

12-1932

## American Institute of Accountants Examinations, November 1933

American Institute of Accountants. Board of Examiners

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# AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATIONS

[Following is the text of the examinations in auditing, law and accounting presented by the board of examiners of the American Institute of Accountants, November 17 and 18, 1932.]

## Examination in Auditing

NOVEMBER 17, 1932, 9 A. M. TO 12:30 P. M.

*Answer all the following questions:*

No. 1 (10 points):

Auditing a corporation in the state of X for the calendar year 1931, you find on its profit-and-loss statement "Taxes paid, \$4,200." The ledger account shows the following items:

|         |   |         |          |
|---------|---|---------|----------|
| "Feb. 1 | State real-estate tax— $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1930..... | \$1,200 |          |
| May 1   | " " " " $\frac{1}{2}$ " 1931.....                 | 1,200   |          |
| Nov. 1  | " " " " $\frac{1}{2}$ " 1931.....                 | 1,800   |          |
| Dec. 31 | Contra to profit & loss.....                      |         | \$4,200" |

Supporting tax bills show that the assessments cover periods for one year from July 1st, agreeing with the state's fiscal year, the taxes being due and payable in two instalments, November 1st and May 1st.

You also discover an unrecorded unpaid bill for a state franchise tax of \$3,000, due and payable November 1, 1931, for one year in advance.

Give your analysis of the items, and state how they should be treated.

No. 2 (10 points):

A bank engages you to audit the accounts of the Smith Manufacturing Company, which is seeking a loan. You find that the company is not incorporated and that A. B. Smith is the sole owner of the business.

How far will you go in determining and setting out in your report the personal assets and liabilities of Mr. Smith? State your procedure.

No. 3 (10 points):

State the method of verifying the following accounts in the audit of a stock-brokerage firm.

- (a) Customers' accounts (cash balance and securities).
- (b) Failed to deliver.
- (c) Failed to receive.

No. 4 (10 points):

In 1925 your client, a corporation, issued 100,000 shares of cumulative preferred stock. In 1927 it repurchased 20,000 of these shares and held them as treasury stock until 1932 when it sold them at cost. Dividends for 1930 and 1931 on the preferred stock were suspended, but were declared in 1932 together with the dividend for that year.

You find that the dividends on the 20,000 shares of treasury stock for 1928 and 1929 were entered on the books as income to the corporation, as were also the suspended dividends when declared in 1932, the purchasers of record of these shares receiving only the dividend for 1932.

How will you deal with this matter? Give your reasons.

No. 5 (10 points):

(a) Define "trade acceptance." (b) What is its distinguishing characteristic? (c) As compared with customary trade methods of book accounts what are its advantages and disadvantages (1) to the parties thereto, (2) to the auditor, and (3) to business in general?

No. 6 (10 points):

The A. B. Corporation lends money to its customers, taking their notes secured by warehouse receipts for merchandise in storage. All these notes, together with the warehouse receipts, are pledged by the corporation to secure bank loans.

What steps should the auditor take to verify the notes receivable at the date of his balance-sheet?

No. 7 (10 points):

You are invited to address a regional bankers' convention on the subject of internal check in handling loans and discounts. Give an outline of what you would suggest.

No. 8 (10 points):

In conducting an audit of a wholesale company, you note the following accounts on the general ledger:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Cash discounts lost (debit balance) . . . . .       | \$1,432.73 |
| Cash discounts not taken (credit balance) . . . . . | 5,733.40   |

What, in your opinion, is the meaning of these accounts, and how will you dispose of them in preparing the income statement of the business?

Submit pro-forma journal entries illustrating a purchase and a sale under the procedure obviously followed by the company.

No. 9 (10 points):

State three methods of treating cash discounts on sales in the income statement and discuss the reasons for each.

No. 10 (10 points):

In making an audit of a recently organized utility corporation, you find an entry on the books, supported by resolution of the board of directors, as follows:

|   |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|
| “Franchises, Dr.....  | \$50,000 |          |
| To Surplus.....   |          | \$50,000 |
| To set up expenditures by incorporators prior to date of incorporation in connection with securing franchises.” |          |          |

State what you would do and your reasons therefor.

### **Examination in Accounting Theory and Practice**

#### PART I

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NOVEMBER 17, 1932, 1:30 P. M. TO 6:30 P. M.

*The candidate must answer questions 1 and 2, 3 or 4 and 5 or 6.*

No. 1 (30 points):

You are called upon by the president of a corporation to restate the operating accounts of the company. The chief accountant has recently remodelled the general ledger, introducing accounts for cost of sales, work in progress and other accounts appertaining to the operations. These accounts are maintained in the general ledger, no separate factory ledger having been opened.

At the end of the first month under the new system, the chief accountant has submitted to the president a statement of operations showing:

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Net sales.....        | \$75,000        |
| Cost of sales.....    | 43,700          |
| Operating profit..... | <u>\$31,300</u> |

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The president has then asked that figures be submitted showing inventories at the beginning, purchases, payrolls, etc., but the chief accountant has met with a serious accident and no one else in the office has been able to furnish the desired information. You are requested to do this.

Show how you would obtain the desired information and state what suggestions you would offer in order that cost of sales could readily be analyzed in the future.

The operating accounts and journal entries are as follows:

**LEDGER**

| Raw materials                       |                              | Stores                         |                             |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Inventory . . . . . \$30,000        | Issues . . . . . \$25,500    | Inventory . . . . . \$10,000   | Issues . . . . . \$15,150   |
| Voucher record . . . . . 20,000     |                              | Voucher record . . . . . 7,500 |                             |
| Work in progress                    |                              | Pattern shop overhead          |                             |
| Inventory . . . . . \$20,000        | Cost of sales . . . \$43,700 | Stores . . . . . \$ 1,150      | Work in prog-               |
| Raw materials . . . . . 24,000      | Power house . . . . . 320    | Voucher record . . . . . 50    | ress . . . . . \$ 500       |
| Stores . . . . . 10,000             | Plant account . . . 1,500    | Labor . . . . . 75             | General plant               |
| Voucher record . . . . . 1,500      |                              | Power . . . . . 240            | expense . . . . . 150       |
| Labor . . . . . 5,150               |                              | Depreciation . . . . . 100     |                             |
| Overhead . . . . . 6,870            |                              | Insurance . . . . . 50         |                             |
|                                     |                              | Taxes . . . . . 30             |                             |
| Foundry overhead                    |                              | Machine shop overhead          |                             |
| Stores . . . . . \$ 900             | Work in prog-                | Stores . . . . . \$ 1,500      | Work in prog-               |
| Voucher record . . . . . 125        | ress . . . . . \$ 1,950      | Voucher record . . . . . 350   | ress . . . . . \$ 3,250     |
| Labor . . . . . 125                 |                              | Labor . . . . . 275            |                             |
| Power . . . . . 400                 |                              | Power . . . . . 800            |                             |
| Depreciation . . . . . 300          |                              | Depreciation . . . . . 480     |                             |
| Insurance . . . . . 125             |                              | Insurance . . . . . 200        |                             |
| Taxes . . . . . 75                  |                              | Taxes . . . . . 75             |                             |
| General plant expense               |                              | Power house                    |                             |
| Raw materials . . . \$ 1,000        | Work in prog-                | Raw materials—                 | Pattern shop . . . \$ 240   |
| Stores . . . . . 1,300              | ress . . . . . \$ 1,170      | Coal, etc. . . . . \$ 500      | Foundry . . . . . 400       |
| Voucher record . . . . . 275        |                              | Stores . . . . . 150           | Machine shop . . . 800      |
| Labor . . . . . 225                 |                              | Labor . . . . . 350            | General offices . . 160     |
| Pattern shop overhead . . . . . 150 |                              | Depreciation . . . . . 140     |                             |
| Depreciation . . . . . 80           |                              | Insurance . . . . . 100        |                             |
| Insurance . . . . . 25              |                              | Taxes . . . . . 40             |                             |
| Taxes . . . . . 20                  |                              | Work in progress . . . 320     |                             |
| Labor—Pattern shop                  |                              | Labor—Foundry                  |                             |
| Voucher record . . . \$ 650         | Sundries . . . . . \$ 650    | Voucher record . . . \$ 1,950  | Sundries . . . . . \$ 1,950 |
| Labor—Machine shop                  |                              |                                |                             |
| Voucher record . . . \$3,250        | Sundries . . . . . \$3,250   |                                |                             |

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JOURNAL ENTRIES

|   |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|
| 1                                       |          |          |
| Work in progress . . . . .              | \$24,000 |          |
| Power house . . . . .                   | 500      |          |
| General plant expense . . . . .         | 1,000    |          |
| Raw materials . . . . .                 |          | \$25,500 |
| Summary of materials used during month. |          |          |

|  |        |        |
|--|--------|--------|
| 2  |        |        |
| Work in progress . . . . .               | 10,000 |        |
| Pattern-shop overhead . . . . .          | 1,150  |        |
| Foundry " . . . . .                      | 900    |        |
| Machine-shop " . . . . .                 | 1,500  |        |
| Power house . . . . .                    | 150    |        |
| General plant expense . . . . .          | 1,300  |        |
| Employees' accounts receivable . . . . . | 150    |        |
| Stores . . . . .                         |        | 15,150 |
| Summary of requisitions for the month.   |        |        |

|  |        |          |
|--|--------|----------|
| 3  |        |          |
| Plant and equipment . . . . .            | 5,000  |          |
| Work in progress . . . . .               | 1,500  |          |
| Raw materials . . . . .                  | 20,000 |          |
| Stores . . . . .                         | 7,500  |          |
| Employees' accounts receivable . . . . . | 150    |          |
| Advertising . . . . .                    | 700    |          |
| Prepaid insurance . . . . .              | 1,250  |          |
| Pattern-shop overhead . . . . .          | 50     |          |
| Foundry " . . . . .                      | 125    |          |
| Machine-shop " . . . . .                 | 350    |          |
| General plant expense . . . . .          | 275    |          |
| Salaries . . . . .                       | 5,000  |          |
| Labor—Pattern shop . . . . .             | 650    |          |
| " —Foundry . . . . .                     | 1,950  |          |
| " —Machine shop . . . . .                | 3,250  |          |
| " —Power house . . . . .                 | 350    |          |
| Traveling expense . . . . .              | 350    |          |
| General expense . . . . .                | 650    |          |
| Accounts payable . . . . .               |        | \$49,100 |
| Summary of voucher record for the month. |        |          |

|                                 |       |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|
| 4                               |       |       |
| Work in progress . . . . .      | 5,150 |       |
| Pattern-shop overhead . . . . . | 75    |       |
| Foundry " . . . . .             | 125   |       |
| Machine-shop " . . . . .        | 275   |       |
| General plant expense . . . . . | 225   |       |
| Power house . . . . .           | 350   |       |
| Labor—Pattern shop . . . . .    |       | 650   |
| " —Foundry . . . . .            |       | 1,950 |
| " —Machine shop . . . . .       |       | 3,250 |
| " —Power house . . . . .        |       | 350   |
| Distribution of payrolls.       |       |       |

|                                 |       |  |
|---------------------------------|-------|--|
| 5                               |       |  |
| Work in progress . . . . .      | 6,870 |  |
| General plant expense . . . . . | 150   |  |

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|   |  |        |
|---|--|--------|
| Pattern-shop overhead.....              |  | \$ 650 |
| Foundry ".....                          |  | 1,950  |
| Machine-shop ".....                     |  | 3,250  |
| General plant expense.....              |  | 1,170  |
| Distribution of overhead for the month. |  |        |

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|                                 |        |          |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Plant and equipment.....        |        | \$ 1,500 |
| Power house.....                |        | 320      |
| Cost of sales.....              | 43,700 |          |
| Work in progress.....           |        | 45,520   |
| Cost of shipments during month. |        |          |

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|  |  |       |
|--|--|-------|
| Power house.....                             |  | 280   |
| Pattern-shop overhead.....                   |  | 180   |
| Foundry ".....                               |  | 500   |
| Machine-shop ".....                          |  | 755   |
| General plant expense.....                   |  | 125   |
| Prepaid insurance.....                       |  | 500   |
| Reserve for depreciation.....                |  | 1,100 |
| Accrued taxes (property).....                |  | 240   |
| For proportions applicable to factory, viz.: |  |       |

|               | Depreciation | Insurance | Taxes | Total   |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|-------|---------|
| Power house   | \$ 140       | \$100     | \$ 40 | \$ 280  |
| Pattern shop  | 100          | 50        | 30    | 180     |
| Foundry . . . | 300          | 125       | 75    | 500     |
| Machine-shop  | 480          | 200       | 75    | 755     |
| General plant | 80           | 25        | 20    | 125     |
|               | \$1,100      | \$500     | \$240 | \$1,840 |

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|                                     |  |        |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------|
| Pattern-shop overhead.....          |  | \$ 240 |
| Foundry ".....                      |  | 400    |
| Machine-shop ".....                 |  | 800    |
| General office.....                 |  | 160    |
| Power house.....                    |  | 1,600  |
| Distribution of overhead for month. |  |        |

No. 2 (30 points):

You are engaged by a certain professional association, founded January 1, 1929, to audit the books of account and records for the period of one year and six months ended June 30, 1931. The purpose of this organization is to promote the welfare of the profession. To this end it engages in various activities, principally the publication of monthly bulletins containing data of interest to its members. These bulletins are printed by outside printers and are mailed each month to the membership. At the end of the year, additional bound volumes of the twelve issues are available to the members for \$8.60 a volume. Extra copies of the monthly bulletin are sold at 50 cents each.

The membership dues are \$10 per annum, payable in advance,

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and it is customary to charge the members with the full year's dues on January 1st. All dues for 1931 are paid.

A trial balance of the books as at June 30, 1931, before audit adjustments, was as follows:

|   |                 |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Cash in bank . . . . .                                | \$ 5,300        |                 |
| Accounts receivable—members . . . . .                 | 11,250          |                 |
| "    "    —advertising . . . . .                      | 625             |                 |
| Inventory of publications—December 31, 1930 . . . . . | 20,800          |                 |
| Accrued interest receivable . . . . .                 | 200             |                 |
| Stocks and bonds . . . . .                            | 15,000          |                 |
| Furniture and fixtures . . . . .                      | 5,400           |                 |
| Prepaid insurance . . . . .                           | 70              |                 |
| Accounts payable . . . . .                            |                 | \$ 2,700        |
| Reserve for depreciation . . . . .                    |                 | 1,250           |
| Surplus . . . . .                                     |                 | 37,748          |
| Membership dues—1931 . . . . .                        |                 | 32,500          |
| "    "    —1932 . . . . .                             |                 | 1,500           |
| Sales of bulletins . . . . .                          |                 | 4,442           |
| "    "    advertising matter . . . . .                |                 | 3,250           |
| Interest on investments . . . . .                     |                 | 300             |
| Salaries . . . . .                                    | 10,000          |                 |
| Printing bulletins . . . . .                          | 11,420          |                 |
| Office expense . . . . .                              | 2,455           |                 |
| Depreciation . . . . .                                | 270             |                 |
| Binding . . . . .                                     | 900             |                 |
|   | <u>\$83,690</u> | <u>\$83,690</u> |

The profit-and-loss account for the year ended December 31, 1930, as disclosed by items in the surplus account on the books, was as follows:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
|  | 1930            |
| Membership dues—1930 . . . . .         | \$38,000        |
| "    "    —1931 . . . . .              | 400             |
| Sales of bulletins . . . . .           | 9,840           |
| "    "    advertising matter . . . . . | 4,450           |
| Interest on investments . . . . .      | 700             |
| Total . . . . .                        | <u>\$53,390</u> |
| Opening inventory . . . . .            | 17,600          |
| Binding bulletins . . . . .            | 900             |
| Printing bulletins . . . . .           | 22,940          |
| Total . . . . .                        | <u>\$41,440</u> |
| Closing inventory . . . . .            | 20,800          |
| Remainder . . . . .                    | <u>\$20,640</u> |
| Salaries . . . . .                     | 17,700          |
| Office expense . . . . .               | 2,600           |
| Depreciation . . . . .                 | 525             |
| Total . . . . .                        | <u>\$41,465</u> |
| Net profit to surplus . . . . .        | <u>\$11,925</u> |



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Inventories of publications (by quantities) on hand, at closing dates, were as follows:

|                    | Bound<br>sets | Unbound<br>sets | Single<br>bulletins |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| June 30, 1931:     |               |                 |                     |
| 1931.....          |               |                 | 11,000              |
| 1930.....          | 250           | 700             | 1,500               |
| 1929.....          | 1,380         | 1,100           | 3,500               |
| December 31, 1930: |               |                 |                     |
| 1930.....          | 300           | 700             | 2,000               |
| 1929.....          | 1,500         | 1,100           | 3,700               |
| December 31, 1929: |               |                 |                     |
| 1929.....          | 1,900         | 1,100           | 4,100               |

The cost of printing is 30 cents a bulletin, and the cost of binding \$3 a volume. During the period under review, 6,000 copies of each month's bulletin were printed.

The liabilities as at June 30, 1931, are all shown on the books.

It is agreed that the bound and unbound bulletins for the year 1929 are to be written down to one half on December 31, 1930; and on June 30, 1931, to one quarter of their cost. The bulletins for 1930 are to be written down to three quarters of their cost on June 30, 1931.

You are required to prepare the following statements:

- (a) Balance-sheet as at June 30, 1931.
- (b) Income statements for the year 1930 and for the six months ended June 30, 1931.
- (c) Statement showing opening and closing inventories, purchases, distribution and sales of bulletins for each period. Show quantities and amounts.

Submit your working papers.

No. 3 (25 points):

The X Y Z Syndicate was formed April 1, 1928, and purchased a parcel of vacant city land for the sum of \$215,500, the purchase being financed by (a) funds invested by the participants, (b) proceeds of a second mortgage on the property and (c) purchase-money mortgage issued to the vendor.

The syndicate agreement provided that a trustee should hold title to the property, that each of the three participants would be the equitable owner of a one-third interest, that capital should be contributed to the venture in proportion to the respective interests and that interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum should be allowed on capital.

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Declining real-estate values rendered it impossible to sell the property.

No books were kept, but cheque stubs of the syndicate's bank account revealed the following:

|           |   |          |
|-----------|---|----------|
| Deposits: |   |          |
| 1928      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Received from X.....                          | \$34,000 |
|           | "    "    Y.....                              | 21,000   |
|           | "    "    Z.....                              | 20,000   |
| Oct. 1    | "    "    X.....                              | 5,000    |
| 1929      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Bank loan—3 months—guaranteed by X.....       | 50,000   |
|           | Received from X.....                          | 4,000    |
|           | "    "    Y.....                              | 2,000    |
|           | "    "    Z.....                              | 2,500    |
| May 1     | Sign-board rentals for one year.....          | 7,500    |
| 1930      |   |          |
| May 1     | Received from X.....                          | 5,000    |
|           | Sign-board rentals for one year.....          | 7,500    |
| 1931      |   |          |
| May 1     | Received from Y.....                          | 2,500    |
|           | "    "    Z.....                              | 2,500    |
| 1932      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Received from X.....                          | 2,000    |
|           | "    "    Y.....                              | 2,000    |
|           | "    "    Z.....                              | 2,000    |
| Payments  |   |          |
| 1928      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Account of purchase price.....                | 70,000   |
| 30        | Taxes.....                                    | 2,995    |
| May 10    | Legal fees.....                               | 1,000    |
| Oct. 1    | Interest on purchase-money mortgage (6%)..... | 3,000    |
|           | "    "    second mortgage (6%).....           | 1,500    |
| 1929      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Interest on purchase-money mortgage.....      | 3,000    |
|           | "    "    second mortgage.....                | 1,500    |
|           | Second mortgage paid.....                     | 50,000   |
|           | Discount on bank loan.....                    | 750      |
| 30        | Taxes.....                                    | 3,434    |
| July 1    | Discount on loan renewed.....                 | 750      |
| Oct. 1    | "    "    "    ".....                         | 750      |
|           | Interest on purchase-money mortgage.....      | 3,000    |
| 1930      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Interest on purchase-money mortgage.....      | 3,000    |
| 30        | Taxes.....                                    | 4,225    |
| Oct. 1    | Interest on purchase-money mortgage.....      | 3,000    |
| 1931      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Interest on purchase-money mortgage.....      | 3,000    |
| 30        | Taxes.....                                    | 4,150    |
| Oct. 1    | Interest on purchase-money mortgage.....      | 3,000    |
| 1932      |   |          |
| Apr. 1    | Interest on purchase-money mortgage.....      | 3,000    |
| 30        | Taxes.....                                    | 3,874    |

Prepare such statements as you would submit to the participants in this venture, as of June 30, 1932.

No. 4 (25 points):

Henry White, a partner in the investment-banking firm of Black & White, died on December 31, 1931.

The assets and liabilities of the firm, at that date, were as follows:

|   |    |                       |                       |
|---|----|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Cash in bank.....   | \$ | 11,526.90             |                       |
| Life-insurance funds receivable.....  |    | 44,700.02             |                       |
| Marketable securities.....  |    | 978,663.77            |                       |
| Notes and accounts receivable.....  |    | 23,268.63             |                       |
| Bonds of Kiln Lumber Co., bankrupt, at 25 per cent. of par.....                       |    | 56,250.00             |                       |
| Seventy-five per cent. interest in logs, lumber, machinery and logging equipment..... |    | 22,604.25             |                       |
| Notes payable.....  | \$ |                       | 500,000.00            |
| Accrued interest.....   |    |                       | 1,500.00              |
| Liability as guarantors of note of Kiln Lumber Co., bankrupt.....                     |    |                       | 38,170.31             |
| Accounts payable.....   |    |                       | 14,357.33             |
| Agreement to repurchase \$10,000 bonds of Kiln Lumber Co. at 97½.....                 |    |                       | 9,750.00              |
| Capital—James Black, 40 per cent.....   |    |                       | 229,294.37            |
| “    —Henry White, 60 “    “    .....   |    |                       | 343,941.56            |
|   |    | <u>\$1,137,013.57</u> | <u>\$1,137,013.57</u> |

James Black, surviving partner, was appointed trustee to continue the business for a limited period of time.

The transactions to September 30, 1932, were as follows:

The amount due for life insurance was collected.  
 \$712,554.07 was realized on securities which cost \$619,483.  
 \$3,725 was expended in exercising rights, the original and newly acquired shares being among those unsold at September 30th.  
 Notes and accounts receivable realized \$17,429.30, but of the balance outstanding at September 30th only \$1,000 was considered good.  
 Foreclosure proceedings were instituted on the bonds of the Kiln Lumber Co. In the final settlement, \$4,603.97 was realized in cash and the firm acquired a three-fourth's interest in 10,000 acres of timber lands.  
 The interest in logs, lumber, machinery and logging equipment realized \$2,725.09.  
 A claim receivable for damages, which was pending December 31, 1930, but not entered on the books, was settled for \$3,000.  
 Notes payable, with interest, amounting to \$27,500, were paid.  
 The liability as guarantors of the note of the Kiln Lumber Co. was discharged by payment of \$36,149.73.  
 One \$1,000 bond of the Kiln Lumber Co. had been lost or stolen and, therefore, could not be produced. The remaining bonds were repurchased.  
 The accounts payable, together with an additional item of \$1,275 owing at December 31st but not discovered until later, were duly paid.  
 The sum of \$200,000 was withdrawn in the proportion of the partners' investments.  
 Expenses incurred, exclusive of interest, totaled \$7,328.30, of which \$432.15 were unpaid September 30, 1932.  
 Income amounted to \$14,732.03, of which \$2,500 had not been received September 30, 1932.

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Prepare a statement, in suitable form, for the use of the trustee and of the executor of the estate of the deceased partner.

No. 5 (15 points):

The superintendent of a cheese manufactory reports the following results of a test-run:

46,153 pounds of milk were purchased at the contract price of \$3.10 per cwt., on the basis of a butter-fat content of 3.5 per cent., with a premium or discount of 4 cents per cwt., on account of variations from the standard, the total cost being \$1,647.66. From this milk, 5,976 pounds of cream, having a butter-fat content of 20 per cent., were sold at a price of 58 cents a pound of butter fat, the remainder yielding 4,491 pounds of uncured cheese, known as No. 1.

The whey from the milk used weighed 29,280 pounds, to which was added 1,384 pounds of whole milk from the purchases of the following day, the combined fluid yielding 1,821 pounds of uncured cheese known as No. 2.

The No. 1 cheese is subject to a shrinkage of 12.3 per cent. in curing, and the No. 2 to a shrinkage of 33 per cent.

From the foregoing data, determine the material cost per pound of cured cheese and the yield per cwt. of milk.

For this purpose, you may assume the value of whey to be 50 cents per cwt., and the price of the whole milk used in the process of the second day the same as that used on the first day.

No. 6 (15 points):

A joint-stock land-bank loan of \$1,000 is repayable in 65 semi-annual instalments of \$35 each and a final payment of \$29.23 at the end of the 33rd year. These payments include interest at the nominal rate of 6 per cent. per annum compounded semi-annually.

What is the amount of the balance at the end of the 20th year? Given at 3 per cent.:

|          |          |              |           |
|----------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| $v^{40}$ | .3065568 | $(1+i)^{40}$ | 3.2620378 |
| $v^{26}$ | .4636947 | $(1+i)^{26}$ | 2.1565913 |
| $v^{25}$ | .4776056 | $(1+i)^{25}$ | 2.0937779 |

What amounts of principal and interest respectively were contained in the fortieth payment?

**Examination in Commercial Law**

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NOVEMBER 18, 1932, 9 A. M. TO 12:30 P. M.

*An answer which does not state reasons will be considered incomplete. Whenever practicable, give answer first and then state reasons.*

GROUP I.

*Answer all questions in this group.*

No. 1 (10 points):

Wolff was the selling agent for Knox Mills, Inc., and since 1924 had owned 100 shares of its common stock. Claghorn was president of the corporation. Wolff and Claghorn executed a contract under seal whereby Claghorn agreed to purchase Wolff's stock at par value at any time upon Wolff's request. Wolff gave Claghorn the right to purchase it if Wolff's contract with the corporation should terminate or at any time within 30 days after Wolff's death. The stock certificate was endorsed as follows: "This certificate is subject as to transfer to a certain agreement made between Jacques Wolff and Edwin B. Claghorn, dated November 15, 1926." This contract was made binding upon and to enure to the benefit of the executors, administrators and assigns of each party "provided that no assignment of this agreement shall be made by said Wolff without the written consent of said Claghorn." On November 3, 1930, Wolff duly requested Claghorn to purchase this stock and tendered it to him. Claghorn refused to purchase it on the ground that the contract was void for lack of mutuality and of consideration. Is this contract valid?

No. 2 (10 points):

Dupont drew a cheque on the X bank for \$1.22 payable to the order of Alice Nugent. This cheque was fraudulently raised to \$3,881.22 and the name of the payee changed to Alfred Nugent. Thereafter, this cheque was endorsed by Alfred Nugent and deposited by him in the B bank. The B bank endorsed it, guaranteeing all prior endorsements, and collected \$3,881.22 from the X bank. Prior to the discovery of the fraud, Alfred Nugent closed his account with the B bank and disappeared. Upon whom does the loss fall and why?

No. 3 (10 points):

A boy, twelve years old, whose mother had died and whose father had abandoned him, was being supported by a man who had known both of the boy's parents for several years but who was not related in any way to the boy. One year after this support

began, the man procured insurance on the boy's life payable to the man as beneficiary. Two years thereafter the boy died. At all times, from the date of the application for the policy until the boy's death, the insurance company's general agent and its local agent or solicitor knew all of the facts and circumstances of the case. Is the policy valid?

No. 4 (10 points):

Mark Talbot was insolvent. In order to obtain a loan of \$500,000 from Clark Gibbons, Talbot was compelled by Gibbons to purchase from him, for \$378,000, a residence property known to be worth \$250,000, and certain corporate stock of no market value for \$80,000. Talbot signed a note payable to the order of Gibbons carrying interest at the legal rate of 6%.

- (a) At maturity, will the note be enforceable by the payee?
- (b) At maturity, will the note be enforceable by a holder in due course?

No. 5 (10 points):

Theodore Crawford, in November, 1925, subscribed for 100 shares of the preferred stock of the M Corporation and paid \$2,000 to the corporation on account. Crawford was induced to make and did make this subscription wholly because the corporation's treasurer had formally represented to him that the corporation had a surplus at July 1, 1925, and had legally paid a dividend in the month of July, 1925. Crawford sued for the rescission of his contract and the recovery of the \$2,000, and the following facts were proved: On January 1, 1925, the corporation's books showed a deficit of \$11,484.29. In the following May, a journal entry was made debiting deferred engineering and development expense and crediting surplus with \$22,167.95 for "expenses charged off in 1924, deferred to future operations." This amount was 80% of the 1924 expenditures for engineering. At the same time the corporation paid \$10,000 for 400 shares of its own common stock, which it proceeded to carry at an asset value of \$10,000, although the book value immediately prior to this purchase was \$6.27. The corporation declared and paid a dividend of \$1,591.55 in July, 1925.

- (a) On the facts as stated, should Crawford succeed in his action?

- (b) If the facts as stated should be amplified, indicate the lines along which further inquiry should be made.

GROUP II.

*Answer any five questions in this group. No credit will be given for additional answers, and if any are submitted only the first five answers will be considered.*

No. 6 (10 points):

A debtor of the X bank, in liquidation, offered to compromise his indebtedness by the payment of \$2,074.10. The state superintendent of banks agreed to consider this offer on condition that the debtor deposit the money in escrow and submit to an audit, and on condition, also, that acceptance of this offer be approved by the court having jurisdiction of the liquidation. The deposit was made and the audit completed but the debtor died prior to acceptance of the offer by the superintendent. The debtor's executor immediately demanded the return of the escrow deposit. Is he entitled to it?

No. 7 (10 points):

Charles Little on his own behalf contracted to sell 1,500,000 gallons of molasses of the usual run from a specified sugar refinery, deliveries to begin three months after the date of the contract of sale. At no time did Little have a contract with the refinery. Shortly after deliveries began, the refinery curtailed its output, for economic reasons, although there was no failure of the sugar crop and no fire or other accident or strike at the refinery. The refinery refused to sell to Little a sufficient quantity to enable him to deliver all of the 1,500,000 gallons. Has Little any valid defence in an action brought against him by the vendee for failure to deliver?

No. 8 (10 points):

Belknap, for an adequate consideration, gave the following written instrument to Pinney on August 5, 1932:

New York, N. Y.

Thirty (30) days after date I promise to pay to the order of Albert Pinney One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,715.) at Liberty Trust Company. Value received. Interest at 6%.

Robert Belknap  
James Silliman  
Agents of New York Turbine Company.

Against whom, when, and for what amount will Pinney be entitled to enforce this instrument?

No. 9 (10 points):

- (a) What circumstances can cause the dissolution of a partnership?
- (b) Does dissolution necessarily result in the actual termination of the business formerly conducted by the partnership?
- (c) What authority has a partner after dissolution?

No. 10 (10 points):

In September, 1928, Stone was 20 years and 6 months of age. He opened a margin account with stock-broker X and did a certain amount of trading. One month later he transferred to X a similar account which he had with broker Y and caused to be delivered to X 400 shares of the then market value of \$17,450. X paid Stone's debit balance of \$13,907.91 to broker Y, thus leaving Stone an equity of \$3,542.09 in these 400 shares. Two months later Stone closed his account with X, receiving from X \$70.99 in full payment of his credit balance. Six weeks thereafter Stone rescinded his agreement with X, disaffirmed all of his transactions with X, and sued X to recover the amount of his equity in the 400 shares (\$3,542.09) minus the \$70.99 paid to him by X upon the closing of his account. Stone in June, 1928, had deposited \$4,000 cash as margin with broker Y. At the time of Stone's disaffirmance of his agreement with X, the 400 shares transferred from Y had a market value of \$14,227. How much, if any amount, can Stone recover from X?

No. 11 (10 points):

A corporation's certificate of incorporation or charter provided in article A that holders of preferred stock should be entitled out of surplus or net profits to cumulative dividends at 7%. Article E stated that in any liquidation or dissolution the preferred stockholders "shall be entitled to be paid in full the par value thereof and all unpaid dividends accrued thereon before any amount shall be paid or any assets distributed to the holders of the common shares." Article F read: "The preferred stock shall be subject to redemption at \$110 per share plus all unpaid, accrued, or accumulated dividends thereon." The corporation was dissolved and after the payment of all creditors the funds available for dis-



tribution did not amount to the total par value of the outstanding preferred and common stock. At the time of dissolution no declared dividends remained unpaid and the preferred stockholders had received annually the full amount of their 7% dividends. How should the available funds be distributed between preferred and common stockholders?

No. 12 (10 points):

(a) What are the principal changes in the income-tax provisions of the revenue act of 1932 as compared with the revenue act of 1928?

(b) Explain, and illustrate by a simple example, how the gift tax will be computed (knowledge of the rates prescribed in section 502 is not required).

**Examination in Accounting Theory and Practice**  
**PART II**

NOVEMBER 18, 1932, 1:30 P. M. TO 6:30 P. M.

*The candidate must answer questions 1 and 2, and any two of the three following questions:*

No. 1 (36 points):

From the following data, you are required to prepare a consolidated balance-sheet of company A and subsidiaries, as at December 31, 1931, including an analysis of consolidated surplus for 1930 and 1931.

| 1. Acquisitions   | Date           | Cost      |
|---|----------------|-----------|
| A—20 per cent. of stock of B                                  | Dec. 31, 1929  | \$180,000 |
| A—45 " " " " " B  | Mar. 31, 1930  | 400,000   |
| A—25 " " " " " B  | Sept. 30, 1930 | 270,000   |
| 90 per cent.  |                | \$850,000 |
|   |                |           |
| 2. A—20 per cent. of stock of C                               | Dec. 31, 1930  |           |
| B—60 " " " " " C  | Dec. 31, 1931  |           |
| A—95 " " " preferred stock of D                               | Dec. 31, 1930  |           |
| A—80 " " " common " " D                                       | Dec. 31, 1930  |           |
| A—20 " " " stock of E   | Dec. 31, 1930  |           |
|   |                |           |
| 3. The profits of B for the year 1930 were earned as follows: |                |           |
| First quarter.....  | \$ 30,000      |           |
| Second " .....  | 50,000         |           |
| Third " .....   | 70,000         |           |
| Fourth " .....  | 75,000         |           |
|   |                | \$225,000 |

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4. B drew a cheque for \$5,000 in favor of A on December 31, 1931, which was not received and therefore not recorded by A until January 2, 1932.
5. Included in the inventories of B, at December 31, 1931, were goods purchased from A in 1931, amounting to \$100,000, on which A had taken up a profit of 20 per cent.
6. A has included dividends received from B and E in its profits.
7. The preferred stock of A is 7 per cent. cumulative, and dividends have been paid thereon to December 31, 1931. The preferred stock of D is 6 per cent. non-cumulative and non-participating, and dividends have been paid to December 31, 1930.

The balance-sheets of the several companies, as of December 31, 1931, were as follows:

| <i>Assets</i>                             | A                  | B                  | C                | D                | E                |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Cash.....                                 | \$ 100,000         | \$ 95,000          | \$ 25,000        | \$ 10,000        | \$ 30,000        |
| Receivables.....                          | 540,000            | 425,000            | 145,000          | 20,000           | 70,000           |
| Inventories.....                          | 500,000            | 400,000            | 100,000          | 50,000           | 25,000           |
| Advances:                                 |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| To A.....                                 |                    | 100,000            |                  |                  |                  |
| " C.....                                  |                    | 60,000             |                  |                  |                  |
| " D.....                                  | 110,000            |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| Investments:                              |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| In stock of B (90%) at cost.....          | 850,000            |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| " " C (20%) " ".....                      | 40,000             |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| " " C (60%) " ".....                      |                    | 130,000            |                  |                  |                  |
| " preferred stock of D (95%) at cost..... | 95,000             |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| " common " D (80%) " ".....               | 40,000             |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| " stock of E (20%) at cost.....           | 15,000             |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| Fixed assets.....                         | 1,500,000          | 450,000            | 150,000          | 100,000          | 50,000           |
| Goodwill.....                             |                    |                    | 20,000           | 20,000           |                  |
|   | <u>\$3,790,000</u> | <u>\$1,660,000</u> | <u>\$440,000</u> | <u>\$200,000</u> | <u>\$175,000</u> |
| <i>Liabilities and Capital</i>            |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| Accounts payable.....                     | \$ 535,000         | \$ 420,000         | \$155,000        | \$ 16,000        | \$60,000         |
| Advances:                                 |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| From A.....                               |                    |                    |                  | 110,000          |                  |
| " B.....                                  | 95,000             |                    | 60,000           |                  |                  |
| Capital stock:                            |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| Preferred—par value \$100.....            | 1,000,000          |                    |                  | 100,000          |                  |
| Common—" " \$100.....                     | 1,000,000          | 700,000            | 200,000          | 50,000           | 100,000          |
| Surplus:                                  |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| Balances, December 31, 1929.....          | 880,000            | 100,000            | 18,000           |                  |                  |
| Profits—1930.....                         | 530,000            | 225,000            | 2,000            | 10,000           | 20,000*          |
| " —1931.....                              | 390,000            | 375,000            | 5,000            | 80,000*          | 50,000           |
| Dividends paid, preferred:                |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| 1930.....                                 | 70,000*            |                    |                  | 6,000*           |                  |
| 1931.....                                 | 70,000*            |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| Dividends paid, common:                   |                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |
| March 15, 1930.....                       |                    | 20,000*            |                  |                  |                  |
| December 15, 1930.....                    | 300,000*           | 70,000*            |                  |                  |                  |
| " 15, 1931.....                           | 200,000*           | 70,000*            |                  |                  | 15,000*          |
|   | <u>\$3,790,000</u> | <u>\$1,660,000</u> | <u>\$440,000</u> | <u>\$200,000</u> | <u>\$175,000</u> |

\* Red.

No. 2 (28 points):

The Endicott Company commenced operations January 1, 1931, manufacturing one type of commodity of a standard pattern.

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At the end of the year, the bookkeeper prepared and submitted the following statements:

*Exhibit A*

Statement of profits

|  |  |           |
|--|--|-----------|
| Sales, net—3,500 articles at \$40. . . . .                   |  | \$140,000 |
| Deduct: Cost of 3,500 articles at \$28 (exhibit B) . . . . . |  | 105,000   |
|  |  | \$ 35,000 |
| Net profit . . . . .   |  | \$ 35,000 |

*Exhibit B*

Statement of cost of manufacture and cost of sales

|  |       |           |           |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|
| Total expense (exhibit C) . . . . .                        |       | \$140,000 |           |
| Total articles produced . . . . .                          | 5,000 |           |           |
| Articles in process . . . . .                              | 500   |           |           |
| Cost per article . . . . .                                 |       | \$28      |           |
| Cost of 5,000 articles at \$28 . . . . .                   |       |           | \$140,000 |
| Inventory of 1,000 articles at \$28 . . . . .              |       | \$ 28,000 |           |
| "    "    500    "    "    14 . . . . .                    |       | 7,000     | 35,000    |
|  |       | \$105,000 |           |
| Cost of sales—3,500 articles at \$30 (exhibit A) . . . . . |       |           | \$105,000 |

*Exhibit C*

Expenses

|  |  |          |           |
|--|--|----------|-----------|
| Raw material purchases . . . . .             |  | \$40,000 |           |
| Less: Inventory—cost, plus freight . . . . . |  | 3,000    | \$ 37,000 |
| Salaries and wages . . . . .                 |  |          | 58,000    |
| Freight . . . . .                            |  |          | 4,600     |
| Insurance—factory . . . . .                  |  |          | 2,300     |
| Taxes—    "    . . . . .                     |  |          | 1,300     |
| Advertising . . . . .                        |  |          | 4,594     |
| Printing and stationery . . . . .            |  |          | 2,200     |
| Rent of office . . . . .                     |  |          | 2,400     |
| Interest paid . . . . .                      |  |          | 1,800     |
| General expenses . . . . .                   |  |          | 10,505    |
| Repairs—factory and machinery . . . . .      |  |          | 2,801     |
| Power, light and heat—factory . . . . .      |  |          | 7,100     |
| Sundry expenses—    "    . . . . .           |  |          | 3,000     |
| Supplies—    "    . . . . .                  |  |          | 900       |
| Experimental work . . . . .                  |  |          | 400       |
| Stable and auto expense—factory . . . . .    |  |          | 1,100     |
|  |  |          | \$140,000 |
| Total (exhibit B) . . . . .                  |  |          | \$140,000 |

The accuracy of these statements is questioned, and you are called upon to check them and to prepare a statement in statistical form showing sales, cost of goods sold, gross profit on sales, selling expenses, net profit on sales, general and administrative

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expenses, net profit on operations, financial charges and net income for the year.

Your investigation discloses the following:

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Salaries and wages account—                   |                 |
| Officers' salaries . . . . .                  | \$17,400        |
| Salesmen's salaries and commissions . . . . . | 16,400          |
| Labor—direct . . . . .                        | 16,500          |
| " indirect . . . . .                          | 7,700           |
| Total . . . . .                               | <u>\$58,000</u> |
| Accrued wages, not included in above—         |                 |
| Labor—direct . . . . .                        | \$ 1,900        |
| " indirect . . . . .                          | 600             |
| Total . . . . .                               | <u>\$ 2,500</u> |
| Freight account—                              |                 |
| Inward . . . . .                              | \$ 2,800        |
| Outward . . . . .                             | 1,800           |
| Total . . . . .                               | <u>\$ 4,600</u> |
| Insurance account—                            |                 |
| Unexp. ed, \$1,700.                           |                 |
| Printing and stationery—                      |                 |
| On hand, \$850.                               |                 |
| Interest paid—                                |                 |
| \$500 applies to 1932.                        |                 |
| General expenses—                             |                 |
| \$1,300 applies to 1932.                      |                 |

Upon consulting with the president, it was decided that the charge for depreciation on the factory building should be 4 per cent. on \$52,000, and on machinery 10 per cent. on \$16,000, and that provision for bad debts should be \$2,100.

The capital stock outstanding was shown to be \$275,000 on December 31, 1931.

No. 3 (18 points):

The firm of A, B & C were dealers in securities for their own account and others. On November 30, 1931, the partnership was dissolved because C, whose only capital contribution was his stock-exchange seat, desired to withdraw.

A & B formed a new partnership, taking over all assets and liabilities of the firm, except the stock-exchange seat and the goodwill. (The latter was considered worthless.)

Profits and losses were shared in the ratio of 60, 25 and 15 by A, B and C respectively.

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In addition to the trial balance given herewith, which reflects all routine adjustments and accruals, the following information was gathered, as of November 30, 1931:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Customers' free credit balances . . . . .             | \$ 202,295 |
| Market value of customers' securities short . . . . . | 36,752     |
| " " " firm " " . . . . .                              | 29,649     |
| " " " " " long . . . . .                              | 1,009,479  |

Trial balance November 30, 1931

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Corn Exchange bank . . . . .               | \$ 63,215   |             |
| National City bank . . . . .               |             | \$ 750,000  |
| Failed to receive . . . . .                |             | 185,483     |
| Stock-exchange seat . . . . .              | 350,000     |             |
| Goodwill . . . . .                         | 250,000     |             |
| Profit on syndicate transactions . . . . . |             | 215,932     |
| Loss on joint accounts . . . . .           | 79,290      |             |
| Partners' salaries . . . . .               | 51,583      |             |
| Interest received . . . . .                |             | 4,592       |
| Dividends received . . . . .               |             | 21,138      |
| Stock Clearing Corporation . . . . .       | 10,000      |             |
| Failed to deliver . . . . .                | 148,660     |             |
| Accrued interest . . . . .                 |             | 2,265       |
| Interest paid . . . . .                    | 68,232      |             |
| Interest on partners' capital . . . . .    | 42,880      |             |
| Salesmen, office and general . . . . .     | 255,330     |             |
| Customers' ledgers . . . . .               | 660,313     | 228,980     |
| Petty cash . . . . .                       | 852         |             |
| Brokerage . . . . .                        | 7,543       |             |
| Commissions . . . . .                      |             | 80,533      |
| Firm securities long . . . . .             | 1,458,664   |             |
| " " short . . . . .                        |             | 16,429      |
| Bank of America . . . . .                  |             | 270,000     |
| Revenue stamps . . . . .                   | 565         |             |
| Commissions receivable . . . . .           | 4,843       |             |
| " payable . . . . .                        |             | 7,556       |
| Accrued income—syndicates . . . . .        | 5,500       |             |
| " expense— " . . . . .                     |             | 201,677     |
| Capital accounts:                          |             |             |
| A . . . . .                                |             | 800,000     |
| B . . . . .                                |             | 350,000     |
| C . . . . .                                |             | 350,000     |
| Drawing accounts:                          |             |             |
| A . . . . .                                | 12,192      |             |
| B . . . . .                                |             | 16,147      |
| C . . . . .                                | 31,070      |             |
|  | \$3,500,732 | \$3,500,732 |

From the foregoing data, prepare the opening balance-sheet of the new partnership of A & B, as at December 1, 1931.

No. 4 (18 points):

(a) At December 31, 1930, the Rightform Manufacturing Company was carrying, as current assets, certain temporary in-

vestments (at cost), whose respective market values you find to be approximately as follows:

|  | Cost            | Approximate<br>market values |
|--|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Common stocks:                             |                 |                              |
| 400 shares Southern Pacific.....           | \$45,320        | \$37,500                     |
| 220 " National Biscuit.....                | 18,600          | 17,080                       |
| 50 " Western Union.....                    | 9,415           | 6,675                        |
| U. S. Liberty Loan, 4¼'s of 1933-1938..... | 21,950          | 21,150                       |
|  | <u>\$95,285</u> | <u>\$82,405</u>              |

State clearly three methods (in order of preference from the viewpoint of conservatism) of treating these investments in the annual accounts.

(b) The Satisfaction Tailoring Corporation has funds on deposit in several banks, two of which closed during the latter part of 1931 and, at the date of your examination, have not reopened.

What is the conservative way to state these frozen deposits on the corporation's balance-sheet at December 31, 1931?

(c) The Interstate Holding Company owns capital stock of three subsidiary companies—A, B and C—amounting to 95, 90 and 60 per cent. respectively, of the total outstanding stock of each. In preparing statements of the holding company, for the guidance of its directors in deciding upon the declaration or omission of dividends, what cognizance, if any, would you take of the following conditions?

- (1) The book value of A company's stock is less than that at which it is carried by the holding company, due to heavy losses incurred in the current and preceding years as a result of inefficient management.
- (2) The book value of B company's stock is substantially less than that at which it is carried by the holding company, as a direct result of the subsidiary's having declared and paid dividends during the current year in excess of profits.
- (3) C company's stock, which is carried on the books of the holding company at an average cost in the open market of \$84 per share, is quoted on the New York stock exchange at \$10.50 at the balance-sheet date. Investigation shows that this shrinkage is directly attributable to two factors: (a) adverse conditions in the industry, and (b) general financial conditions and other causes entirely unrelated to the business.

State briefly what your treatment of the foregoing factors would be in preparing a balance-sheet for the holding company.

No. 5 (18 points):

The revenue act of 1932 provides for a tax of  $13\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. of the amount of the net income of every corporation. If a consolidated return is filed, the rate is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. These rates apply to the entire amount of net income, as corporations are no longer allowed a specific credit. A net loss of a corporation may be deducted in the succeeding taxable year. Income-tax returns for the year 1932 are due on or before March 15, 1933.

A parent company owns all the outstanding common stocks of 62 operating companies, with the exception of qualifying directors' shares. The books of the parent company and of the subsidiary companies are audited annually by public accountants, and reports are submitted for each company, as well as a consolidated balance-sheet and a consolidated income and profit-and-loss statement.

The parent company maintains a tax department, and the income-tax returns are prepared by this department, but the public accountants are retained to give advice with respect to federal tax matters.

(a) In December, 1932, you are asked for your opinion as to whether a consolidated return should be filed or whether separate returns should be filed for each company. In giving your opinion, state briefly the factors you would take into consideration, with such qualifications as you deem necessary.

(b) You are also requested to confer with the company's tax department and suggest, in a general manner, methods whereby the return, or returns, may be prepared with a minimum of expense and with a consistent treatment of taxable items of income and deductions of all companies.

Do not submit forms: give only an outline of the procedure to be followed in the preparation of the return or returns.