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And Mr. Reik

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day he would become a member of the firm of Haskins & Sells; a design which may be lurking elsewhere in the organization for aught we know.

At any rate Mr. Palmer began to fit himself for a successful career in accountancy by supplementing his high school education with a course at New York University, from which he was graduated in 1911 with the degree of bachelor of commercial science. He became a New York C. P. A. in July, 1914, and a C. P. A. of Michigan in October, 1919.

Mr. Palmer's career typifies the success which characterizes a combination of education and experience, of theory and practice, of study and work, of careful thought and intelligent application, founded on sterling character and cemented with the personality necessary to get on well with other humans generally.

Nothing very much occurred in Mr. Palmer's life with the firm except hard work in the field and an occasional increase in

compensation, until July 1, 1917, when it seemed advisable to the firm to open an office in Detroit, and he was appointed manager. His stay in Detroit was of relatively short duration, because developments in New York required a man with certain qualifications which Mr. Palmer possessed, and accordingly he was transferred. This, however, was but a stepping-stone to greater opportunity of which he took advantage, rising gradually to the position of manager at the New York Thirty-ninth Street practice office, the position which he held when he became a partner.

There is much in Mr. Palmer's rise which should serve as an inspiration, but his success may not be attributed to luck. It has grown out of deliberately planned education, of a willingness to work hard, to co-operate, and above all else to think. The individual who combines these attributes cannot avoid success in a field where opportunity lies.

And Mr. Reik

RAYMOND CARLISLE REIK, manager, Baltimore office, became a member of the firm June 1, 1926. While we have no thought in referring to Mr. Reik's admission to the firm of including him as among those "also present," we confess to having drawn somewhat severely on our fund of laudatory remarks in writing about Mr. Padon and Mr. Palmer. However, at the risk of committing the sin of repetition, we cannot refrain from saying some things which we feel concerning the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Reik came up, so to speak, by the same route as Mr. Padon and Mr. Palmer, but he was a member of the Maryland Bar Association, holding the degree of LL.B. from the University of Maryland, and a C. P. A. of Maryland, when he joined our staff in Baltimore on July 1, 1915. We have the authority of one person to whom he referred in his application for a position with us that he "took the regular course in

expert accounting while still earning his livelihood and at the sacrifice of many of the pleasures that usually appeal to young men of his age." Incidentally, it may be said that never have we seen a finer collection of references than those which support his application. They are not of the perfunctory kind. Rather, they speak volumes for the esteem in which he was held by those with whom, for a matter of about eleven years, he was associated in the office of the Comptroller of the State of Maryland.

Everything of record in our files concerning Mr. Reik indicates that he was a "find." His work on the Baltimore staff was finished and intelligent. He became a tower of strength in the Baltimore office and we are pleased to acknowledge herewith the credit for the success of that office which is due to his conscientious, thorough, unpretentious work and his dignified demeanor day in and day out.

Here we stop; not that the supply of appropriate adjectives has become exhausted, but lest an excess of such adjectives detract from the expression of sincere appreciation which we feel and are trying to convey.

We dare say one's first reaction to Mr. Reik is that he is an agreeable, polished gentleman. But let that person talk with Mr. Reik on any subject and he will find him well informed. Let him delve into

the depths of accounting theory and he will find evidence of a mind at work. Let him examine and cross-examine him on a piece of work for which he is responsible and he will find him in touch with every angle and in command of the situation.

The firm of Haskins & Sells has been fortunate in many respects. Not the least of these respects is the privilege of including among its co-workers and firm members Mr. Raymond Carlisle Reik.

Miss Taaffe Celebrates

MISS LORETTA ANNA TAAFFE entered the Haskins & Sells organization June 12, 1901. Having been continuously in the organization since that date, Miss Taaffe celebrated her twenty-fifth anniversary on June 12, 1926. By this we mean her twenty-fifth anniversary with the firm.

Confessing to having been born on February 28, Miss Taaffe takes advantage of experience gained in keeping to herself the volumes of confidential information concerning the affairs of clients and is silent as to the year. For the benefit of those who are inclined to be inquisitive, it may be said that she is as young in spirit, action, and disposition now as she was when she took up the work of typing yard-square reports. For some reason or other, when we think of Miss Taaffe we immediately think of monstrous statements being typed as nonchalantly as mere personal notes.

Reviewing Miss Taaffe's career also recalls many of her erstwhile favorites who figure in the earlier history of the firm; Peter White, who dubbed her "Flossie";

Eugene Hifton, Harry Lee, her particular friend, "Riley," and Belle Hatfield, who still remains to check her up when she recounts to her younger associates glittering tales of bygone days.

Miss Taaffe typifies the spirit of Haskins & Sells; no task too trying; no statement too long, wide, or difficult; no amount of work too much to interfere with punctuality, regular attendance, strict application, and abundant good nature in the common purpose of serving clients. Such devotion to an organization, year in and year out, over a quarter century is a fine tribute to the sterling character of the individual who is the subject of this sketch.

The firm owes much to Miss Taaffe. Hers has been a contribution which in some respects sentiment alone can compensate. In acknowledging this obligation, may we add the wish that her future may be long and filled with an abundance of happiness. Any organization is fortunate which can boast of members who, like Miss Taaffe, bring untiring and cheerful devotion to its daily work.

Non-Odious Comparisons

THE increasing list of firm members, and the reminiscent mood prompted by the historical sketches of the newest partners, moves us to make some observations based on comparative statistics.

In the March, 1918, BULLETIN, introducing the department for professional

training, we made the following statement:

"At the time of Mr. Haskins' death in January, 1903, the copartnership group, which began in 1895 with Mr. Haskins and Mr. Sells, had expanded to include forty accountants, sixty assistant accountants, and forty clerks.