

# Accounting Historians Notebook

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## New books in accounting history by Academy members; In memorium: Henry Francis (Frank) Stabler; Henry Francis (Frank) Stabler

Academy of Accounting Historians

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## NEW BOOKS IN ACCOUNTING HISTORY

By Academy Members

### STEPHEN A. ZEFF

Stephen Zeff has authored *Henry Rand Hatfield: Humanist, Scholar and Accounting Educator* published by JAI Press Inc./Ablex Publishing Corp. This book is a biographical study of the first full-time accounting professor, Henry Rand Hatfield (1866-1945), in a U.S. university. His two textbooks, *Modern Accounting* (1909) and *Accounting* (1927), were among the most respected reference works in the first half century. Also, he was an authority on early bookkeeping history and his essay, "An Historical Defense of Bookkeeping," has long been one of the most celebrated articles in the U.S. literature.

Stephen Zeff began his research in the 1960s, using Hatfield's extensive files of correspondence, notes and papers, and he proceeded to interview, or correspond with, many of Hatfield's former colleagues and students. The author also drew on the archives at the University of Chicago and the University of California, as well as the records of the American Accounting Association. Many of Hatfield's unpublished and previously published papers are reproduced in the book.



### IN MEMORIUM

### HENRY FRANCIS (FRANK) STABLER

On Saturday, June 26, 1999, Frank Stabler, a long-time member of The Academy of Accounting Historians died suddenly. Frank was Professor of Accounting Emeritus at Georgia State University and had retired in August, 1998. He had served in the U.S. Army Finance Corps, worked with Price Waterhouse, and taught at the University of Alabama and Tennessee Technological University before joining the faculty at Georgia State in 1971. Frank had earned a B.A. in Business Administration at Vanderbilt University and the M.B.A and Ph.D. at the University of Alabama.

Frank's involvement with accounting history began early in his career, and his dissertation was "A Study of Selected Contributions of George O. May to Accounting Thought." His dissertation was later published as a monograph through the Publishing Services Division of the College of Business Administration at Georgia State University in 1977. He coauthored a paper, "May and Paton: Two Giants Revisited," that was published in the *Accounting Historians Journal* in 1981 and published "George O. May, 1875-1961," in *Biographies of Notable Accountants*, Second Edition, Edited by Abdel M. Agami, 1989. While at Georgia State, Frank served on fifteen dissertations, chairing nine, which including studies on Paul F. Grady, Robert M. Trueblood, and Eric Louis Kohler.

Frank's greatest love was teaching and working with students as illustrated by his many awards, among which were Outstanding Faculty Award, School of Accountancy; Accounting Educator of the Year Award, Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants, Educational Foundation; Outstanding Faculty Vice President, Beta Alpha Psi; and Educator of the Year, Atlanta Chapter, Institute of Internal Auditors. Frank Stabler touched many lives among the ranks of student, faculty, and practitioners, and though he will surely be missed, his memory will continue in their hearts.