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## PREFACE

This is the second issue of volume 27 of Business and Economic History and contains additional papers from the 1998 Business History Conference held at the University of Maryland University College and Archives II last March. David Sicilia was the conference organizer and Jeremy Atack was in charge of the program. We again thank Dean James Harris of the College of Arts and Humanities for generously supporting the conference and making possible publication of this volume. I remind readers that because of the number of presentations this year, the papers for this issue were screened but not sent out to be refereed, the same procedures for those published in the first issue.

This issue also is the seventeenth, and last, to be published by the Department of Economics at the College of William & Mary. Beginning in 2000 the journal will be transformed, with a new name, Enterprise and Society: The International Journal of Business History. It will be published quarterly, with three fully refereed issues and one proceedings issue per year, by Oxford University Press. I will continue as editor of the refereed issues of the journal and Roger Horowitz at the Hagley Museum and Library will edit the proceedings volume. Roger has been nominated to replace me as Secretary-Treasurer of the organization. Subject to being approved by the members, Roger will take over next March and the 1999 proceedings will be edited and produced at the Hagley Museum and Library.

Over the past eleven years I have been extremely fortunate in having had a series of talented and congenial editorial assistants, without whom I could not have produced these volumes. Karen Dolan, Mary Ferraro, and, most recently, Jonathan Kajeckas, each in their individual ways, enhanced the quality of the journal, helping to put it in a position of being expanded and picked up by a first-rate publisher. Also, without the encouragement, superb editing skills, and friendly advice of Pat Denault, very little would have been possible. I thank them all as deeply and sincerely as I can.

Finally, a reminder that the 1999 Business History Conference will be held March 5-7 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Will Hausman  
November 1998

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