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Message from the president [1983, Vol. 6, no. 2]

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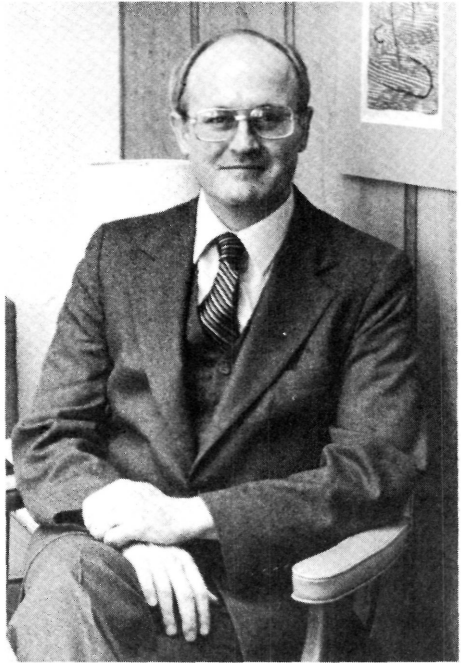
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Johnson: Message from the president [1983, Vol. 6, no. 2]
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Academy's strength and vitality were evident at our well-attended, spirited meetings in New Orleans this August. Despite a levelling-off in membership we have extended our reputation and influence considerably in the past few years. A sign of this extension is the growing awareness by accountants of history's importance. One sees this in references that accounting authorities make both to publications of the Academy and to writings by Academy members. The discussions in August at our Academy meetings and at the AAA technical session on accounting history revealed the strong sense of obligation among our members to make the past exciting and relevant to contemporary accountants.

One person whose work exemplifies the historians obligation to make the past accessible and exciting to nonhistorians is Richard P. Brief, recipient of this year's Hourglass Award. It was my pleasure in New Orleans to recount Dick's many important contributions to scholarship in accounting history. Among his numerous articles that make the past exciting and relevant to accountants, two stand out in my mind: "19th Century Accounting Error" in the Spring, 1965 *Journal of Accounting Research* and "The Accountant's Responsibility in Historical Perspective" in the April, 1975 *Accounting Review*. In addition to publishing many articles on the subject of accounting history Dick is also known for his prodigious efforts to make accounting's past accessible to scholars by editing 156 volumes for Arno Press and 40 volumes for Garland Publishing. We are indebted to him for what he has done and we look forward to more of his work in the future.

It was an honor and a pleasure to serve as President of the Academy for the past two years. I thank you all for your support and encouragement and I ask that everyone extend the same cooperation to Ed Coffman when he becomes President in January. Best wishes for a peaceful and productive 1984.



H. THOMAS JOHNSON

MANUSCRIPTS AND SHAGGY DOGS STORIES

Anyone wishing to submit article manuscripts, short notes, cartoons, shaggy dog stories, letters to the editor, or other filler to THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS NOTEBOOK should send the material to the editor, Dale L. Flesher, School of Accountancy, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677.

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