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Announcements

American Institute of Accountants

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The Journal of Accountancy

HOW TO AUDIT. *The McArdle Press, Inc.*, New York.

A manual of instruction originally prepared for the staff of and under the supervision of a firm of accountants and auditors. The book is an attempt at the practical, though it may better be said to discuss certain purely mechanical processes without in any way getting at the fundamentals of the science of auditing. The four sections of the book cover (a) the general rules of conduct for the auditor, (b) general instructions covering the conduct of an audit, (c) peculiar conditions to be looked for in particular businesses, and (d) suggested paragraphs for use in writing a report.

We are informed that "the mere presentation of a financial statement is seldom enough," and then are furnished with some 125 stereotyped paragraphs to insert verbatim in writing the report. It at first seemed odd to us that the author's name appeared nowhere in the book, but after a short perusal the reason was obvious. For the commercializer of accounting practice the book will have a real appeal. For the accountant who considers himself a member of a learned and honorable profession, who desires to give his client more than a report of stereotyped paragraphs, it can have no appeal. It is to be regretted that such a book has made its appearance in accounting literature.

J. H. J.

American Association of University Instructors in Accounting

The American Association of University Instructors in Accounting is to hold its fifth annual meeting at Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, December 28 and 29, 1920. The programme as arranged by H. T. Scovill, of the university of Illinois, includes the following:

Tuesday, December 28, morning session, beginning at 10 A. M., aim and scope of courses in cost accounting, income-tax procedure and graduate and research work in accounting. The afternoon session, Tuesday, will be devoted to a discussion of the relation of the University Accounting Instructors' Association to other organizations interested in accounting education, such as the American Institute of Accountants, correspondence schools and private business enterprises.

Wednesday, December 29, morning session, beginning at 9:30, profits and income and revision of federal taxation. The afternoon is reserved for a short business session, followed at 3 P. M. by a discussion of teaching methods in accounting. Twenty-five of the leading accounting educators of the country are to take part in the programme.

An invitation is extended to all interested in accounting education to attend the meeting.

Theodore I. Schneider announces the change of his firm name from Frank Loeb Schneider Company to Theodore I. Schneider Company, and the removal of offices from 220 Fifth avenue to 1140 Broadway, New York.

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the institute will then have a complete set of definitions as nearly representative of the best ability of the profession as can be secured, and it is hoped that this will prove to be of sufficient value to warrant publication in book form by the institute and with its endorsement.

In order to enlarge the scope of this work, the committee proposes to secure the widest coöperation possible, so as to put the work on the broadest basis, and, with this in view, we propose to take the matter up with the following bodies or classes of correspondents:

1. The government departments, particularly the income-tax unit, federal trade commission, interstate commerce commission, securing, if possible, their approval of the definitions assigned to them.
2. State public service or utility commissions, such as those of New York, Wisconsin and Massachusetts.
3. The heads of the commercial departments of the various universities throughout the country from Harvard to California.
4. The various leading accounting schools throughout the country.
5. Institutes or societies representing allied professions, such as the National Institute of Cost Accountants, National Railway Accountants' Association, National Society of Municipal Officers, and engineering societies.
6. A few of the leading firms engaged in appraisals and efficiency work.
7. The accounting societies of Great Britain and Canada.
8. Those trade associations which have adopted uniform systems of accounting.
9. A select list of individuals, including members of the council of the institute and former members of the committee on terminology of the old American Association of Public Accountants.

The committee realizes that the general acceptance of any set of definitions can be best secured by obtaining expressions of opinion from as wide a range as is possible; for any attempt to force individual ideas would deprive the work of its chief value. On this account, therefore, it not only offers to accept, but urgently begs, that suggestions and criticisms of all kind be sent to it by any who are interested in the matter. These may be forwarded to any member of the committee, but for the sake of convenience it may be better to address them to the undersigned, in addition to whom the other members are Edward H. Moeran, of 120 Broadway, New York, and John Flint, of 50 Pine street, New York.

Yours truly,

WALTER MUCKLOW, *Chairman*,
56 U. S. Trust Company, Jacksonville, Fla.

John M. Palm, James B. Aiken and Belton B. O'Neill announce the formation of a partnership under the title of Palm, Aiken & O'Neill, with offices in the Southern Life building, Greenville, South Carolina.