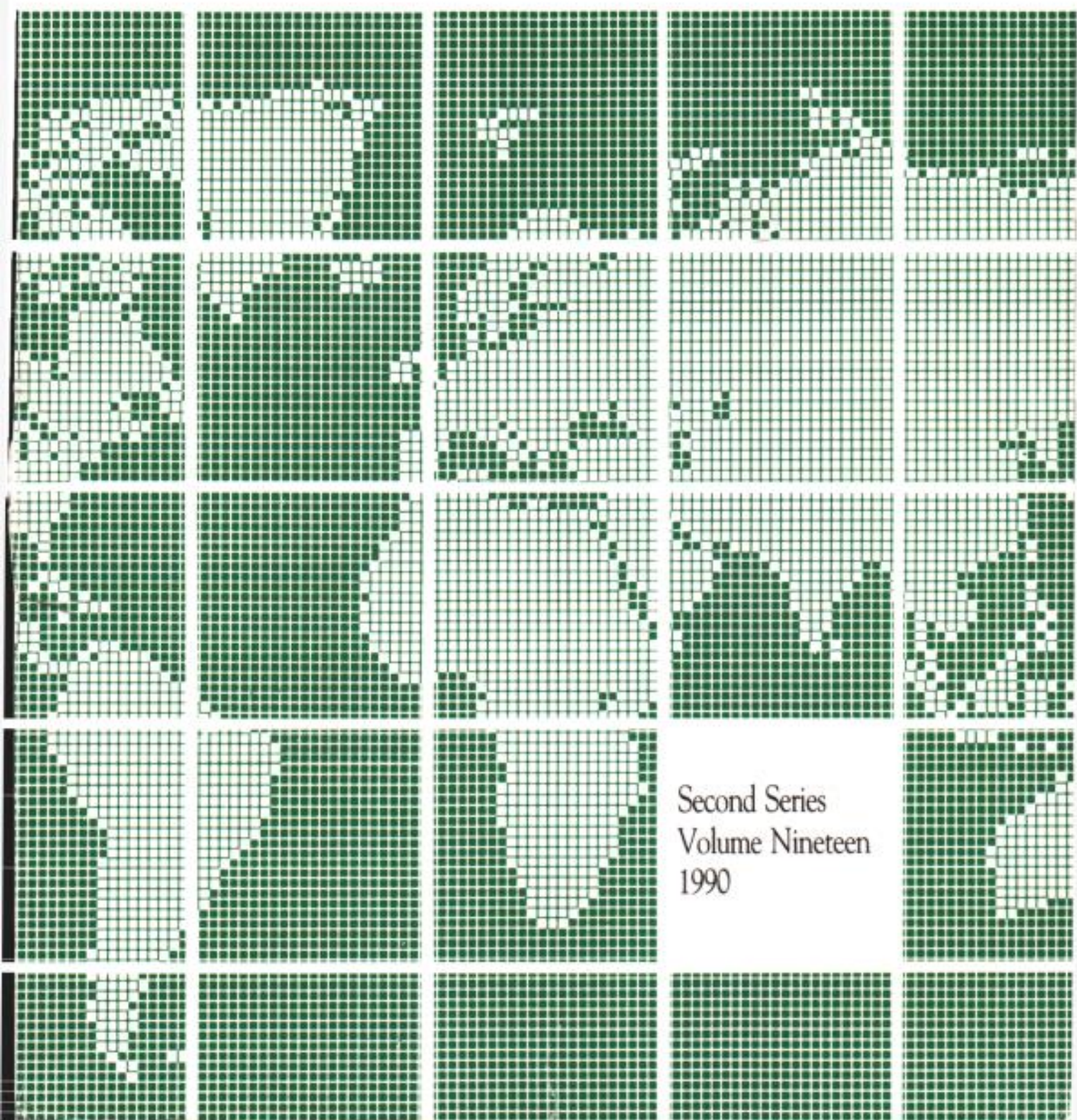


Business and Economic History

The Journal of the Business History Conference



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BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC HISTORY

Second Series Volume Nineteen 1990

William J. Hausman, editor
College of William and Mary

Papers presented at the thirty-sixth annual meeting of the
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Preface

The 36th annual meeting of the Business History Conference was held March 23-25, 1990 at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. The program, whose theme was "Organizational Capabilities," was selected by President-Elect Bill Lazonick. Ross Thomson was responsible for the dissertation session. Lou Galambos, with the assistance of Charles Cheape, did a superb job with local arrangements. Lou also was quite active and successful in raising funds to support the conference. We deeply and sincerely thank AT&T and the Winthrop Group, two organizations that consistently have supported the work of the Business History Conference. We also thank for their support this year Loyola College, the Johns Hopkins University Press, the Department of History and the Office of the Dean of Arts & Sciences of Johns Hopkins University, the Business History Group, and Cambridge University Press.

The recipient of the first Harold F. Williamson, Sr. Prize in Business History was announced at the conference banquet. The award, which honors one of the founding members of the organization, is made to an individual in "mid-career" who has made significant contributions to the teaching and writing of business history. The selection committee, comprised of President Tom McCraw and the four immediate past presidents of the BHC, selected Naomi Lamoreaux, Brown University, as the inaugural recipient. The prize consists of a medallion and \$500 check.

The Board of Trustees voted last winter to make the heretofore biennial Herman E. Krooss prize into an annual prize to be awarded at the conference banquet. The award is for the best dissertation summary presented at the conference. The recipient for dissertations presented in 1989 was Helen Shapiro, Harvard University, for her work on the Brazilian automobile industry. The 1990 recipient was Richard John, College of William & Mary, for his work on the U.S. post office.

The next meeting of the Business History Conference will be a joint meeting with the Canadian Business History Conference on March 22-24, 1991 in Toronto. Lou Galambos is the program organizer.

I would like to thank the College of William & Mary for its continuing support of the BHC and the journal. I benefited greatly from the editorial assistance of Martha King and thank her sincerely. This was a year of transition in secretarial staff. I would like to thank Mary Ferraro for stepping into a difficult situation. About a dozen manuscripts were waiting for her attention on her first day on the job. She has demonstrated great skill and patience over the past few months. Betty Jo Drake also performed admirably with her quiet competence and good grace. Finally, I again thank Karen Dolan, who volunteered her help while on leave looking after her new daughter Laura. I also wish her well in her new position as administrative assistant in the public policy program.

Articles appearing in *Business and Economic History* are abstracted and indexed in the *Index of Economic Articles*, *Historical Abstracts*, *America: History and Life*, and the *Index to Social Sciences & Humanities Proceedings*, as well as being included in the online Economic Literature Index.

Will Hausman
July 1990

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