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President's Message: AWSCPA

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AWSCPA

Ruth A. Clark, newly-elected president of the American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants, brings to the office considerable executive experience in business as well as a long record of service to the society and to the Los Angeles chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants.

As a director of AWSCPA and its vice-president for two years, and in the arduous duties of the chairmanship of the award committee, she has rendered valuable service and obtained wide knowledge of the activities of both societies. Her unstinted devotion to the interests of the Los Angeles chapter and especially her record as its president endeared her to all who are privileged to know her.

Readers of The Woman C.P.A. will remember her for articles contributed on various occasions.

She attended Indiana State Teachers College and is a member of the Hollywood Business and Professional Women's Club, which she has served as treasurer and director.

Her CPA certificate was obtained in 1936. In addition to AWSCPA and ASWA, she belongs to the California Society of CPAs and has been active in its work, and is a member of the American Institute of Accountants.

She is also chairman of the auditing committee of the California Van & Storage Association and was last year chairman of a similar committee of the Los Angeles chapter of the California Society of CPAs.

She has for some time filled the post of treasurer of Lyon Van & Storage Company.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The accounting profession continues to maintain the great strides of development experienced during war production years and is an essential, vital, and accepted part of American business today. Women have found much satisfaction in accounting where a logical and keen attention to detail (a woman's virtue) is a paramount requisite. The gratifying fact that more and more women are entering the profession leads us to feel that the efforts of AWSCPA to stimulate professional interest are successful.

When AWSCPA was organized in 1933, there were approximately 116 women CPA's in the United States. With the growth of and interest in the profession, the number of women CPA's has increased to four times that number, or to about 460. This means that CPA certificates were issued to sixty women in the past year alone. These reinforcements to our ranks give us added strength to maintain the high standards of the public accounting profession, and renewed spirit to strive for greater goals.

Some of the accomplishments of AWSCPA are set forth briefly: (1) organization of the American Society of Women Accountants in 1938 to provide a different classification of membership for women in various phases of accounting, which society now has 15 chapters in the larger cities; (2) publication and editing of *The Woman C.P.A.*; (3) establishment of the AWSCPA Award in 1945; and (4) formation of a national office in New York in 1947. All of the aforementioned were mediums to interest women in accounting and to aid women in higher attainments.

We have been fortunate that the past has given us able and willing officers who have carried out the program of the society and spurred us to broader horizons by their examples and energies. There is still much to accomplish. Women continue to need help and inspiration to carry on professionally. We can each contribute our share in this work by giving some part of those qualifications which are ours alone by virtue of our natural endowments and training. We must take pride in the attainment of our certificates, and maintain a professional interest in other women CPA's. We must extend our encouragement among women accountants and accounting students so they will attain professional status.

As your president for the 1948-49 year, I consider it a privilege to serve the society, and thank you for the honor bestowed upon me, fully realizing the trust it entails. With the continued loyalty and cooperation of my co-officers, the membership, and the general public, I hope for further progress and achievement in the coming year in those ideals and purposes which are the American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants.