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A PREVIEW OF EVENTS

THE FIRST ACCOUNTING HISTORY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Accounting History, the journal of the Accounting History Special Interest Group of the Accounting Association of Australia and New Zealand is sponsoring The First Accounting History International Conference in Melbourne, Australia, August 4-6, 1999. The conference will feature topics regarding the advent and development of accounting bodies, ideas, practices, and rules and identify the individuals and environmental factors which affected accounting. Conference papers will include a variety of approaches such as biography, prosopography, business history through accounting records, institutional history, and oral history. The latest conference information is available on the web at: <http://www2.deakin.edu.au/acc-fin/JOUR->

[NAL/journal.htm](http://www2.deakin.edu.au/acc-fin/JOUR-NAL/journal.htm). Professor Garry Carnegie, School of Accounting and Finance, Deakin University, Geelong Victoria 3217, Australia, is responsible for the program.

U.S. ACCOUNTING HISTORY AND HISTORIOGRAPHY

A special issue of *Accounting, Business & Financial History* entitled "U.S. Accounting History and Historiography," is being co-edited by Richard K. Fleischman and Thomas N. Tyson. The anticipated date of issue is Spring, 2000. Critical and traditionalist historians have written extensively on U.S. accounting themes and topics during the past quarter century. This special issue is dedicated to papers which will focus either specifically on U.S. developments or on comparative studies between the U.S. and other countries.



NEW BOOKS IN ACCOUNTING HISTORY BY ACCOUNTING MEMBERS

Professor Dick Edwards, together with two colleagues at the Cardiff Business School, UK (Dr. Derek Matthews and Malcolm Anderson) has recently co-authored *The Priesthood of Industry: The rise of the professional accountant in business management* published by Oxford University Press.

The leading professional accountancy bodies in Britain today boast more than a quarter of a million qualified members and accountants are moving into top management positions in increasing numbers. Indeed accountants have become the foremost professional grouping in British business management.

The Priesthood of Industry documents the rise of the accountancy profession, from the handful of accountants listed in

the trade directories of the major cities in the late-eighteenth century to the huge commercially-oriented firms of the late-twentieth-century. The authors focus on the individual, the professional accountant, and adopt an economic determinist analysis to explain the rise of public practice and the transfer of staff to industry in increasing numbers. They also consider the routes through which this transfer of skills took place, and identify demand and supply-side factors to explain the professional accountant's present hegemony in business management.

The book may be ordered from Oxford University Press at the price of £40. Telephone +44 (0) 1536 741 519; fax +44 (0) 1536 746 337; e-mail book.orders@oup.co.uk.