget of the United States Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956. Budgetary expenditures for the year are estimated at a total of $62.4 billion, of which 65 percent, or $40.5 billion, is requested for major national security programs.

In the budget for the Social Security Administration, appropriations are recommended for all existing programs and, in addition, for separate grants for medical care for public assistance recipients and a special program to combat juvenile delinquency. On January 31, the President sent to Congress a separate health message, as reported in this issue of the Bulletin. The proposed legislation, if enacted, will require budget expenditures in 1955-56 of approximately $37 million, of which $20 million is for the part-year cost of a program of grants-in-aid for medical care for public assistance recipients, $3 million is for improvement and extension of grants for maternal and child health and welfare services, and $3 million is for the special program to combat juvenile delinquency.

Expenditures of the Social Security Administration are estimated at
$1,460 million for the fiscal year 1955–56, excluding operations of the old-age and survivors insurance trust fund and of the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions. Of this sum, the Budget calls for $1,434 million under present budget authorizations and $26 million in new authorizations proposed for new legislation (table 1).

The total estimated expenditures for the Social Security Administration for 1955–56, including the $26 million under proposed legislation, are $19 million less than total estimated expenditures for 1954–55, which include a supplemental appropriation of $238 million for public assistance grants. They are $11 million less than the total spent in 1953–54. The 1955–56 estimates are based on assumptions that the number of recipients of old-age assistance and of aid to dependent children will decline in that year and that there will be a slight rise in the number of persons receiving aid to the blind and an increase of somewhat more than 10 percent in the number who will receive aid to the permanently and totally disabled. A drop in average monthly payments under all four of the federally aided assistance programs also has been assumed.

Grants to the States account for $1,456 million or 99.7 percent of the total social security budget, as shown below.

### Table 1—Expenditures for the Social Security Administration from general funds, 1953–54, 1954–55, and 1955–56

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<tr>
<td>Bureau of Public Assistance: Proposed legislation</td>
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### Recent Publications

**Social Security Administration**


A review of research literature on delinquency prevention measures, with emphasis on recreational, educational, and therapeutic programs.


Considers institutional administration, organization, and maintenance; major aspects of the program; procedures and policies on individual cases; rules and regulations governing personal privileges; and the child’s return to the community.


### General


During 1953 the Belgian program covered more than 1.8 million workers and provided such benefits as old-age and survivors insurance, family allowances, annual vacations, health-maternity-invalidity insurance, and unemployment insurance.

### Conference on Research in Income and Wealth


Considers problems of population, manpower, national productivity, industrial output, and government revenue and expenditure.


Details of the French programs covering 9.7 million persons and providing family allowances as well as insurance or assistance for old age, invalidity, death, sickness, maternity, and work injuries.


Describes the five countries and discusses their welfare programs—family welfare, housing, labor, health and rehabilitation, and social security.
