

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC HISTORY  
PAPERS PRESENTED AT  
THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE BUSINESS HISTORY CONFERENCE

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*Paul Uselding, ed.*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC HISTORY

SECOND SERIES, VOLUME SEVEN

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THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE BUSINESS HISTORY CONFERENCE

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*edited by Paul Uselding*

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

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## Preface

On 24 and 25 February 1978, the 24th annual meeting of the Business History Conference was held at the Eleutherian Mills Historical Library in Greenville, Wilmington, Delaware. Conference facilities and local arrangements were generously supplied by the Eleutherian Mills Hagley Foundation. The excellent local arrangements were attributable to the efforts of Richard Ehrlich and Glenn Porter. On behalf of the membership and trustees of the Business History Conference I would like to thank the Eleutherian Mills Hagley Foundation and all the individuals involved for making this 24th annual meeting of our Conference a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

Professor Herman Freudenberger, president-elect and program chairman for these meetings, continued the tradition of arranging for an interesting and stimulating group of papers. At all points along the way in program planning, Herman kept me informed of his activities; and I can attest to the conscientiousness and effort he invested in his program responsibilities. We are very fortunate to have had such excellent program chairmen in the recent past. This year's program emphasized the themes of law and business and business activity in an international setting, both interests of Professor Freudenberger, displaying the rich and varied areas of inquiry that may be embraced by the field of business history.

This year we take special pride in presenting the presidential address of Professor Alfred D. Chandler, Jr. As is well known by now, Professor Chandler's recent work, *The Visible Hand*, has received the Pulitzer and Bancroft prizes in addition to the National Book Award. This work has won wide critical and scholarly acclaim and reflects great credit on the field of business history. In Professor Chandler's address to the BHC we are treated to a privileged insight into the early career development and motivation of this distinguished historian.

As has become customary, it is also well to observe the ritual of honoring Fred Bateman for his service to the BHC. It is not mere ceremonial adequacy to mention Fred's importance to our

organization. He provides the "glue" that holds us together. Nominally, our secretary/treasurer, Fred's contributions extend beyond those normal functions of maintaining the membership rolls; collecting dues; disbursing funds; and arranging for membership notification of meetings, elections, and other pertinent business. Fred also oversees local arrangements and works closely with each program chairman, providing valuable liaison to all functional components of the BHC. Not least among these, he provides counsel and wisdom on editorial matters when they are needed most. A counterfactual historian could write an extensive work on the value of Fred Bateman to the BHC.

This year the trustees adopted a new policy regarding the publication of papers presented at the annual meetings. In keeping with the improving quality of our sessions, we have found that editors of established journals are increasingly interested in printing the results of various papers presented to the BHC. The trustees have approved duplicate publication of papers presented where such publication is consistent with the editorial policy of a particular established journal. For example, the paper by Charles McCurdy, "American Law and the Marketing Structure of the Large Corporation," will be published by the *Journal of Economic History*. It also appears in this volume, as presented at the Eleutherian Mills meeting. The paper by W. David Lewis and Wesley P. Newton, "The Delta-C & S Merger: A Case Study in Airline Consolidation and Federal Regulation," will appear in a future issue of *Business History Review*. An abstract of this paper is printed herein, as the editorial policies of the review preclude printing the work in its entirety in our *Papers Presented* volume. The editorial policy of the BHC aims to promote the widest possible circulation of scholarly work in the field of business history, broadly construed.

The continuing publication of the *Papers Presented* at the BHC under the title *Business and Economic History* is made possible by the support of Dean Vernon K. Zimmerman of the College of Commerce and Business Administration and Robert Resek, Director of the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, both of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. We are grateful for their continuing support and encouragement.

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