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THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AS RITUAL AND REFLECTION:  
AN ANALYSIS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES TO  
THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AS RITUAL AND REFLECTION:  
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The basic thesis of this paper is that certain broad changes which take place in the historical development of sociology can be observed in the content of the annual presidential address. The presidential address is a significant document for witnessing such changes because of the freedom afforded the president in preparing his address. The norm of permissiveness can be seen in the words of past presidents. For example, in his 1929 address Ogburn stated that

. . . it should be remembered that one of the customs of long standing among us is that a president of a scientific society in his presidential address is not expected to be bound so rigidly by the restriction of data, nor in his imagination to be so disciplined as would be the case if he were presenting the results of a piece of scientific research. (p. 1)

In a similar vein, Louis Wirth observed in his 1947 address that

On such an occasion as this it is customary to offer a discourse on one's favorite topic, under unusual conditions of freedom bordering on license. If one is so inclined, he is even permitted to preach a sermon, though it is well to remember that the congregation is free to depart before the benediction. (p. 2)

Similarly, in his 1964 address George Homans noted that ". . . if I have only one chance to speak ex cathedra, I cannot afford to say something innocuous. On the contrary, now if ever is the time to be nocuous." (p. 809)

Because of this latitude the presidential address elicits value judgements, and it is precisely this fact that makes the address so reflective of the state of the discipline. As is discussed below, the presidents have delivered one of four types of address. By classifying each address according to a fourfold

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typology and by dividing the development of American sociology into four periods, it can be seen that each period is characterized by a certain type of address. This paper is organized on the basis of first sketching some basic characteristics of American sociology during each of the four periods, and then examining the contents of the addresses for each period as they relate to these characteristics.

#### Classification of the Addresses

A reading of the presidential addresses to the ASA suggests that there are four avenues open to a president when preparing his address. First, he can focus on a substantive topic within the discipline, such as Sutherland did in 1939 with his address on whitecollar criminality. Secondly, he can discuss the role of the sociologist, especially with regard to social action. Thirdly, he can address himself to the general state of the discipline. And, fourthly, he can assume the stance of a polemicist in discussing certain social problems.

Table one lists and classifies the presidential addresses according to this fourfold typology. Although this table indicates certain shifts in the type of address from one period to another, it does not capture the qualitative dimensions of these transitions. Therefore, we shall follow the work of Hinkle and Hinkle<sup>1</sup> in sketching the development of American sociology, and then discuss how the addresses reflect the changing concerns of the discipline.

#### THE FIRST PERIOD: 1905-20, PROGRAMMISTIC PROMISES AND APOLOGETIC ESSAYS

##### The State of the Discipline

Hinkle and Hinkle point out that many sociologists of the first period were in search of scientific laws of human behavior which were equivalent to laws

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<sup>1</sup>Roscoe Hinkle and Gisela Hinkle, The Development of Modern Sociology: Its Nature and Growth in the United States, New York: Doubleday, 1954.

governing the physical universe. They also tended to equate social change with social progress, and many considered social evolution as subject to melioristic intervention using sociological knowledge. Louis Wirth has suggested that American sociology in this period was characterized by an abundance of writing on topics which had been examined by social reformers, social critics, and social revolutionaries who, for lack of any other academic refuge, identified themselves with sociology.<sup>2</sup> Turning now to the presidential addresses of the first period, one can see these characteristics reflected.

#### The Presidential Addresses

A reading of the presidential addresses from 1905 to 1920 shows the interest that sociologists had in the melioristic application of sociology. No less than 12 of the first 15 addresses focused on the central social problems of the day. Their dissatisfaction with the state of society, especially in its political and economic aspects, is revealed in a series of addresses on the evils of war and capitalism. The problem of war was analyzed in addresses by Giddings in 1910,<sup>1</sup> Ross in 1915,<sup>2</sup> Howard in 1917, and Dealey in 1920. Giddings, for example, maintained that sociology can be of use in coping with other social problems only to the extent that sociology can answer the key social question concerning the causes of war, Giddings pointed out that

. . . exceptional men, and especially all emperors and presidents and ministers of state, are not puppets of the Zeitgeist, but in a scientific sense of the word, are the true social causes of war, and, as such, are morally responsible for the maintenance of peace. . . . Conspicuous or dynamic men . . . are the true social causes, and centers of social control. (p. 13)

The concern with problems accompanying industrialization and capitalism is

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<sup>2</sup>Louis Wirth, "American Sociology: 1915-47," American Journal of Sociology, Index to Volumes 1-52, p. 273.

manifested in addresses by Ward in 1907, Small in 1913, Ross in 1914, Vincent in 1916, and Blackmer in 1919. Edward Ross, for example, in his 1914 address entitled "War as Determiner" contended that

Now, if ever, labor needs every weapon which its forefathers gained. . . . And yet, during the last dozen years, the tales of suppression of free assemblage, free speech, and free press by local authorities or by the state operating under martial law have been so numerous as to have become an old story. . . . Underneath the "law-and-order" movement nothing is found but the pecuniary alarm of a handful of greedy and arrogant local magnates, who by the unholy use of their financial power have been able to force the city authorities, the public courts, the businessmen, the pulpits, and the newspapers to fight their battles. (p. 4)

Lester Ward's 1906 address contains an interesting statement of the belief that sociological laws can be applied to the eradication of social problems:

X4 (Sociology) has not only discovered the laws of society; it has discovered the principles according to which social operations take place. It has gone farther even than physics. . . . Sociology has not only established the law of social evolution, but it has found the principle underlying and explaining that law. . . .

Social dynamics . . . is the domain of social transformation, and explains all change in social structures and human institutions. It is the science of social progress. The laws of both these sciences (statics and dynamics) have been to a large extent discovered and formulated. (p. 7)

It is perhaps symbolic that the first period should end with Dealey's address entitled "The Science of Eudemics" and the second period begin with Hayes' 1921 address entitled "The Sociological Point of View." In a sense, the titles suggest a transition from programmatic pronouncements to more modest endeavors by sociologists.

#### THE SECOND PERIOD: 1921-34, THE QUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC RESPECTABILITY

##### The State of the Discipline

During this second period, sociology tried to become a more objective and value-free discipline, and its reach was less likely to exceed its grasp. During the first period the passion for solving the social problems of the day was

supported by little more than a faith that sociology would discover a scientific foundation for social policies. Sociology then was guided in its investigations largely by broad philosophical notions concerning human nature and the social order. In reaction to this sociology of the first period which was characterized by philosophies of history based on deductive laws, the sociologists of the second period turned more toward the natural sciences for models. An increasing realization of the need for sociology to deal inductively with empirical data led to an emphasis on multi-causal explanations, more microscopic phenomena, and the importance of statistical and case-history methods. Although concern was still directed to social problems during the second period, they were viewed more as sociological questions rather than as social problems. The sociologist was becoming more interested in understanding social life rather than changing it.

#### The Presidential Addresses

Table One shows a marked tapering off of polemical addresses during the second period. Only two such addresses were given in this period -- Weatherly's 1923 address entitled "Racial Messinism" and Ellwood's 1924 address entitled "Intolerance." However, both of these men were born before 1875 and can be considered as belonging to sociology's formative period. Table One also shows a shift toward addresses on specific substantive topics. The following addresses are examples of detached analysis of generic social phenomena which characterizes the second period: Gillette's "Urban Influence and Selection," Odum's "Folk and Regional Geography," Bogardus' "Social Processes on the Pacific Coast," and Reuter's "Race and Culture Contacts."

Hayes' 1921 address entitled "The Sociological Point of View" previewed the concern of sociologists in the second period with more delimited research questions. His state-of-the-discipline address is also an interesting example of

the building-block approach to science, as compared to the more deductive approach of the first period. Hayes stated that

. . . if sociology is in fact to reach a body of discoveries, that is to say, of new facts and new principles of explanation, it must do so by the accumulation of a multitude of special researches bearing upon small problems, each by itself incapable either of establishing any sweeping generalization, or of leading to any far reaching practical application. (p. 2)

The 1926 meetings were devoted to the topic of the Progress of Sociology, and Gillin delivered an address entitled "The Development of Sociology in the United States." Gillin noted that the sociologist increasingly realizes that sociology has its own problems and attempts to understand them by its own methods. He mentions the social survey, the census, case studies, and the statistical method. Gillin observed that ". . . a tendency has appeared, such as emerged long ago in the physical sciences, to abandon arm-chair generalizations. . . ." (p. 18)

Ogburn's 1929 address entitled "The Folkways of Scientific Sociology" is perhaps the most prophetic of all the addresses. His predictions about the future of sociology are based on an imaginative projection of the sociological tendencies of that day. Ogburn predicted that sociology in the future will be characterized by

. . . a marked decline in the prestige of intellectuality as such. . . . With the decline in intellectualism it will be less easy to achieve fame as a theorist, and, with the rise of science, reputations will be built up on proofs, records, and measurement. . . . Verification in this future state of sociology will amount almost to a fetish. . . . Thus, science will utilize the dull and uninteresting person. For science will rest on a base of a great deal of long, careful, painstaking work. And many stupid persons can be careful, patient and methodical.

. . . . .  
In this future state everyone will be a statistician. . . . The universities will all have statistical laboratories, and individual workers will have plenty of machines, all of them electric. (pp. 4-6)

Luther Bernard's 1932 address entitled "Sociological Research and the Exceptional Man," along with Ogburn's address, is indicative of an incipient reaction to the empiricism of the second period. Bernard pointed<sup>ly</sup> suggested that "There can be no great research without great and capacious, well-filled minds to direct and interpret it. . . . And no piece of research is worth more than the mind that produced it. . . it can be successfully undertaken and carried through only by the exceptional man." (pp. 9-10) Then, in a criticism reminiscent of G. Wright Mills, Bernard stated

. . . I think I have seen altogether too much money wasted on research projects made to order and carried through by individuals and groups of persons of mediocre ability who are seeking to build for themselves and their political cronies reputations as sociologists which should have been laid more securely in the mastering of knowledge already gained. (p. 4)

In this second period, then, one can see that the presidential address was not always a reaffirmation of the conventional wisdom of the day. Rather, the address was beginning to serve as a conscience for the discipline --- that is, some presidents reacted to the dominant trends of the day.

#### THE THIRD PERIOD: 1935-45, FROM THE UNIVERSITY TO THE WIDER PUBLIC

##### The State of the Discipline

As Hinkle and Hinkle have pointed out, the Depression and World War II had a major impact on sociology. These events led to a shift away from making sociology scientific toward making the discipline more socially useful. This alteration in intellectual sanctions and goals of the discipline reopened discussions concerning the role of the sociologist. As more sociologists began to participate in governmental and public agencies, members of the discipline re-examined the concept of value-free sociology and began to justify the discipline on more utilitarian grounds. In the previous period, the quest for an objective science had led many sociologists to disavow the doctrines of social progress and meliorism. The promotion of human welfare and discovery of sociological laws had become separate

## THE FOURTH PERIOD: 1946 TO THE PRESENT, THE THEORY-METHOD ERA

The State of the Discipline

As sociologists began to justify their research on more pragmatic bases and become more sensitive to the part values play in prompting research, questions concerning the nature of theory and its relation to research became salient. Hence, one sees an interest in developing non-normative theory and with integrating theory and method. There is a trend toward employing sociological theory to organize a variety of discrete studies. Most sociologists view the increasing use of theory to order and accumulate research as a major advance in scientific sociology. It has also been suggested, however, that much of what is conceived of as theory in empirical studies is actually conceptual "window-dressing" designed to legitimate the research. Critics within sociology have also noted that much of what is considered "cumulation" in empirical research actually amounts to some judicious footnoting. The fourth period is also characterized by much tinkering with research techniques and an interest in the philosophy of science, especially in the area of theory building.

The Presidential Addresses

Table One shows a marked tapering off in the fourth period of addresses concerning the role of the sociologist. The table indicates an increase in addresses on the state of the discipline and on specific topics, especially concerning theory and methodology. These latter addresses are discussions of theory and method as such, as compared to earlier addresses which tended to discuss the theory or method of a given substantive area.

In his 1949 address entitled "The Prospects of Sociological Theory," Parsons pointed out that the most disappointing fact about sociological research has been the lack of cumulation:

The limitations of empirical research methods. . . are in part responsible for this fact. But probably the most crucial factor

has been precisely this lack of an adequate working theoretical tradition which is bred into the "bones" of empirical researchers themselves, so that "instinctively" the problems they work on, the hypotheses they frame and test, are such that the results, positive or negative, will have significance for a sufficiently generalized and integrated body of knowledge so that the mutual implications of many empirical studies will play directly into each other. There are, as I have noted, hopeful signs which point in this direction, but the responsibility of theory to promote this process is heavy indeed. (p. 4)

Cottrell's 1950 address also highlighted the gap between theory and research:

It is one thing to claim a notable advance in general orientation and theory; it is another to say that a desirable level of precision and articulation in theoretical formulation and in method has been achieved. This latter we cannot claim. Notwithstanding some rather reckless promises made by some in the heat of seeking commercial and government research contracts, a candid appraisal must find much of our terminology extremely fuzzy, our hypotheses lacking in rigorous casting, and our methods as yet not well adapted for operationally testing our hypotheses or for yielding that consensual validation of observation upon which any community of scientists must rely. . . . (p. 706)

In his 1953 address entitled "Measurement in Sociology," Stouffer argued for a marriage between theory and method:

Who will put these ingredients together in sociology? Not the philosopher, speculating in his armchair. Not the sensitive artist, watching human activity with a dramatist's eye. Not the statistician who is solely concerned with making a better probability model or measuring device. Rather, the sociologist who combines several of these skills in his own head, or the small sociological team which brings a few specialists together in a concerted enterprise. Then theory will beget research and research will beget theory, and the Malthusian upswing of sociology will be on its way. . . . (p. 597)

Lazarsfeld in 1962 pointed out the contributions of empirical research to theory construction:

Stouffer's notion of relative deprivation was similarly developed from a variety of seemingly unconnected attitude surveys. Many other examples could be given to show the possible contributions of empirical studies, however narrow, to theories of the middle range. As a matter of fact, this is almost implied in the very ideal of mediating between descriptive data and higher order generalizations. Inversely, there probably would not be much theory of the middle range without the steady supply of specific studies. . . . (p. 766)

George Homans' controversial 1964 address is indicative of interest in the philosophy of science, especially regarding theory development:

If sociology is a science, it must take seriously one of the jobs of any science, which is that of providing explanations for the empirical relations it discovers. An explanation is a theory, and it takes the form of a deductive system. With all its talk about theory, the functionalist school did not take the job of theory seriously enough. It did not ask itself what a theory was, and it never produced a functional theory that was in fact an explanation. (p. 818)

With characteristic overkill, Sorokin in his 1965 address presented a summary judgment of contemporary sociology. One wonders how many of us would basically agree with the following assessment:

In spite of an enormous amount of sociological research done in this period, with few exceptions it has been a "pedestrian," "epigonic," and "Alexandrian" rather than a truly creative period. No new Platos and Aristotles, Newtons and Galileos of sociology have emerged during the period, nor even many leaders of the caliber of the eminent sociologists of the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. . . .(p. 834)

#### Conclusion and Summary

In this paper we have attempted to show that a meaningful relationship exists between the content of the presidential addresses and the changing concerns of sociology. It was suggested that the presidential address is a reflective document in two ways. The address can echo the fads and foibles of the day or it can serve as a reaction to dominant trends within the discipline. Judging from the explicit comments by some of the presidents and by the overall content of the addresses, it appears that as a discipline develops, the latter type of address comes to be expected. The latitude granted to the president in preparing his address enables him to serve as a watchdog and cutting edge in the discipline. In this situation we can say that although it is true that conformity is rewarded with status, it is also true that the higher status person is more secure and, therefore, able to deviate from the conventional wisdom.

LIST OF ADDRESSES

- Ward, L.  
1906 "The establishment of sociology." Publications of the American Sociological Society I: 3-9.
- Ward, L.  
1907 "Social classes in the light of modern sociological theory." Publications of the American Sociological Society II:1-11.
- Sumner, W.G.  
1908 "The family and social change." Publications of the American Sociological Society III:1-15.
- Sumner, W.G.  
1909 "Religion and the mores." Publications of the American Sociological Society IV:1-14.
- Giddings, F.H.  
1910 "The relation of social theory to public policy." Publications of the American Sociological Society V:1-16.
- Giddings, F.H.  
1911 "The quality of civilization." Publications of the American Sociological Society VI:1-9.
- Small, A.W.  
1912 "The present outlook of social science," Publications of the American Sociological Society VII:1-37.
- Small, A.W.  
1913 "A vision of social efficiency." Publications of the American Sociological Society VIII:33-35.
- Ross, E.A.  
1914 "Freedom of communication and the struggle for right." Publications of the American Sociological Society IX:1-10.
- Ross, E.A.  
1915 "War as determiner." Publications of the American Sociological Society X:1-11.
- Vincent, G.E.  
1916 "Countryside and nation." Publications of the American Sociological Society XI:1-11.
- Howard, G.  
1917 "Ideals as a factor in the future control of international society." Publications of the American Sociological Society XII:1-10.
- Cooley, C.  
1918 "A primary culture for democracy." Publications of the American Sociological Society XIII:1-10.
- Blackmar, F.  
1919 "A working democracy." Publications of the American Sociological Society 14:1-22.
- Dealey, J.  
1920 "Eudemics, the science of national or general welfare." Publications of the American Sociological Society 15:1-15.
- Hayes, E.  
1921 "The sociological point of view." Publications of the American Sociological Society 16:1-16.

- Lichtenberger, J.  
1922 "The moral dualism of Machiavelli." Publications of the American Sociological Society 17:1-12.
- Weatherly, U.G.  
1923 "Racial pessimism." Publications of the American Sociological Society 18:1-17.
- Ellwood, C.A.  
1924 "Intolerance." Publications of the American Sociological Society 19: 1-14.
- Park, R.  
1925 "The concept of position in sociology." American Journal of Sociology 20(July):1-14.
- Gillin, J.  
1926 "The development of sociology in the United States." Publications of the American Sociological Society 21:1-25.
- Thomas, W.I. 1927  
"The behavior pattern and the situation." Publications of the American Sociological Society 22:1-13.
- Gillette, J.M.  
1928 "Urban influence and selection." Publications of the American Sociological Society 23:1-14.
- Ogburn, W.F.  
1929 "The folkways of a scientific sociology." Publications of the American Sociological Society 24:1-11.
- Odum, H.W.  
1930 "Folk and regional conflict as a field of sociological study." Publications of the American Sociological Society 25:1-17.
- Bogardus, E.S.  
1931 "Social processes on the Pacific Coast." Publications of the American Sociological Society 26:1-9.
- Bernard, L.  
1932 "Sociological research and the exceptional man." Publications of the American Sociological Society 27:3-19.
- Reuter, E.B.  
1933 "Race and culture contacts." (not published)
- Burgess, E.W.  
1934 "Social planning and the mores." Publications of the American Sociological Society 29:1-18.
- Chapin, F.S.  
1936 "Social theory and social action." American Sociological Review I:1-12.
- Fairchild, H.P.  
1937 "Business as an institution." American Sociological Review II:1-9.
- Paris, E.  
1938 "The promise of sociology." American Sociological Review III:1-13.
- Hankins, F.H.  
1939 "Social science and social action." American Sociological Review IV:1-17.
- Sutherland, E.H.  
1940 "White collar criminality." American Sociological Review V:1-13.

- MacIver, R.M.  
 1941 "Some reflections on sociology during crisis." *American Sociological Review* 6:1-9.
- Queen, S.A.  
 1942 "Can sociologists face reality." *American Sociological Review* 7:1-13.
- Sanderson, D.  
 1943 "Sociology as a means to democracy." *American Sociological Review* 8:1-10.
- Landberg, G.A.  
 1944 "Sociologists and the peace." *American Sociological Review* 9:1-14.
- Vance, R.B.  
 1945 "Toward social dynamics." *American Sociological Review* 10:123-32.
- Young, K.  
 1946 "Society and the state." *American Sociological Review* 11:137-46.
- Taylor, C.C.  
 1947 "Sociology and common sense." *American Sociological Review* 12:1-9.
- Wirth, L.  
 1948 "Consensus and mass communication." *American Sociological Review* 13:1-15.
- Frazier, F.E.  
 1949 "Race contacts and the social structure." *American Sociological Review* 14:1-11.
- Parsons, T.  
 1950 "The prospects of sociological theory." *American Sociological Review* 15:3-16 (February).
- Cottrell, L.  
 1950 "Some neglected problems in social psychology." *American Sociological Review* 15:705-713 (December).
- Angell, R.C.  
 1951 "Sociology in the world crisis." *American Sociological Rev.* 16:749-57.
- Thomas, D.W.  
 1952 "Experiences in interdisciplinary research." *American Sociological Review* 17:663-70.
- Stouffer, S.A.  
 1953 "Measurement in sociology." *American Sociological Review* 18:591-97.
- Znaniecki, F.  
 1954 "Basic problems of contemporary sociology." *American Sociological Review* 19:519-25.
- Young, D.  
 1955 "Sociology and the practicing professions." *American Sociological Review* 20:641-48.
- Blumer, H.  
 1956 "Sociological analysis and the 'variable'." *American Sociological Review* 21:683-90.
- Merton, R.K.  
 1957 "Priorities in scientific discovery: A Chapter in the sociology of science." *American Sociological Review* 22:635-60.
- Williams, R.M.  
 1958 "Continuity and change in sociological study." *American Sociological Review* 23:619-33.

- Davis, K.  
1959 "The myth of functional analysis in sociology and anthropology." *American Sociological Review* 24:757-72.
- Becker, H.  
1960 "Normative reactions to normlessness." *American Sociological Review* 25:803-18.
- Faris, R.  
1961 "Reflections on the ability dimension in society." *American Sociological Review* 26:835-43.
- Lazarsfeld, R.F.  
1962 "The sociology of empirical social research." *American Sociological Review* 27:757-67.
- Hughes, E.C.  
1963 "Race relations and the sociological imagination." *American Sociological Review* 28:879-90.
- Homans, G.  
1964 "Bringing men back in." *American Sociological Review* 29:809-18.
- Sorokin, P.  
1965 "Sociology of yesterday, today and tomorrow." *American Sociological Review* 30:765-72.
- Moore, E.  
1966 "The utility of utopias." *American Sociological Review* 31:765-72.
- Loomis, C.  
1967 "In praise of conflict and its resolution." *American Sociological Review* 32:875-90.

TABLE 1

## CLASSIFICATION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ACCORDING TO ITS MAJOR FOCUS

| Name of President<br>and Year Address<br>Was Presented      | State of<br>Discipline <sup>1</sup> | Role of<br>Sociology <sup>2</sup> | Specific<br>Topic <sup>3</sup> | Polemics <sup>4</sup> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| PROGRAMMISTIC PRONOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGETIC ESSAYS: 1905-20 |                                     |                                   |                                |                       |
| Ward (1906)                                                 | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Ward (1907)                                                 |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Sumner (1908)                                               |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Sumner (1909)                                               |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Giddings (1910)                                             |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Giddings (1911)                                             |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Small (1912)                                                | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Small (1913)                                                |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Ross (1914)                                                 |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Ross (1915)                                                 |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Vincent (1916)                                              |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Howard (1917)                                               |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Cooley (1918)                                               |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Blackmar (1919)                                             |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Dealey (1920)                                               |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| THE QUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC RESPECTABILITY: 1921-34            |                                     |                                   |                                |                       |
| Hayes (1921)                                                | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Lichtenberger (1922)                                        |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Weatherly (1923)                                            |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Ellwood (1924)                                              |                                     |                                   |                                | XX                    |
| Park (1925)                                                 |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Gillin (1926)                                               | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Thomas (1927)                                               |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Gillette (1928)                                             |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Ogburn (1929)                                               | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Odum (1930)                                                 |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Bogardus (1931)                                             |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Bernard (1932)                                              | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Reuter (1933)                                               |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Burgess (1934)                                              |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| FROM THE UNIVERSITY TO THE WIDER PUBLIC: 1935-45            |                                     |                                   |                                |                       |
| Chapin (1935)                                               |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Fairchild (1936)                                            |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Faris (1937)                                                | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Hankins (1938)                                              |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Sutherland (1939)                                           |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| MacIver (1940)                                              |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Queen (1941)                                                |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Sanderson (1942)                                            |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Lundberg (1943)                                             |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Vance (1944)                                                |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Young (1945)                                                |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |

TABLE 1 --- Continued

| Name of President<br>and Year Address<br>Was Presented | State of<br>Discipline <sup>1</sup> | Role of<br>Sociology <sup>2</sup> | Specific<br>Topic <sup>3</sup> | Polemics <sup>4</sup> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| THE THEORY-METHOD ERA: 1946 to the PRESENT             |                                     |                                   |                                |                       |
| Taylor (1946)                                          | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Wirth (1947)                                           | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Frazier (1948)                                         |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Parsons (1949)                                         | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Cottrell (1950)                                        |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Angell (1951)                                          |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Thomas (1952)                                          | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Stouffer (1953)                                        | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Znaniecki (1954)                                       | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Young (1955)                                           |                                     | XX                                |                                |                       |
| Blumer (1956)                                          | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Merton (1957)                                          |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Williams (1958)                                        | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Davis (1959)                                           | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Becker (1960)                                          |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Faris (1961)                                           |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Lazarsfeld (1962)                                      | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Hughes (1963)                                          |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Homans (1964)                                          | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Sorokin (1965)                                         | XX                                  |                                   |                                |                       |
| Moore (1966)                                           |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |
| Loomis (1967)                                          |                                     |                                   | XX                             |                       |

<sup>1</sup>This type address focuses on the history, future and/or problems facing sociology as a science.

<sup>2</sup>This type address focuses on the sociologist's role with reference to societal problems. It concerns itself with the extent to which the sociologist should become involved in social action and thus focuses on sociology as a profession.

<sup>3</sup>This type address focuses on a specific sociological topic such as white-collar crime, social processes on the Pacific Coast, etc.

<sup>4</sup>This type address is a polemic on a particular social problem.