1979

Letter from the outgoing president; Through the Ages

Hanns Martin W. Schoenfeld
LETTER FROM THE
OUTGOING PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members of the Academy of Accounting Historians:

At the end of my two year term as President, I would like to make a few observations on the past two years of the Academy.

It was a particular privilege and pleasure for me to serve in this office for the calendar years 1978 and 1979. During this time, I found a level of cooperation and willingness to work for the Academy on the part of all members; this goes much beyond the experiences I had in other organizations. This suggests to me that—although the Academy of Accounting Historians is still a very young organization—it is very strong and viable in spite of (or because of) its small size. It certainly will make an impact on the academic groups interested in our work in the future. We certainly do not need any longer to worry about its continued existence.

I regarded it as my immediate task to strengthen some aspects of our work. For this purpose, a number of committees have been reappointed by me and are working to produce materials which shall be made available to all members of the Academy. Promising results seem to emerge in the area of research, taxonomy, and archives work. These efforts should be continued in the future.

An area which deserves some additional attention in the future is participation in regional meetings. We did succeed, thanks to the help of our regional chairmen, to put on a number of meetings. However, these meetings need stronger support in the future. I, therefore, would like to request at this time for all members of the Academy to make a serious attempt to attend regional technical sessions on matters of accounting history.

The membership response to the announcement of the Third World Congress of Accounting Historians in London has been overwhelming. From the United States, the largest number of papers submitted (or promised to be submitted), this suggests that quite a few members will not only submit papers but also will take the opportunity to attend the London meeting. The Academy, therefore, has scheduled next year’s Charles Waldo Haskins Seminar in Accounting History jointly with the World Congress. This will give us an additional opportunity to bring together American scholars with interested colleagues from other countries. I hope this will be a success.

You can read about other matters such as our monograph, the Historian’s Journal and other items in the short report about the Hawaii business meeting. Therefore, I need not comment further on those.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all new officers to their election and personally look forward to work with them; their efforts will further strengthen the Academy. May I also ask all members at this time to give the new officers the same support you have given to me and my fellow officers during the last two years. This will make future work, without any doubt, successful.

It was a pleasure to work with you and I’d like to thank every member.

Sincerely,

Hanns-Martin W. Schoenfeld

. . . Through the Ages

We have been informed of the death of Percival Flack Brundage. Graduating cum laude from Harvard University in 1914, Brundage subsequently went to work for the firm of Price Waterhouse & Co. rising to partner in 1930 and senior partner in 1944. In 1956 he became the first CPA to hold the position of Director of the Bureau of the Budget. Brundage served as president of the AICPA in 1948-49. He was selected for The Accounting Hall of Fame in 1955.