TRENDS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

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A comparison of articles in the social science journals in the United States over the past third of a century reveals many differences. These differences are in both method and subject-matter. Similar changes are shown by the books published, the programs of the annual social science association meetings, as well as the various periodic reports of research in progress. These changes have varied in the different social sciences, sociology, economics, political science and statistics. A discussion of only a few of the changes will be presented in the brief space allotted this paper. It will not be possible to present changes systematically nor to record here the considerable volume of evidence.

DIFFERENTIATION

A very useful guide to follow in observing trends in the social sciences is the lines of their differentia-

1 Address of the retiring vice-president and chairman of Section K—Social and Economic Sciences, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Boston, December, 1933.