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Hans Johnson

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1978 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of The Academy of Accounting Historians was held on August 21st in Denver, Colorado in conjunction with the American Accounting Association. The preceding evening got the events moving with a cocktail reception held at the Denver Hilton. It was attended by Academy members, their spouses, and guests. The reception was made possible through the generous contributions of Coopers & Lybrand, Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, and Touche Ross and Company. Following the reception the Trustees met at the Emerson Street East Restaurant to discuss policy matters and, in particular, amendments to the articles of incorporation which were necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Internal Revenue Service.

The business meeting itself was held at 10:30 the following morning again at the Denver Hilton. After a brief progress report from President Hanns-Martin Schoenfeld, including mention of the current membership of 365 persons, various reports were presented by Academy members. Edward Coffman discussed plans to compile and publish two volumes of the working papers accepted thus far; Volume I of the series would probably include working paper numbers one through twenty and would hopefully sell for around $5.00 a copy. Williard Stone, co-editor of The Accounting Historians Journal, stated that the acceptance rate on eighty manuscripts received to date was 34 percent. Gary John Previts cited the need to get additional university library subscriptions for the Journal and asked the membership to help in this project. He also discussed plans for the Academy to reprint James Don Edwards’ History of Public Accounting in the United States. Dr. Previts discussed the satisfactory progress of recovery for former President and current Secretary, Alfred Roberts, who had recently undergone open heart surgery. Dr. Roberts has now resumed his duties at Georgia State University.

Treasurer Anthony Krzystofik reported on the financial status of the Academy and explained the measures he has taken to tighten control over finances. The Regional Chairpersons present (Horace Givens-Mid Atlantic, Ken Elvik-Midwest, Hans Johnson-Southwest, and Diana Flamholtz-Western) generally reported that they had experienced good attendance and quality presentations at their 1978 regional meetings.

President Schoenfeld then followed with the Hourglass Award presentation which was made this year to David A. R. Forrester (see page 2 for details). The election of Academy officers was held and the present officers were unanimously re-elected for another one year term. Four new trustees, each to serve three year terms starting January 1, 1979, were also unanimously elected by the membership. These Academy members are Maurice Newman (The University of Alabama), George Sorter (New York University), Arthur Wyatt (Arthur Andersen & Co.), and Edward Coffman (Virginia Commonwealth University). Revisions to the Academy By-Laws were then discussed and were approved unanimously (for the complete revised text see page 5).

Peter McMickle prepared and coordinated an exhibit stand which distributed Academy publications and solicited new memberships. Perhaps the most memorable single item done by The Academy, however, was to present each registrant to the Convention with a beautiful monograph on the works of John Raymond Wildman, the First President of the American Accounting Association. Monograph Two, John Raymond Wildman 1878-1938 (The Academy of Accounting Historians, 1978) was compiled and written by Gary John Previts and Richard F. Taylor. They and The Academy are to be congratulated for this fine work.