
must have been effected by some other means. That Charles was not estranged from his brother's family is indicated by the gift of 50 pounds sterling which he sent to Bertram's guardian upon the death of Augustus and continued to send annually for the short duration of his life."¹²

When Augustus died in 1866, he was buried in Graceland cemetery in Chicago in a grave which still remains unmarked. His author-brother, who died in 1870, lies in Westminster Abbey.

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The Society Presents a Casebook in Business History

In January the members of the Business Historical Society will receive the *Casebook in American Business History*, written by N. S. B. Gras and Henrietta M. Larson and published by F. S. Crofts & Company, of New York. This book is presented to the members of the Society by a generous friend of business education.

The *Casebook* is the first work to present case material for use in the relatively new field of business history. It is in a sense a companion volume to *Business and Capitalism*, by Professor Gras, which was distributed to members in the present year. While the first volume is genetic in its approach and was designed to show the general development of business history, the newer volume is concerned chiefly with American experience and is devoted very largely to studies of individual firms and business men.

The *Casebook* begins with Sir Thomas Smythe, a merchant of London and the first business man to have a profound effect on what is now the United States. From Smythe's Virginia Company (which failed as a business enterprise but succeeded as the

¹²Rev. Bertram Dickens, *loc. cit.*

founder of the first permanent English colony in America) the book carries the story of American development down through the work of John Hancock, John Jacob Astor, Jay Cooke & Company, the Massachusetts-First National Bank of Boston, the Dennison Manufacturing Company, the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railway Company, J. Pierpont Morgan, Elbert Gary and the United States Steel Corporation, and other men and enterprises. For background or comparison a few European studies are also included, notably John Law (financier and speculator), Boulton & Watt, and Josiah Wedgwood & Sons, Ltd. The book contains studies of over thirty individuals or firms from the various periods in business history.

While emphasis is on the individual unit, there is recognition of the fact that business men must operate within the setting in which they live. Systems of thought, forms of government, and general business conditions are among the important larger influences which bear upon the work of the individual business man. One case, "Early Economic Systems, Especially Mercantilism," is concerned with the thought and institutions within which business operated for a long time in the past, while "Recent Economic Systems" deals with developments in our time. Four cases on business trends give a brief survey of important factors influencing American business in the past and tentatively set forth a long-time pattern of business behavior that is significant.

The Collection of Business Records at the University of Illinois

The organized collection of business records at the University of Illinois was begun in November, 1936, when Dean C. M. Thompson and a colleague approached several business houses in the southern part of the State. In the short space of three years over thirty-five hundred firms have been contacted either personally or by mail, and hundreds of thousands of items have been collected.