

# ESSAYS IN ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS HISTORY

*The Journal of the Economic and Business Historical Society*

VOLUME XX, 2002

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Published by the EBHS and the Department of History,  
The University of Mississippi

ISSN: 0896-226X

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 79-91616

HC12.E27

Cover Design by James Ronald Bartlett

Printed in the U.S.A. by Sheridan Books Inc., Chelsea, Michigan

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## *Preface*

The articles and abstracts published in this volume of *Essays in Economic and Business History* were initially presented at the Society's annual conference in April, 2001 at Albany, New York, ably directed by Professor Laurence Malone, who also handled the local arrangements. Authors were given the opportunity to submit their papers for review and possible publication. A rigorous review process was followed in which each paper submitted was examined by two separate reviewers and then by the editor. If the reviews were favorable, authors were given an opportunity to address the comments and suggestions offered by the reviewers and the editor. Of the papers submitted, 14 articles from the Albany conference were accepted for publication. Due to financial and space constraints, not all papers given in Albany could be published. Instead, authors were given an opportunity to submit a one-page abstract for inclusion in the journal. One author accepted the invitation and the abstract is printed in this issue.

A number of individuals assisted the editor immeasurably in putting this current issue of the journal together. Special thanks are publicly expressed to the reviewers who gave of their time and talents in reviewing the articles sent to them. Since I told the reviewers initially that I would maintain confidentiality throughout the process, I feel duty-bound to do so now as well. Still, my gratitude is given to those who helped so much. My thanks also to my Associate Editors, Thomas Winpenny and Dick Keehn for helping me throughout the publication process.

A special thank you is given to the board of trustees who continue to support me as editor; to Laurence Malone who chairs the board and who is the foundation upon which EBHS is resting and relies; and to Gene Smiley who generously pays the bills and often boosts my spirits with his hearty laughter.

At the University of Mississippi, special appreciation is expressed to the Department of History for its financial and secretarial support, especially Robert Haws (Chairman, Department of History) and to Michael Upton, Matt Johnson, Ben Wynne, Michelle Palmertree, and Bette Harness for their proofing articles, e-mailing to everyone and every place, and typically bailing me out of a tight deadline.

Sheridan Books has been good to me as well, especially Jean Schroeder who always is cheerful and friendly when I call about some particularly vexing problem. And, finally, I want to thank the individual who is my Production Editor and who patiently and happily works side by side with me every step of the way in producing the 2002 edition of the journal. Without him, I simply could not have completed the task. He is a genius, a man of indomitable energy and compassion, and, most of all, a good friend — Professor Ronald Bartlett.

In closing, it is with great sadness that I report the death of Professor Charles Kennedy, the founding father of EBHS. As one of his former students and a friend, Phil Smith has written a most insightful and personal obituary for the journal.

Michael V. Namorato  
Editor  
University of Mississippi

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