

formulating policies, of this there can be no doubt. But those of us who are engaged in the formulation of policies, whether in business or in government, must always remember the individual with his feelings and his aspirations and not allow ourselves to be blinded by the sometimes brutal and sometimes cold presentation of statistics.

I might mention that in the field of practical politics statistics are coming to have an ever more important place. In public life we are always aware of the public opinion polls and all politicians approach with great trepidation that supreme statistical exercise -- the counting of votes in a national election.

I hope that you enjoy your time in Canada. I am sure that your presence here and the stimulus which it offers to the science of statistics will render this, your 34th session, a memorable event. We are honoured by your presence and we hope you will have a most successful conference.