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Contents

Preface

The Business of Agriculture 1

Harold D. Woodman

BUSINESS HISTORY CONFERENCE - AACSB
JOINT PLENARY SESSION - KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Management Thought and Education in America: A Centenary Appraisal 15

Paul Uselding

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION ON THE ROLE AND CONTRIBUTION OF BUSINESS HISTORY IN BUSINESS SCHOOL CURRICULA

The Contribution of Business History to the Business School Curriculum 31

Bruce R. Dalgaard

The Teaching of Business History at Harvard 36

Albro Martin

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS ON RESHAPING THE RECORD: WOMEN IN BUSINESS HISTORY

Reorienting Cross-Cultural Studies of Business 41

Linda Keller Brown

A Summary of Women Market Traders in Mexico 47

Ina Dinerman

Women in Engineering and Management in American History, 1850-1975 52

Martha M. Trescott

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION ON THE POTENTIALS AND PITFALLS OF ORAL HISTORY FOR BUSINESS HISTORIANS

The Merger Process: An Inside Look by Oral History 57

Marshall Blackford

Value and Use of Oral History in Business 60

Phyllis Jean Wente

The Potentials and Pitfalls of Oral History for Business Historians 63

Barbara B. Kohn

ACADEMIA AND EDUCATION FOR BUSINESS

Getting Down to Business: The Development of the Commercial Curriculum at the Wharton School in 1910 71

Steven A. Sass

The Impact of Employment Opportunities on the Evolution of Collegiate Business Education, 1918-63: Northwestern University as a Case Study 82

Michael W. Sedlach

Academia and Education of Business: Two Case Studies 93

Robert Smith

MANUFACTURING HISTORY

The Influence of American Manufacturers on the Canadian Automobile Industry 101

Robert E. Ankli and *Fred Frederiksen*

MANAGEMENT AND LABOR -- THE SANTA FE RAILROAD AND ITS WORK FORCE, 1870-1920

"Enlightened Selfishness": Santa Fe Railroad Policies for Peaceful Coexistence 117

James H. Ducker

Applying Scientific Management Principles to Railroad Repair Shops -- the Santa Fe Experience, 1904-18 124

Carl Graves

Preface

On 5, 6, and 7 May 1981, the 27th annual meeting of the Business History Conference (BHC) was held at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School in conjunction with the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Local arrangements were handled by Dr. Steven A. Sass. The members were the guests of the Wharton School at their Centennial Convocation and at a reception following, hosted by the Wharton School and the AACSB. The Wharton School graciously provided the Business History Conference with meeting space and refreshments for their sessions. We are grateful to these individuals, especially Dean Karen Freedman of the Wharton School, and to the Wharton School, and the AACSB.

The program was organized by our president-elect, Dean Richard Barsness. After the social activities of May 5, the meetings began on May 6 with a joint plenary session with the AACSB and a keynote address by Paul Uselding, "Management Thought and Education in America: A Centenary Review." This was followed by AACSB workshop sessions where the BHC offered a panel on the "Role and Contribution of Business History in Business School Curricula," which was attended by many AACSB members. After these morning sessions, the Business History Conference program followed its more usual format.

The continued publication of the annual proceedings of the BHC under the title *Business and Economic History* is made possible by the support of Dean Vernon K. Zimmerman of the College of Commerce and Business Administration and Robert Resek, Director of the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, both of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. We gratefully acknowledge their assistance.

This volume, the seventh under the present title, marks the retirement of Nelle Wagner who has provided indispensable technical assistance on editorial matters. She is largely responsible for the handsome appearance and timely completion of these volumes. I want to express, on behalf of the BHC, our admiration and gratitude for all she has done. Janet Fitch will succeed Nelle as our technical editor.

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