

# History of the Journal of Economics and Statistics

## **1863-1877 Bruno Hildebrand:**

The “Journal of Economics and Statistics” was established by the end of 1862 by Bruno Hildebrand, one of the main representatives of the older school of historically oriented German economics. Regarding its contents the Journal has, during Hildebrand’s editorship, been defined by the scientific views of its founder more than has been the case with his successors.

## **1878-1915: Johannes Conrad**

Johannes Conrad conveyed the Journal beyond its close association with its editor’s scientific views. According to his understanding the Journal should not pursue a certain school of thought. Conrad viewed its function as a medium in an exchange relationship between science and economic reality, namely economic policy. He saw his role as editor in terms of initiating this exchange process in the Journal and in finding an appropriate format to serve this purpose. He extended the readership of the Journal from a group of experts to a broader group including public administration, economic and social organisations, and the (economically) interested reader in general. This newly defined purpose explains the adjustments in form and content.

## **1915-1933: Ludwig Elster**

Ludwig Elster had, before taking over as editor after Conrad’s death, already been engaged with the Journal several times. Formerly Bruno Hildebrand had introduced him to the editorial field and Elster as well involved him in the editing of the Journal. Besides reference from co-editorship early on, it was undoubtedly again the high prestige and broad scope of view emanating from this position that encouraged the publisher to consider him for the continuation of the Journal.

## **1934-1942: Otto von Zwiedineck-Südenhorst and Gerhard Albrecht**

The newly ruling powers made the continuation of the Journal dependent on changes at the editorial position. Ultimately the publishing company approached Gerhard Albrecht who had long been in close relationship with Elster and the Journal. Otto Zwiedineck Edler von Südenhorst was also addressed, by then long time Director of the Seminar for Statistics and Insurance Science at the University of Munich and as a scientist well suited for the editorial post. The editors maintained the Journal as a sincere organ of scientific integrity, led by the decisive will not to commit the least of concessions to the increasingly perspicuous demand on scientific publishing as regards the alignment with the political disposition of its time. This was not to work out over time. In order to prevent the Journal from pre-censorship Albrecht and von Zwiedineck resigned by the end of 1942 from the editorial posts.

## **1943-1967/68: Friedrich Lütge and Erich Preiser**

The negotiations concerning the permission to continue issuing the Journal were carried on by Friedrich Lütge. While Lütges association with the publishing company as well as the journal were close and manifold, an equally inducing reason regarding Erich Preiser’s appointment to the Journal’s editorial board is not found. Lütge’s endeavours in Berlin were rewarded: The Journal was to be continued (with editors not dictated by party interests over those of the publishing

house) – for a short period anyway. In each of the years 1943 and 1944 two issues were released, thereafter the Journal was banned.

Publishing of the Journal resumed in the year 1949 under circumstances altered in many respects. The management of the parent publishing house in Jena (Saxony) had established as subsidy the Piscator Press, which published the Journal. Following the expropriation of the Jena publishing house and relocation of the owners to Stuttgart, the Piscator subsidy was closed and from 1953 on the Journal was published by the Gustav Fischer Press in Stuttgart. Erich Preiser died in 1967; nine months later in May 1968, Lütge, suffering from ill health, announced his leave from the Journal.

**1968-1982: Knut Borchardt, Alfred E. Ott and Heinrich Strecker**

The new editors were well chosen: Knut Borchardt was Lütge's student, Alfred E. Ott a student of Preiser, and with Heinrich Strecker – a student of Oscar Anderson sen. – a statistician entered the board of editors. Given this board, continuity and amplification were to be expected.

**1983-1994: Alfred E. Ott, Heinrich Strecker, Heinz Lampert, Alois Oberhauser and Adolf Wagner**

At the end of 1982 Knut Borchardt vacated his editorial post. Professors Heinz Lampert, Alois Oberhauser and Adolf Wagner took his place. A profound alteration to the editorial structure was encountered with the death of Alfred E. Ott in the year 1994.

**1995-2000: Adolf Wagner, Heinrich Strecker, Wolfgang Franz, Gerhard Kleinhenz, Heinz Lampert, Werner Neubauer, Alois Oberhauser, Peter Stahlecker and Dietmar Wellisch**

The management responsibilities previously assumed by Alfred E. Ott have since 1995 been pursued by Adolf Wagner. Concurrent with adjustments to the task structure – in accordance with the publishing house Lucius & Lucius – the editorial board was extended. At first Wolfgang Franz, Gerhard Kleinhenz, Werner Neubauer and (transitionally) Wolfgang Eichhorn were co-opted. From 1999 Peter Stahlecker and Dietmar Wellisch joined.

**2000-2004: Adolf Wagner, Heinrich Strecker, Wolfgang Franz, Gerhard Kleinhenz, Heinz Lampert, Werner Neubauer, Peter Stahlecker and Dietmar Wellisch**

**2005-to date: Wolfgang Franz, Gerhard Kleinhenz, Werner Smolny, Peter Stahlecker, Joachim Wagner, Dietmar Wellisch, Peter Winker**

All editors feel obliged by the tradition of the “Journal for Economics and Statistics“ to keep it open for critical, innovative and potential-bearing contributions. Neither thematically nor methodically are the editions to be constrained by respective paradigmatic schools of thought.