## **Accounting Historians Notebook**

Volume 13 Number 1 Spring 1990

Article 25

Spring 1990

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John W. Durham

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Durham, John W. (1990) "When would the intellectual background make a difference? or professors have been important for a long time, but what kind of professors?," Accounting Historians Notebook: Vol. 13: No. 1, Article 25.

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Moderator: Hans Johnson

University of North Dakota

## WHEN WOULD THE INTELLECTUAL BACKGROUND MAKE A DIFFERENCE? OR PROFESSORS HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT FOR A LONG TIME, BUT WHAT KIND OF PROFESSORS?

by
John W. Durham
Fort Hays State University

Medieval accounting history affords a fertile ground for studying the impact of the intellectual background on the development of accounting itself. In such a study, four hypotheses can be proposed: that the intellectual background affects accounting only when it reaches out towards accounting practice; that this outreach occurs only when intellectuals have direct, personal contact with accounting practice; that developments in law, philosophy, and related humanities are important; and that developments in mathematics are not important.

