

Editor's Introduction

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The inaugural issue of *Enterprise & Society* focused on a single industry and the way certain production techniques were adopted, and then adapted with differing degrees of success, in several industrialized countries around the world. This issue is more eclectic, although it contains a pair of articles, by Francesca Fauri and Francesca Carnevali, that contribute to the debate surrounding the Italian postwar “economic miracle.” Steve Tolliday offers an introduction to these two papers, placing them in the context of the historical debate. The third paper, by Timothy Wolters, considers the early history of the credit card at two of America’s premier banks, drawing on a substantial amount of archival material to make the point that the banks took very different approaches to this new method of paying and borrowing. Todd Postol’s paper lies on the border of labor and managerial history. It examines the transition in the newspaper industry, during the Great Depression of the 1930s, from use of newsboys to newspaper carriers, with an emphasis on the relationship between the boys and their bosses, the circulation managers. The paper by

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Howell Harris provides a lively account of an important but relatively neglected U.S. industry, placing the structure of the industry in a broad context and exploring the reasons for both continuity and change.