

# Accounting Historians Notebook

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Volume 22  
Number 1 April 1999

Article 6

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April 1999

**News and notes [1999, Vol. 22, no. 1]; Life-member receives honorary degree; James Don Edwards retires; Sheldahl reports projects; In memory of Virginia Jones; Accountant-keeper available; Accounting History – A special subscription offer; Accounting History Research Center; Silent auction; Contributions to silent auction; Hourglass nominations; Membership directory – A reminder**

Academy of Accounting Historians

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## Recommended Citation

Accounting Historians, Academy of (1999) "News and notes [1999, Vol. 22, no. 1]; Life-member receives honorary degree; James Don Edwards retires; Sheldahl reports projects; In memory of Virginia Jones; Accountant-keeper available; Accounting History – A special subscription offer; Accounting History Research Center; Silent auction; Contributions to silent auction; Hourglass nominations; Membership directory – A reminder," *Accounting Historians Notebook*: Vol. 22 : No. 1 , Article 6.

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## NEWS AND NOTES

### Life-Member Receives Honorary Degree

Richard Mattessich, Professor Emeritus of the University of British Columbia, and Life-Member of the Academy of Accounting Historians, received on November 12th, 1998 from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid a "Doctor honoris causa" degree in economics and business administration. In the evening of November 12th, he was honoured at a banquet in the Residence of the Ambassador of Canada to Spain, Mr. Anthony Vincent. The Complutense is not only the most prestigious university of Spain, its constitution is also some 500 years old, and, as to size, it is said to be the fifth largest university in the world. Alexander Flemind, Karl Popper and others are former recipients of such an honorary degree from this institution.

### James Don Edwards Retires

James Don Edwards, distinguished University of Georgia professor, retired July 1, 1998. He is a member of the Academy of Accounting Historians and a renowned accountant. Dr. Edwards helped establish the J.M. Tull School of Accounting at UGA and helped steer the UGA Terry College of Business through the construction of a state-of-the-art-facility for the college.

Dr. Edwards has had many other successes to include: Doctor honoris causa from the University of Paris; won the Certified Public Accountant Gold Medal Award in 1993; named one of the "100 Most Influential People in Accounting" by Accounting Today Magazine; and the Tull Professor of Accounting at UGA since 1974.

### Sheldahl Reports on Projects

Terry Sheldahl, special projects officer at Saint Leo College in Savannah, reports that work regarding *The Southern Collegiate Accountant* was discontinued this past year

with the issuance of three volumes, 1989-96. He stated his appreciation to the several academy members who provided editorial services to the project and especially to Michael van Breda, coeditor, for the completion of volume 3. Terry noted that he was well under way on other projects of "In the Midlands: The Western Philosophical Association (1900)," and the first of two volumes planned on "Roots of the American Philosophical Association, 1895-1902."

### In Memory of Virginia Jones

During the past year, Mrs. Virginia Jones passed away. Mrs. Jones was the wife of James W. Jones, a long time member and supporter of The Academy of Accounting Historians, who passed away in 1995. Jimmy and Virginia were frequent participants in Academy functions in the early years. Among other events, Jimmy and Virginia attended the dedication of the Accounting History Research Center (AHRC) at Georgia State University in 1988. It was perhaps this participation which led Virginia to donate Jimmy's extensive library of nearly a thousand accounting books and other materials to the AHRC. After her death, the family donated an additional group of books and periodicals amounting to about five hundred items to the AHRC. Some copies of periodicals were sent to the Tax History Research Center at The University of Mississippi to complete collections there.

Jimmy and Virginia were a gracious couple. Those of us fortunate enough to have known Jimmy and Virginia will miss their presence, but will long remember them.

### Account-Keeper Available

The Academy of Accounting Historians has a newly designed T-shirt available to members. The T-shirt features the Academy logo on the front and a reproduction of *The Account-Keeper*, a 1656 masterpiece by

Nicholos Maes. The masterpiece portrays a woman whose head droops, presumable from fatigue, while writing in her account ledgers. The T-shirt is captioned, "Book-keeping 101." The T-shirt comes in white and blue and in various sizes. The price of each T-shirt is \$15.00 (U.S.). VISA and MasterCard are accepted. For information and orders, contact Jeanette Sanfilippo, Maryville University: Phone (314) 529-9571 or FAX (314) 529-9975 or Email: [jsan@maryville.edu](mailto:jsan@maryville.edu).

## Silent Auction

The Academy hosted, once again, a successful silent auction this year at the annual research conference. Members were able to browse through the old books, monographs and periodicals at the Atlanta conference, held in November 12-14, 1998. The silent bidding raised over \$800 and was a successful addition to the conference.

## Contributions to Silent Auction

The Academy will host a silent auction at the 1999 Reserach Conference in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on November 18-20. If you have some old accounting books or publications you would like to contribute to the Academy for use in the silent auction, please contact Elliott Slocum at (404) 651-4452 or E-mail: [ACCELS@langate.gsu.edu](mailto:ACCELS@langate.gsu.edu).

## Hourglass Nominations

The Hourglass Award of the Academy of Accounting Historians is presented annually at its December research conference to an individual who has made a demonstrable and significant contribution to knowledge through research and publication in accounting history.

Nominations for this award are now being invited. There is no restriction as to who may make a nomination and scholars from any country are eligible for nomination. Membership of the Academy is not a prerequisite for eligibility to nominate or be nominated. However previous Hourglass Award winners and Hourglass judging panel members are ineligible for nomination.

The nominator must supply a 200 word (maximum) statement summarising the reasons why the nominee should be considered, full contact details of nominator and nominee, along with a list of relevant publications and any other relevant documentation supplied by the nominee who has agreed to be nominated.

All nominations and accompanying  
NOMINATIONS...continued on page 21

## Accounting History-A Special Subscription Offer

*Accounting History* is the journal of the Accounting History Special Interest Group of the Accounting Association of Australia and New Zealand which is published twice-yearly in May and November. A special annual subscription rate for individual members of the Academy of Accounting Historians is made available for 1999. The special rate is AUD \$55.00 which is approximately US \$35.00. The journal is distributed via airmail. A complimentary inspection copy of a recent issue of the journal is available on request from Bruce Hoyle (email:[bruceh@deakin.edu.au](mailto:bruceh@deakin.edu.au)).

## Accounting History Research Center

During 1998, much progress was made in the cataloging and rearranging of the holdings of the Accounting History Research Center (AHRC). It will be possible in the future for a member to request and receive disks that include a listing of the holdings of the AHRC. A substantial portion of the several thousand items in the AHRC can now be provided by disk or hard copy. These will soon be placed on the web.

The AHRC recently completed the compilation of "The Robert Montgomery Collection, Columbia University," and "The Harry C. Bentley Collection at the Boston Public Library." These listings of historical accounting materials can be provided in WordPerfect or Word.

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#### *NOMINATIONS...continued from page 10*

data should be sent to:

Professor Lee Parker  
Chair—Hourglass Award Panel  
School of Commerce  
The University of Adelaide  
Adelaide  
South Australia 5005

Closing date for nominations reaching  
Professor Parker is July 30, 1999.

### **Membership Directory- A Reminder**

The Academy's Membership Directory has been placed on the Web as part of the

Academy's Home Page. As a result, the Academy will not mail out the printed copy of the Membership Directory as in previous years unless such a copy is specifically requested. The web address is <http://weatherhead.cwru.edu/Accounting>. For those without Internet access, a limited number of printed Membership Directories will be available upon request. If you need a printed copy of the Membership Directory, please contact Kathy Rice, Administrative Coordinator, The Academy of Accounting Historians, Culverhouse School of Accountancy, The University of Alabama, Box 870220, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 35487-0220.