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Public Accountants' Meeting: Officers Elected and Speeches Made at the Annual Dinner (newspaper clipping)

American Association of Public Accountants

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in the history of the associati
Miller, the president, made
appeal to the members to do all
power to interest the general
behalf of the Association hospitals
their hour of great need.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS' MEETING

Officers Elected and Speeches Made at the Annual Dinner.

The American Association of Public Accountants held its annual meeting yesterday afternoon, and this was followed by a dinner at the Astor House. At the meeting the following officers were elected: President—Leonard H. Conant; Vice President—Ferdinand W. Lafrentz; Secretary—Thomas Cullen Roberts; Treasurer—James Grant. A Board of Trustees was also elected.

At the afternoon meeting Controller Coler addressed the association, saying he approved of the work of public accountants and believed that his office, as well as all other offices in both the city and State, had been handicapped because public accountants could not be retained at any time.

The American Association of Public Accountants was organized in 1887, and an idea of its almost universal reputation can be gleaned from the following extract from a letter written from "80 Bhuleswar 3rd, Bhoiwada, Bombay." The letter is an application for membership in the association, and in part reads as follows:

Formation of a body of accountants representing American diplomas here in Bombay will very much tend to draw the two sister countries in ease and harmony and will strengthen the commercial ties existing between them. In the recent famine the valuable and opportune assistance that your famous country rendered to us gives ample proof and expression to the noble character of the people on your side.

In conclusion I beg to add that when the door of your honorable association is opened for an Indian it would be always kept so for anybody desiring to approach it, without any distinction of cast or creed, so long as "liberty" holds its own in your country; otherwise there is every possibility of doing injustice to new-comers.

Hoping you will kindly spare a few moments to drop me a few lines of the subject and oblige, I remain, your most obedient servant,

CURSANDAS BALGOVANDAS.

The letter was referred to the Board of Trustees for action.

The President acted as toastmaster at the dinner which was attended by nearly all of the members of the association. Charles W. Haskins, President of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants and a member of the State Board of Examiners, was the first speaker. He declared that the work of a public accountant was on a level with that of the physician and lawyer and should be justly called a profession and not a business. F. W. Childs, President of the New York Chapter of the Institute of Accounts, followed with a short speech. The Rev. Dr. John L. Hunt, a member of the Board of Education, the next speaker, told of the need of the new Commercial High School to give a practical business education to young men aspiring to enter business.

Henry Loewenthal, as one of the guests of the association, was then introduced by President Conant. J. A. Lassin of The Financial News and F. H. Lancaster of Business also spoke, as did Edward C. Spaulding, who represented the Pennsylvania Society of Public Accountants. Frank Broaker and Thomas Arnold, members of the association, also made a few remarks.

At the guests' table with the speakers was James Yalden, the oldest President of the association. He was active in it before the State law was passed requiring public accountants to pass an examination and be duly licensed.

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