

Actions and Reactions: An Autobiography of Roger W. Babson

By Roger W. Babson

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Second Edition

<http://babsc.iii.com/record=b1089733~S0>

In the revised autobiography, Babson omits several passages that were in the original work. He describes his childhood in Gloucester, MA, his college years at M.I.T. (where he studied railroad engineering) and the early formations of his career in the business world.

Babson's bout with tuberculosis is discussed, as are his methods to a healthy life, his campaign for the Presidency, and his travels around the globe. Babson also explains his reasoning behind the foundation of Babson College, one of his three educational legacies. His religious involvement is described, and the lessons he learned revealed toward the end of the book. Over the course of his life, Babson's religious faith grew to take an even greater precedence in his days.

He also continued to make business ventures, and his statistical organization flourished. Babson persevered through national crises such as the Great Depression and wartime difficulties. He went on to found the Gravity Research Center toward the end of his life, as he had always been intrigued with Sir Isaac Newton's discoveries and was inspired by the idea that the power of gravity might someday be harnessed and used as an energy source (through the invention of a highly efficient, self-perpetuating machine).

Babson presents these and many other times in his life in his revised autobiography, where minor changes are made and parts omitted from the original. Babson's anecdotes and reminiscences may give the reader a better sense of the author's views about social involvement, political movements and the church. The book often reads more like an instructive "guide to better living" than a narrative of one man's life.

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