

# Accounting Historians Notebook

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## Message from the president [1996, Vol. 19, no. 1]

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Cook: Message from the president [1996, Vol. 19, no. 1]  
**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I want to thank the membership for providing me with the opportunity to serve the Academy of Accounting Historians as President. With your help, I will work toward the continuing growth and development of the Academy. The Academy work depends tremendously on the officers and the committees. Committees and task forces for 1996 were included in the December 1995 issue of *The Notebook*. Thank you very much for your willingness to serve on these committees and task forces.

#### **Centennial Celebration of the First CPA Law**

The year 1996 is a very important year because it is the 100th anniversary of the first CPA exam and the first CPA law. On April 17, 1896, the Governor of New York signed into law "an act to regulate the profession of Public Accountants." The law prohibited anyone from using the title of "Certified Public Accountant" unless he had a certificate issued by the Regents of New York University.

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of this law, the Northeast Region of the AAA combined with the New York Society of CPAs for their regional meeting in New York City, April, 17-20, 1996. Many of the Academy members were on the program. The officers, trustees and key members of the Academy held their Spring meeting in conjunction with this meeting in New York. Minutes of this meeting are included in this issue of *The Notebook*.

#### **100th Anniversary of the First CPA Exam**

After the CPA law was passed, the first CPA examination was given on December 15 and 16, 1896, in Buffalo and New York City.



*Doris M. Cook*

Three prominent accountants were appointed by the Board of Regents of New York University to act as the Board of Examiners and administer the first exam. These three were Frank Broaker, Charles E. Sprague and Charles Waldo Haskins.

The theme of the December 5-7, 1996 research conference of the Academy will be "The Centennial Anniversary of the First CPA Examination: A Century of Professional Progress." Plenary sessions

and papers will focus on topics related to this celebration. Announcements of the conference have been mailed to members and another mailing will be made later. Registration fee is \$75 for members and \$25 for students. The location is the Cleveland Marriott Society Center in Cleveland, Ohio. The City of Cleveland is also celebrating its 200th anniversary and asked that the Academy meet there to help celebrate that anniversary, also. The annual business meeting will be held at the end of the conference on December 7. We urge you to attend this important celebration.

#### **Receptions at AAA Meeting and 7th World Congress of Accounting Historians**

The Academy will be co-host of the opening reception at the 7th World Congress of Accounting Historians at Queen's University, Ontario, August 11-13, 1996. Several Academy members are on the program. The annual reception for all members of the Academy at the annual AAA meeting will be held August 14, 8-10 p.m., at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Chicago. Announcements of these receptions have been mailed to all members Please try to attend these important functions!!