

## The Glossary of Mediaeval Business Terms

ABOUT two years ago work on the preparation of a glossary of mediaeval Italian terms of business was begun by Dr. Florence Edler under the auspices of the Mediaeval Academy of America and the direction of Professor N. S. B. Gras. This Italian glossary is to be the first of a series of glossaries of business terms in the principal mediaeval languages, sponsored by the Mediaeval Academy. These glossaries will serve as indispensable tools for the scholars who study European business records of the twelfth to the seventeenth centuries.

The Mediaeval Academy has recently issued selections from Part I of the Italian Series. There are about three hundred entries. The terms are translated and citations illustrating their use are given. Part I consists of terms of accounting, banking and exchange, trading, transportation and warehousing, duties and tolls, merchants and business auxiliaries, etc. The selections are being sent to scholars for criticism and suggestions. Later all of Part I will be printed.

Several of the sources used for this work are among the valuable possessions of the Business Historical Society — rare books, such as Pacioli's treatise on double-entry bookkeeping and Chiarini's handbook for merchants. The Selfridge collection of Medici documents has proved to be very valuable, and along with the Barbarini papers promises to be even more valuable for other parts of the glossary.

## American Economic Association and the Business Historical Society

FOR the first time, the American Economic Association, in its recent annual meeting, held in Washington, included on its program a joint session with members of the Business Historical Society. Professor E. L. Bogart of the University of Illinois was chairman of the session, which took the form of a round table conference on the subject, "Private Enterprise in Economic History." Three of the six speakers at the conference were members of the Business Historical Society.

The first speaker on the program, Professor N. S. B. Gras of the