

December 29, 1925

J. B. Shea, Esq.  
Joseph Horne Co.  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Shea:

Your letter of December 24 convinces me that you are going to become one of the active members, in addition to your having now joined as one of the Founders of the Corporation of The Business Historical Society, Inc.! Here are my reasons:

You are entirely right as to the number of societies in this country, but research has shown that historical societies differ from all others. One might almost consider them as a current manifestation of the tribal desire in the days before the most primitive form of writing had been discovered, to preserve records and traditions, in order to maintain the standards of the tribe. Furthermore, historical societies are a union of men with the instinct for collecting and preserving or else who manifest a recognition of the still persisting need to maintain records and traditions in order to preserve standards.

The nation, rather than business itself, particularly needs this today in regard to business. For years I have been convinced of the serious menace to the future of our country and, indeed, of the civilization now represented all over the world, in the increasing tendency to regard business as some-