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National Association of Certified Public Accountants

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The C. P. A. Bulletin

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No. 4

The National Association of Certified Public Accountants
WM. DE LAROCHE ANDERSON, Consulting Accountant, Acting Editor

February 1, 1922

Americanized Profession of Accountancy VS. Private Professional Monopolistic Control

NOTICE

Satisfactory evidence, that an applicant for membership in the National Association was already a duly certified public accountant, having been presented to the National Association of Certified Public Accountants, a certificate was issued, by the National Association, to him, as such duly certified public accountant, under a fictitious name, assumed by him.

The United States mails have been used in connection with the perpetration of this fraud.

The National Association, in order to protect the integrity of the Association and the high esteem in which is generally held the public accountants who hold the certificate of the Association, is taking all possible steps to prosecute the four men directly implicated and to secure adequate redress from others who have libeled the National Association and who have apparently aided and abetted the fraud.

All members in each and every State are requested to co-operate with the Officers of the Association by informing the office at headquarters of anything of a libelous or slanderous nature against the Association or any of its members which may come to their individual attention, in order that appropriate action may immediately be taken.

As one of the individuals implicated in the above mentioned matter is a public official of one of our greatest States, the name of which we do not care to attach to such a nefarious matter, and as more specific publication would be bound to reflect adversely upon public accountants generally of the particular State, who are honorable, high grade men, entirely innocent in this matter, the Officers of the National Association are refraining from a more detailed publication.

WILLIAM DOLGE, C. P. A.
National Association of Certified Public Accountants

The National Association gladly announces that William Dolge, Secretary of the State Board of Accountancy of California, having applied for certified membership in the National Association of Certified Public Accountants, having presented satisfactory evidence to the National Association that he was a duly Certified Public Accountant of the State of California, having paid the required fee, and, having been approved by the Board of Examiners of the National Association, has been certified as a Certified Public Accountant of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants, by the National Association, under certificate No. 2137, dated December 9, 1921.

Battle of National Association Against American Institute of Accountants.

The New Order Against the Old.

The Committee Room of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia was the scene of the first pitched battle on a grand scale, between the forces representing the professional policies and methods of today, as typified by the National Association of Certified Accountants, and the forces of the American Institute of Accountants, fighting hard for continued protection for an ever greater and wider and more complete private control, clinging fast to the old-order of things.

It seemed incomprehensible to the Chairman of the Committee, Senator Ball of Delaware, that legislation should be presented which failed to regulate or control. The Chairman simply could not believe, in general, that the laws of 47 States failed to regulate the practice and to control the qualifications of Public Accountants, and that the bill before him under discussion, was, in this same respect, deficient—that the total effect of the suggested legislation was to designate "examination experts."

The bill under discussion at this hearing was Senate No. 2531, the so-called Capper Bill, to create a Board of Accountancy for the District of Columbia. The discussion before the Committee resolved itself into a question as to whether complete and adequate legislation, making Accountancy a profession and treating it in the manner that other well organized professions are treated, should be enacted

or, whether further legislation should be enacted along the lines of the laws on the statute books of the various States, which were passed before Accountancy was recognized as worthy of denomination as a profession, or of sufficient public value to warrant legislation upon a comprehensive plan. The National Association took the stand for the PROFESSION—for a fresh legislative start; the American Institute of Accountants stood for the maintenance and protection of the designation C. P. A. along the lines of the old laws; the National Association fought for a DEGREE for a PROFESSION—the American Institute of Accountants and their forces fought for a Title for "Experts." The National Association fought for free competition, after certification of reasonable fitness before starting practice, with the basis of higher compensation and standing founded upon reputation gained in practice and not upon certification—the American Institute fought for the maintenance of the initial value of certification as a basis for higher professional standing and higher remuneration. The National Association fought for legislation that would automatically bring about the survival of the fittest with the natural elimination of the incompetent, while the American Institute fought for the arbitrary protection, based on a single examination and a scrap of paper, of an indefinite public guarantee of fitness. The National Association fought to make all Accountants responsible for the protection of the public and the profession by penalizing all those who should make false or negligent reports in accounts. The American Institute, while agreeing to this principle, opposed its inclusion in a "C. P. A. Bill." The National Association fought for a national profession and a national license to all accountants who should publicly practice and the withholding of license to practice from all persons who could not qualify upon a reasonable basis to practice, while The American Institute failed to acknowledge the interstate quality and effect of the activity of the Public Accountant. In short, The American Institute fought the National Association, and the National Association fought The American Institute, on every conceivable point—there was no common ground on principle, plan or procedure, nor upon the plan or functioning of either organization, as the National charged The American Institute with being a monopoly controlling the issuance of certificates by the various Boards of Accountancy of 38 States,

while The Institute charged The National with robbing it of the C. P. A. value by selling C. P. A. certificates at reduced rates—and so it went.

One great thing was accomplished, and Senator Ball is to be thanked by all the members of the whole profession for furnishing the opportunity and for so ably and adroitly conducting the hearing that there was an open and free two-sided and two-fisted discussion of the fundamental principles and values of the profession of Accountancy, by able representatives of both sides, something which had not heretofore been possible in the one-sided condition of affairs obtaining until lately within the profession, which will be bound, eventually, to be helpful to the public, to the 200,000 Accountants of all grades throughout the country, and to the two or three thousand C. P. A.'s.

The National Association forces in this battle were led by J. R. Hutchison, C. P. A. No. 1, Wyoming, C. P. A., Iowa, C. P. A. No. 1, and President National Association of Certified Public Accountants; Frank Broaker, C. P. A. No. 1 in the United States, and Chairman of the New York State Protective Committee of the National Association; C. R. Carpenter, Treasurer of The National Association, and W. de La R. Anderson, Accounting Counsel for The National Association and Editor of the C. P. A. Bulletin.

The American Institute forces included: President Nau, of The American Institute of Accountants, Messrs. Covington, Donovan, Springer, Montgomery, Goodloe and others.

The National Association presented its case as follows:

Monopoly

Under the statutes in force within the various States, of which this Bill, Senate 2531, is typical, there at present exists a professional monopoly, to the territorial extent of some 38 States of the Union, of the official certification of Public Accountants, in the control of a private corporation; namely, The American Institute of Accountants.

The Means

The means by which this condition has been accomplished is that of the issuance of certification by the State Boards of Accountancy to those who have been rated by this said private corporation as having qualified under an examination prepared by it, and the withholding by said State Boards of Accountancy, of certification from those who are not rated as qualified by said private Corporation.

The Cause

The cause of this state of affairs is the lack of an official national board of accountancy, regularly established by national enactment, needed by the profession, to standardize the profession of accountancy and to co-ordinate its activities, and, to license all public accountants who shall publicly practice and to prevent those who are not licensed from so practicing.

The Effect

The effect is to invalidate all certificates granted upon the ultra vires acts of the various State Boards of Accountancy, who have joined in this system and arrangement with this private corporation, which has the effect of delegating a quasi-judicial public authority and responsibility to others than those who are legally authorized, under the provisions of the various statutes, and who are beyond their various jurisdictions.

The further effect is to cause the National Association of Certified Public Accountants to respectfully protest to the Honorable Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, against this situation and condition in general, and against a favorable report upon this Bill, Senate No. 2531 in particular, as being, in this respect, if enacted into law, only another inadequate and ill-conceived statute similar to those of the various States and susceptible to the same influences as have already proved to be not in the public or professional interest.

Senate 2531 Applied to "Law"

To more clearly present the meaning of this Bill to the Committee, Senate 2531 is herewith presented without change of the text matter other than to substitute "Lawyer" for "Public Accountant," where used in the Bill, so that the Committee may consider it in terms of a more familiar profession:

(Continued on Page 3)

YOUR DUTY AS AN ACCOUNTANT AND A MAN

Congress is not being informed of the unsatisfactory condition within the profession incident to the operation of the administration of State Boards under the C. P. A. laws of the various States, of which the Capper Bill, S. 2531—H. R. 8522, is typical.

Those in opposition to The National Association, individually and collectively, are circulating among the members of Congress false, pernicious and slanderous reports, against the members of the Association, the Association itself and its purposes.

Will you kindly write the Congressman from your district, and both of your Senators, stating clearly whether you think, from your observation of the operation of your State law, which is similar to the Capper Bill, that Congress should waste its time passing another piece of legislation of this type, and expressing your views as to the attacks against The National Association, its members and its purposes.

Publicity

For success an organization must advertise—must secure publicity.

The value of your certification by the National Association depends entirely upon the success of the National Association.

The success of the National Association depends upon the appreciation by business men, banks and financial institutions and by the public generally that the National Association is standing and fighting for principles which will really protect and which will enhance the general quantity and quality and decrease the cost of high accounting service.

This cannot be generally known unless **You** (Y-O-U!) make it known—as far as you, **PERSONALLY**, are able.

Take the stand taken by the National before the Senate Committee, as shown from page 22 on, in copy of HEARING accompanying this issue of the Bulletin, and show it to your banks—to your business clients and friends—to your newspapers in your community—to your local officials and to your State and National representatives. Let the people know—get the papers to print the story.

OUR certificate stands for sound principles in the public interest—let's let what it stands for be known! That's the kind of certificate we want—and that's the kind of certificate we will have if we all go after it together. Let's go!

THE CAPPER BILL APPLIED TO LAW

S. 2531

Mr. Capper introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

A BILL

To create a board of Law for the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any lawyer who has received from the board of law, hereinafter created, a certificate of his qualifications to practice as a lawyer shall be known and styled as a "Certified lawyer," and no other person, and no partnership all of the members of which have not received such certificate, and no corporation shall assume such title or the title of "certified lawyer" or the abbreviation "C. L.," or any other words, letters, or abbreviations tending to indicate that the person, firm, or corporation so using the same is a certified lawyer.

Sec. 2. That for the purpose of this Act a lawyer is hereby defined as a person skilled in the knowledge and science of law, who holds himself out to the public as a practicing lawyer for compensation, and who maintains an office for the transaction of business as such, whose time during the regular business hours of the day is devoted to the practice of law as a professional lawyer.

Sec. 3. That there is hereby created a board of law in and for the District of Columbia, to consist of three mem-

bers, to be appointed by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and who, with the exception of the members first to be appointed, shall be the holders of certificates issued under the provisions of this Act. The members of the board first to be appointed shall be skilled in the knowledge, science, and practice of law, and shall have been actively engaged as professional lawyers within the District of Columbia for a period of at least three years, and shall hold office, one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years, and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The term of each member is to be designated by the commissioners in each appointment. Their successors shall be appointed for terms of three years from the dates as aforesaid and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The commissioners may, after full hearing, remove any member of the board for neglect of duty or other just cause. The board shall organize by the election of a president and a secretary and a treasurer, and may make all rules and regulations necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this Act. Any two members acting as a board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 4. That the board of law shall not grant a certificate as a certified lawyer to any person other than (a) a citizen of the United States, or who has duly declared his or her intention of becoming such citizen, who is over the age of twenty-one years, and (c) of good moral character, (d) who is a graduate of a high school with a four years' course or has had an equivalent education, and (e) has received a diploma from some recognized school of law and has had one year's experience

in the employment of a practicing certified lawyer or has had three years' experience in the employ of a practicing certified lawyer, and (f) except under the provisions of section 6 of this Act, who shall have successfully passed examinations in the theory and practice of law, in commercial law as affecting law, and in such other related subjects as the board may deem advisable; Provided, That the board of law may waive the provision for legal experience as set forth in clause (e) above, and in lieu thereof may hold in abeyance a certificate to any person who shall otherwise have qualified until such time as the applicant can prove to have served two years in the employ of a practicing certified lawyer: Provided further, That the board may waive the requirement for service in the employ of a practicing certified lawyer, as set forth in clause (e) above, in the case of any person who has had not less than five years' actual and continuous experience in practice of law in three or more distinct lines of the profession, provided such person also holds the diploma required in said clause (e), but nothing contained in this Act shall be construed as granting any power to waive any provision of this Act other than as set forth herein, nor shall any such waiver be granted except by the unanimous vote of the members of the board.

Sec. 5. That all examinations provided for herein shall be conducted by the board. The examination shall take place as often as may be necessary in the opinion of the board, but not less frequently than once each year. The time and place of holding examinations shall be duly advertised for not less than three days in one daily newspaper published in the District of Columbia, beginning not less

than thirty days prior to the date of such examination.

Sec. 6. That the board of law, in its discretion, waive the examination and issue a certificate as certified lawyer, to any person possessing the qualifications mentioned in section 4 of this Act who is the holder of a certificate as certified lawyer issued under the laws of any State or Territory which extends similar privilege to certified lawyers of the District of Columbia, provided the requirements for such certificate in the State or Territory which has granted it to the applicant are, in the opinion of the board, equivalent to those required herein; or who is the holder of a certificate as certified lawyer, or the equivalent thereof, issued in any foreign country, provided the requirements for such certificates are, in the opinion of the board, equivalent to those herein required; or who has been practicing as a lawyer in the District of Columbia for more than three consecutive years next preceding the passage of this Act, whose qualifications are, in the opinion of the board, equivalent to those required by section 4 of this Act, and who shall apply in writing to the board for such certificate within six months after the passage of this Act.

Sec. 7. That the board of law may revoke any certificate issued under this Act for unprofessional conduct or for other sufficient cause: Provided, That notice of the cause for such contemplated action and the date of the hearing thereon by the board shall have been mailed to the holder of such certificate at his or her registered address at least twenty days before such hearing. No certificate issued under this Act shall be revoked until the board shall have held such hearing, but the non-appearance of the holder of any certificate, after notice as herein provided, shall not prevent such hearing. At all such hearings the corporation counsel of the District of Columbia or one of his assistants designated by him shall appear and represent the interests of the public.

Sec. 8. That the board of law shall charge for the examinations together with certificates to successful applicants, provided for in this Act, a fee of \$25. This fee shall be payable by the applicant at the time of making his or her initial application. Should the applicant fail to pass the required examination subsequent examinations will be given the same applicant for

an additional fee of \$10, for such examination. From the fees collected under this Act the board shall pay all expenses incident to the examinations, the expenses of issuing certificates, and traveling expenses of the members of the board while performing their duties under this Act; and if any surplus remain on the 30th day of June of each year the members of the board shall be paid therefrom such reasonable compensation as the Commissioners of the District of Columbia may determine: Provided, that no expenses incurred under this Act shall be a charge against the funds of the United States nor the District of Columbia. The board shall annually report the number of certificates issued and the receipts and expenses under this Act during each fiscal year to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 9. That if any person shall represent himself or herself to the public as having received a certificate as provided for in this Act, or shall assume to practice as a certified lawyer without having received such certificate, or if any person having received such certificate, shall hereafter lose the same by revocation, as provided for in this Act, and shall continue to practice as certified lawyer, or use such title or any other title mentioned in section 1 of this Act, or if any person shall violate any of the provisions of this Act, such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Note—That under the provisions of this Bill all lawyers are allowed to practice whether they be qualified or unqualified and that the only power that the Board of Law has, is to certify those lawyers who voluntarily appear for examination and qualification, and that the Board is without authority or means of interfering in any way with all other lawyers, their practices, their methods or their designations, or in any manner whatsoever.

A USELESS BILL

Examination, Certification and a Limited Control Over Volunteers the Only Power Authorized.

This Bill does not make "ACCOUNTANCY" a profession as in law, medicine, etc., and it does not seek

to license those who practice Accountancy as a profession; in general, it merely creates a Board of Accountancy to issue to those who may be qualified and who voluntarily seek qualification by said Board, a certificate designating or styling them with a title under this particular Bill; it confers powers of a regulatory nature only to the extent that the certificate issued by the said Board may be, under certain conditions, revoked, but it confers no authority as to the regulation of the practice of the person, as a professional public accountant, after such revocation of such certificate, and it confers no authority whatever as to the regulation or control of public accountants in the practice of their profession.

Merely Seeks To Create Super-Professionals

This Bill, based upon the voluntary act of the public accountant, in taking advantage of an opportunity offered by the Board of Accountancy, set up under the provisions of this Bill, for examination, seeks to confer a designation of preference in the public estimation upon such public accountants as voluntarily accept such opportunity; this Bill does not seek to qualify certain public accountants for a specific purpose or for a specific act, or to practice before a specific body politic. It does, however, seek to give preference in the public estimation and in the practice of the public accountant before the public, to those who happen to have been able to take advantage of the opportunity offered and who have been voluntarily willing to comply with the arduous, expensive, time-consuming, scholastic tests and, thereby, it discriminates against these public accountants who have not been able without loss, or otherwise, to accept the opportunity and who have not been willing or able to meet the arbitrary requirements contained in the Bill which are not made mandatory upon all public accountants, as a pre-requisite to practice before the public.

Not a License Law

This Bill, superficially, appears to be a Bill to license Accountants to publicly practice, when qualified, under the designation of Certified Public Accountant, abbreviated C. P. A. On any correct theory of license, under the police power vested in the Government, all of those persons engaged in the activity, profession or calling to be

licensed, should be and are licensed. The theory of license will not permit the licensing of a part of those engaged in an activity, and the entire freedom from license of the balance of those engaged in the same activity. It would be ridiculous to license a skilled doctor, lawyer or pharmacist to practice, and to allow the mal-practitioner to practice with freedom from public restriction or control, or, to say that a skillful taxicab driver is to be licensed as a certified taxicab driver and that all drunken, reckless, or irresponsible drivers, who are a menace to the public, shall be allowed to drive unrestricted, uncontrolled, and unaccountable to the body who has licensed the skillful driver. It would be ridiculous to say of lawyers, as does this Bill say of Public Accountants, that one per cent of all lawyers may be designated "Certified" lawyers, and that 99 per cent may practice without qualification or control.

Does Not Even Control Specified Designation

Rights in the profession of Accountancy, of the Certified Public Accountant, under the provisions of this Bill, are no greater than are the rights of the uncertified public accountant—both still remain professional public accountants, and as such, under well-known principles of law, have, equally, property rights in the profession which must be protected and not discriminated against by the law. The property right of the profession is vested in the professional regardless of his designation.

The public accountant has also vested in him the property right which attaches to all values which enter into the successful practice of his profession. If among these values the public accountant possesses testimonials, letters, certifications, designations, legally acquired and possessed, and legally issued, the said accountant has the right under the law to the use of said property and it cannot be taken away from him under the provisions of this Bill. The public accountant may use designations which the public realize are generally issued throughout the various States of the Union and in the District of Columbia, and which are generally known as not particularly pertaining to any one locality or State so long as the public are not deceived by the use of same.

Inasmuch as there is no prohibition contained in this Bill of the practice of public accounting within the District of Columbia by public accountants of other localities; inasmuch as the public of the District of Columbia is commonly acquainted with the fact that certification of public accountants has heretofore existed within the District of Columbia, and in the various States, the fact that another and different certification of public accountants has been provided will not prohibit the public of the District of Columbia from purchasing accounting service of the class, designation, quality and kind which best suits its purpose, and can not prohibit that service being offered in the class, designation, quality and kind which it represents. The public of the District of Columbia is on notice that the designation provided under this Bill is used already in 48 States and in the District of Columbia—Caveat emptor.

No Authority Over Public Accountants, Their Possessions or Their Practice

The District Board of Accountancy, or any other District official body or person, has no authority, under this Bill to pass judgment upon the qualifications to practice, the property, the methods of practice, the propriety or legality of designation, nor have they any authority, under this Bill, to prosecute or attempt to control, directly or indirectly, in any manner, public accountants in the practice of their profession, other than those who voluntarily present themselves for examination and who, under the provisions of this Bill, become certified. Any such attempt would constitute an ultra vires act and "the law will strip them of the power to do so by its restraining process." (Supreme Court N. C.).

AMENDS CAPPER BILL

In answer to Senator Ball's request to Mr. W. de LaR. Anderson at the hearing on Senate No. 2531, the Capper Bill, that the National Association of Certified Public Accountants submit amendments to the Bill which would place the general practice of Public Accounting in all its branches within public control and regulation, the National Association submitted the following to Senator Ball.

Strike out all after the enacting

clause in Section 1, and insert in lieu thereof, the following:

(New section)

That no person shall be permitted to practice or hold himself out as a public or expert accountant or auditor for compensation, either by using or subscribing his own name or the name of any other person or firm, unless he has been previously certified as a professional accountant under the provisions of this Act.

Section 2 requires no amendment, if liberally interpreted.

Section 3, strike out, and insert in lieu thereof:

(Same as former Section 1.)

That any person who has received from the Board of Accountancy, hereinafter created, a certificate of his qualifications to practice as a public accountant, shall be known and styled as a "Certified Public Accountant," and no person, and no partnership all of the members of which have not received such certificate, and no corporation shall assume such title or the title of certified accountant or the abbreviation "C. P. A.," or any other words, letters, or abbreviations tending to indicate that the person, firm, or corporation so using the same, is a certified public accountant.

Section 4 to Section 10 inclusive, strike out all, and insert matter contained in the previous Section 3 to Section 9, which has the effect of merely re-numbering the sections.

(New section)

Section 11. That if any person certified under the provisions of this Act shall make a fraudulent, dishonest or grossly negligent report or accounting, the Board of Accountancy, created under the provisions of this Act, is authorized, upon investigation and determination of the fact, to prosecute such person, who shall be deemed to be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court, and, by the revocation of his certificate to practice as an expert public accountant or auditor, by said Board of Accountancy.

These amendments will protect the public, will make our activity a profession and make C. P. A. the degree of the profession, within the District of Columbia.

Respectfully,

J. H. HUTCHISON,
President.

SOME LETTER!

National Association of Certified Public Accountants,

Franklin National Bank Building,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen: I am delighted to learn of our decisive victory in North Carolina. Although it failed ludicrously, I am sorry that any of our officers should have become the recipients of so contemptible and base an attack. Those responsible for the really fatuous affair certainly received a well deserved rebuke for their asinine actions. I feel sorry for any one who may have earned certificates by examination and have lost them through the ultra vires acts of State Boards.

As a member of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants, I resent the unnecessary and dastardly resolution framed by the North Carolina State Board, directed against our Association and its members. More than anything else I love peace; next to peace I love a good fight in behalf of a worthy cause. I am glad, therefore, that you so promptly fought this case, and trust that our officers will always be found ready to proceed against any others who may presume to smirch the name of our Society.

I am becoming increasingly cognizant of the need of national C. P. A. legislation. The North Carolina fiasco has strengthened my convictions in this respect. I am well aware of the advantages of uniform examinations for all the States; nevertheless, this uniformity should not be coupled with private control. It seems almost inconceivable that the examinations of thirty-five States should have been placed under the control of an Accountants' Association. Such an arrangement, whether or not it be so intended, can end only in a monopoly.

You are to be congratulated upon your accomplishments to date. I assure you of my hearty cooperation. More power to you!

Yours truly,

EXAMINATIONS

For the benefit of those who think the National gives no examinations the following letter, recently received by us, is printed:

Mr. C. R. Carpenter,
Franklin National Bank Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Carpenter:

I was indeed very much surprised to learn that my application will be kept in abeyance, the reasons being that I "failed to make a satisfactory record in the oral examination and the Board of Examiners reported that the written examination does not show a very thorough knowledge of the subject."

I desire very much to inform you that I am a very successful accountant employing five accountants on my staff, among which are two C. P. A.'s (New York). I believe I could not be so successful if I had knowledge of no accounting principles.

Again, the examination papers were in the hands of the applicants a day or two before the examination. I did not receive same until the morning of the examination and I had to rush some to appear on time.

As to the oral examination, this I cannot understand and if you will pardon me I will say that the examining officer knew very little of accounting principles himself, as his questions showed, and I may also add that I somewhat antagonized him because of the explanations requested at every question.

I am indeed sure that should my case be reviewed my application for membership will be accepted and I feel that it would be a credit to your organization to have members like myself as my education, training and experience qualifies me in all respects as a practicing accountant.

For your information I am enclosing a statement of my experience as requested by a certain trade paper in this city for which I was requested to write articles on taxation. I may

also add that I am a director of a bank in this city and Chairman of a Credit Committee. I am also permitted to practice before the Treasury Department as a Tax Expert.

Yours very truly,

EXTRACT OF OPINION, C. P. A. (N. A.)

The Attorney General of New York State has rendered an opinion, as to the use of Public Accountants practicing in New York State and under the New York State law of designations of certification from other sources, in part as follows:

The question to be decided necessarily is, whether or not the letters "C. P. A. (N. A.)" are in conflict with the letters authorized by our statute, "C. P. A." Violations of the statute have not been prosecuted through this department since no special authority is given to the Attorney General, but I understand that cases have been conducted by the various district attorneys in the county where they arise. At first glance, the letters "C. P. A. (N. A.)" might be taken as having the same purpose as "A. B. (Oxon.)" However, we are dealing with a situation involving a licensed vocation which differs widely from a purpose to express the derivation of an academic degree. I think the letters "C. P. A. (N. A.)" may easily be taken to indicate that the user is a certified public accountant of this State and also a member of the National Association of Public Accountants.

I am, therefore, of the opinion that the use of the letters "C. P. A. (N. A.)" is forbidden under the laws of our State for persons not licensed in New York.

Yours very truly,

Sgn. CHARLES D. NEWTON,
Attorney General.

EGG. ETB.

Copies to

Harry A. Sessions, Esq.,
National Assoc. of C. P. A.

National Association Reply

The following is the National Association's reply to the Attorney General of the State of New York, on the matter of the opinion as to the use of the designation C. P. A. (N. A.):

February 6th, 1922.

Hon. Charles D. Newton,
Attorney-General,
State of New York,
Albany, N. Y.

(Attention Mr. Edward G. Griffin)

My dear Mr. Griffin:

Many thanks for the copy of your opinion addressed to Hon. Augustus S. Downing, Assistant Commissioner and Director of Professional Education, Albany, N. Y., relative to the use of the designation C. P. A. (N. A.).

While we quite dissent, in so far as you contend that the New York law in respect to Public Accountants is a license law, we would like, reserving meanwhile all our rights and the rights of all of our members who practice in New York, pending the final ruling of the courts, to conform to the views of your office, out of respect to the office in the first place, and then for the reason that we ourselves do not wish to have the value of our certification confused with the value of the certification of the State of New York, or of any other State.

Under your ruling it would appear that C. P. A. (N. A.) reflects a certified public accountant of New York who is a member of the National Association; that such designation does not reflect that the C. P. A. is NOT certified under the New York law. We take your meaning to be that if the designation was stated Certified Public Accountant by the National Association of Certified Public Accountants, or C. P. A., by N. A., that this presentation would indicate that the certification was not made by New York, but by some authority other than the State authority. You apparently do not contend that the public accountant has no right to the use of such designation as he may be pos-

sessed of, in the practice of his profession, other than that of C. P. A., N. Y.

Therefore, as we also believe we have the right to the use of the property value in the practice of our profession of a designation which represents the aggregate good will of nearly three thousand high-grade practicing public accountants, all over the country, and the good will of the overwhelming majority of business and financial institutions, which endorse the National professional principles on which the National Association is standing, as against those represented under the certifications by State law, we would ask that your office suggest some way of setting forth a designation of the public accountant, practicing in the State of New York, against which there is no statutory prohibition, who has been certified by the National Association of Certified Public Accountants, and, signify how the public may be informed that the public accounting service represented by that particular designation, is available to those who desire to purchase this particular class of public accounting service, against which purchase of service or any purchase of public accounting service there is no statutory prohibition, and which service being based upon national principles and theory is different from that represented by purely local certification.

I am enclosing a leaflet which indicates what we consider as being a "license law." You will note that all of those engaged in the activity are licensed, that it is mandatory and not permissive, and that all of those engaged in the activity **must** be licensed and not merely a small part of them.

Hoping that your office may be able to suggest some way of our meeting your interpretation of the New York statute in order that the members of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants may conform their practice, without loss to themselves, to what your office deems proper in the matter, which is the wish of the officers of the National Association, I remain,

Yours very truly,
Consulting Staff,
National Association.

Reply of the Attorney-General

February 8th, 1922.

William de LaRoche Anderson, Esq.,
Consulting Staff, National Association
of Certified Public Accountants,
Franklin National Bank Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 6th.

I shall consult with the State Department of Education in regard to your suggestion and see if we cannot work out some way which will permit your members to indicate their certification with the approval and protection of the administrative department concerned with the law. Perhaps we might be able to arrange a test case using several of the titles which I think, verge on the border line.

Yours very truly,

CHARLES D. NEWTON,
Attorney-General.

By (Signed) Edward G. Griffin,
Deputy.

ANOTHER N. Y. OPINION

The University of the State of New
York

The State Department of Education—
Examinations and Inspections
Division

Avery W. Skinner,
Director.

Herbert J. Hamilton,
Assistant, Professional Examina-
tions.

Albany, October 26, 1921.

Gentlemen:

A C. P. A. holding a certificate in another State is only entitled under the New York statute to style himself certified public accountant in this State when he places after the letters C. P. A. the name or the State which gave him the certificate. It is necessary that the type of this be as large as that which he has printed the letters C. P. A.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) W. J. HAMILTON,
Assistant.

ACCOUNTANTS FORM STATE ASSOCIATION

**D. P. McAlpine, Dallas, Head of
Texas Branch National As-
sociation.**

(From Dallas News)

Organization of a Texas branch of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants of Washington, D. C., was effected Sunday at a meeting held at the Oriental Hotel. Those who attended the meeting already were members as individuals of the National Association, but no State organization has been maintained. The meeting yesterday was called by John P. Kinney, chairman of the State Protective Committee of the national organization for Texas.

Following a luncheon, held at 1 o'clock, the accountants went into session in the Kinsell room and remained in session throughout the afternoon. D. P. McAlpine of Dallas was elected president, with J. C. Taylor of Beaumont, vice president, and R. M. Pitner of Fort Worth, secretary-treasurer. The board of directors includes L. O. Dailey, A. H. Brundage, C. F. Fath and John T. Lynch, all of Dallas. President McAlpine issued a call for another meeting of the directors on February 12, to formulate an organization program.

Mr. Kinney was elected chairman of the legislative committee and other committeemen will be named later by President McAlpine. Local accountants held a brief session following the other meeting to consider methods of advising the public regarding qualifications and standards for public accountancy.

There were about thirty men present at the meeting, including accountants from Beaumont, Waco, Houston, McKinney, Cisco, Corsicana, El Paso, Fort Worth, Wichita Falls, Tyler and Dallas.

LETTER FROM TEXAS

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find my check No. 2708 for \$5.00 to cover one year's subscription to the C. P. A. Bulletin.

It is my pleasure to inform you that yesterday a meeting was held at the Oriental Hotel, Dallas, pursuant to a call issued by Mr. John P. Kinney to

all accountants, whether certified or not, throughout the State. I have the honor to inform you that they selected me as President of the Texas branch of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants and that you will, in due course, receive a copy of the proceedings of this meeting.

It is with regret that I have to inform you that the Certified Public Accountants of Texas, a majority of whom received their certificate under the waiver clause, came out in the press stating what was a C. P. A. from their viewpoint. A reply was made to this, copies of which I am enclosing to you. I today have been informed that several of the Certified Public Accountants of Texas, whose names appeared in the ad, have requested the publishing company to withdraw their names.

I hope and sincerely trust that there will be no more of this sort of thing. To me it is about one of the worst things which could happen. It is not going to help the profession in Texas or elsewhere and it certainly will leave its scar if continued.

I am also enclosing a clipping from the Dallas News setting forth in terse way, the fact that this meeting was held and who were elected to the various offices.

Yours very truly,
RANKIN & McALPINE,
By D. P. McAlpine.

REPLY TO TEXAS

My dear Mr. McAlpine:

Please accept our hearty congratulations on your election as president of the Texas branch of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants. You can rely on us for all helpful support it is possible for us to extend. Kindly convey our congratulations and best wishes to the Texas members at their next meeting.

We entirely agree with you that the situation is deplorable as represented by the two advertisement clippings enclosed in your letter. The worst of it is, that it is not confined alone to Texas but this same condition exists all over the country. In this connection I invite your attention to the article on page 6 of the enclosed Bulletin. Deplorable as it is, it however is a phase which is inevitable for the profession of accountancy to be born from the

little unrecognized activity of years gone by, to the great big general usefulness and recognition of value which is presently in store for it. We are in a period of transition from the old order of things to a new and better and higher order of things for the profession, and during this period cannot expect to escape the discomfort and turmoil incident to all radical changes.

If we all will realize the basic cause back of current conditions we may carry on in the spirit of intelligent forbearance and charity toward the old while we earnestly press forward to the goal of the new.

Again with heartiest good wishes to you and your colleagues I am,

Yours very sincerely,
J. R. HUTCHISON,
President.

STATE LEGISLATION

It is important that the members of the National Association in the various States watch out for and report on any local measures which may be presented in the various Legislatures pertaining to Accountancy; and to report the measures presented to headquarters in Washington so that a record may be on file, and so that the General Counsel of the Association may report back an opinion as to the value of such pending measures based on the principles and views of the National Association. It is suggested that the members communicate with the bill clerks of the upper and lower Houses of the Legislatures and request that their names be placed on the mailing list for bills pertaining to Accountancy.

EXAMINATIONS

Owing to the great and urgent demand from New York, the National Association was compelled to hold another examination in New York City on January 27th and 28th, in advance of its anticipated examination to be held in April. From the present outlook, it will be forced to hold still another examination prior to the April examination.

An examination will be held in Chicago on March 2nd and 3rd where a big attendance is expected.

It is important that Accountants generally avail themselves as far as

possible of these opportunities for examination as, in the event of national legislation and national license, those who have qualified under an examination other than purely a local examination, will occupy an exceptionally favorable position. Senator Ball, chairman of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, repeatedly called attention, at the recent hearing on the District Accountancy Bill, to the exceptionally favorable position which the certified members of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants should enjoy in the event of accounting legislation by Congress.

C. P. A. BULLETIN

Inasmuch as the officers of The National Association assume that those members who have not sent in their subscription for the Bulletin, have failed to do so, not because they do not wish to subscribe, but that the matter may simply have been neglected, copies of the Bulletin are being sent to all the members with the idea that the subscription will be forthcoming in due course. If you have definitely decided that you do not care to subscribe to the Bulletin, please to notify headquarters to that effect. In addition to the publication itself, it is proposed to send to subscribers various publications from time to time, gotten out by the various departments of the Government and emanating from the committees in Congress, as will be of interest and value to the subscribers in the practice of their profession. The arrangement for the separate organization for the publication of the Bulletin, owing to the pressure of general affairs, has not as yet been completed. It is hoped by the officers of the National Association that a very general support will be given to the Bulletin, as it is the most powerful influence that we have back of what we all are standing for, and back of the value of our certification.

CONNECTICUT ORGANIZES

Minutes of Meeting

The organization meeting of the Connecticut Chapter National Association of Certified Public Accountants was held at the Hotel Oneco, New Haven, Connecticut, on December 22,

1921, at 8 p. m. The meeting was called to order by Melville D. Thomas of Hartford who had been authorized to do so by the National Headquarters. There were fifteen members present.

On motion duly made and seconded Mr. Thomas was elected permanent chairman of the meeting. He then proceeded to outline the purposes of the chapter. He stated that it was the intention of the incorporators of the National Association to form an organization for bringing into a common union duly qualified professional accountants of technical training, experience and proficiency, to provide for the examination and admission of members, to admit members to the degree of Certified Public Accountants, and generally to do such things as would advance the intellectual status of its members to the highest point. He further stated that it was the desire and hope of the National Association that flourishing chapters should be organized and exist in the various states of the Union in order to band professional accountants into an organization designed to help them professionally and socially. He emphasized the need of cooperation on the part of the members present, and invited all to induce their brother accountants to join the chapter.

On motion duly made and seconded Fred H. Billings of Hartford was elected permanent secretary and A. G. Schirmer of New Haven was elected permanent treasurer. The following committees were appointed by vote of the meeting:

Membership Committee

James A. McDonnell, Greenwich, Conn.

Benj. J. Neff, Meriden, Conn.

J. E. Sheridan, New Britain, Conn.

Reuben Pollowitz, New Haven, Conn.

R. D. L'Hommedieu, So. Norwalk, Conn.

Legislative and Legal Committee

James B. Butler, New Haven, Conn.

John L. Barrett, Waterbury, Conn.

Benj. P. Levine, Bridgeport, Conn.

It was voted to appoint committees on Ethics and By-Laws at the next meeting to be held at the Hotel Garde, New Haven, Conn., Thursday, January 19, at 8 p. m.

The meeting adjourned at 10 p. m.

FRED H. BILLINGS,

Secretary.

SOME CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

It is with keen interest, mingled with anxious hope, that I have watched the National fight its way into existence, and wrench from its adversaries a brilliant prospect of success. And because of my approval of its aims I submit the following criticism in an effort to clarify the issues upon which the National stands. A concise but exhaustive answer by you to the questions raised in the latter part of the letter, I am confident, will reinforce the faith that we have in the Association and will stimulate the wavering to join our ranks.

Briefly stated, the aims of our organization for which we are striving are:

(1) To nationally standardize qualifications and regulations by congressional legislation.

(2) To abolish stringent scholastic requirements.

(3) To give examinations which are to test the practical knowledge and power of application of candidates.

(4) As corollary to the above, to avoid trick questions and ambiguous phrasings allowing the exclusive use and solutions of such problems to the "Old Fogey" accountants, and who, as becoming decaying old men, must have their amusement.

(5) To have the C. P. A. degree considered as a license to practice accountancy publicly, granted to qualified accountants, and to bar all others under penalty.

Now that I have stated the high ideals which have given birth to the National Association, permit me to enumerate the objections and suspicions which I hear on all sides, rumored from mouth to mouth, and gathering force as they spread. These I believe are chasms which must be bridged before our organization can attain entire success.

(1) The organization, instigated by a few clever fellows, is nothing but a "Get-Rich-Quick-Wallingford" scheme

to sell pieces of beautifully printed paper as "C. P. A. Degrees."

(2) In conjunction with the above, why have the organizers chartered themselves for life tenancy and control? Why not a period of years? Let's say ten, even.

(3) Assuming that "Waiver Clause" admission is judiciously expedient at the birth of an organization, why were not even the references investigated?

(4) Another common objection is that there are no accountants of recognized standing who endorse the organization.

(5) The Association defeats its own accredited aims by being a private corporation without public regulation, whatsoever, of its issuance of C. P. A. Degrees.

Hoping that you will put these questions to rout by complete answers, I am, yours

For the National Association,
CURTIS MECHNER.

My dear Mr. Mechner:

In answer to yours of January 16th, I will first ask the privilege of printing your letter in the C. P. A. Bulletin; and will then answer your questions in the order in which they appear.

(1) The National Association of Certified Public Accountants is doing no different in "selling" certificates than is the American Institute in "selling" its certificates, or than are the various State Boards of Accountancy in "selling" their certificates. The only difference in the matter being that we do not soak our members as much as the others do. The money secured from all sources is being used by the Association to pay the expenses incident to the Americanization of the profession, no small nor inexpensive job. Every member of the official staff of the Association is working for less remuneration than he can at present obtain in the practice of his profession. This statement is made upon

definite offers to the members of the staff. The Association pleads guilty to having a beautifully engraved C. P. A. certificate.

(2) The organizers of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants, realizing the strength of the influences organized and unorganized, which were bound to be, through self-interest and self-preservation, in opposition to the purposes which the Association intended to advance and to foster, and realizing at the same time that one of the favorite methods to put the quietus on an organization newly formed, is to pack its membership and vote it into oblivion, took steps to assure the permanence of the organization by placing a provision in its By-Laws that control could only be taken away by an 80% vote of the membership. If the rumors which are current be true, that a certain organization has appropriated \$30,000 to put the National Association out of business, it serves to give point to the wisdom of the incorporators in providing against that which, by this time, would, no doubt, have already happened. The administration of the Association, now in control, desires no life tenancy nor any other tenancy longer than is sufficient to firmly establish the principles and purposes for which the Association was organized and to see that the National Association is strongly entrenched in its rightful position of professional leadership in the country.

(3) To the best knowledge of the officials of the National Association, all references of candidates have been duly investigated. The result of investigations of references are in the files of the Association and are open to inspection to properly authorized representatives or to the individuals to whom the references pertain.

(4) Twenty-seven hundred publicly practicing accountants drawn from all parts of the country, endorse the National Association of Certified Public Accountants. Among these, who are

all individually successful in their professional practice, are Accountants certified by many of the States in the Union, members of the American Institute of Accountants, members of National Association of Cost Accountants and of the other important State and national associations, and educators in accounting in the largest universities of the country—all these endorse the National Association of Certified Public Accountants. The Association has no endorsement from the large firms of accounting contractors, in that the Association opposes most strenuously the selling of clerical service or professional service of a lower grade, at high price and low cost, based merely upon the signature of a certified public accountant on the clients completed report, as practiced by a number of such concerns.

(5) The National Association of Certified Public Accountants is attempting to simulate informally what should be made formal by national legislation and is advocating national legislation which when enacted will relieve the National Association of that phase of activity which should be public, but which, until such legislation is enacted, the National Association regards as an obvious obligation to its members, to the profession, and to the public, upon its realization that the methods employed by another professional organization are such as to transcend present existing laws, and with the realization that when this fact becomes known generally, there must be some centralized, co-ordinating, stabilizing medium, which is operating within the law.

Hoping that you will consent to the publication of your letter together with which we will also publish these answers, amplified or amended as you may suggest, I remain,

Yours very truly,

W. De LaR. ANDERSON,
Consulting Staff,
National Association.

My dear Mr. Anderson:

This is in reply to your communication of January 17th. You may publish our correspondence at your discretion. The letters, no doubt, will illuminate much that has been enshrouded in dark whisperings of suspicion and evil insinuations.

In conjunction with some of your answers to the questions raised, I feel compelled to make the following comments and suggestions:

(1) Publish in the Bulletin for the satisfaction of members and others, a Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the period ended December 31st, 1921, and annually thereafter. To a world of accountants, figures are more potent than mere words.

(2) You say that the present administration of the Association desires control only as long as is "sufficient to firmly establish the principles and purposes for which the Association was organized." If, as you concur in your answer to the fifth question, the National has as one of its objects the extinguishment of itself through Federal legislation, it is quite patent that, at so late a date, relinquishment of control would be uncalled for.

(3) Perhaps the references of candidates were investigated to the "best knowledge" of the officials of the National Association. However, how do you account for the fact that, on all sides, I hear complaints from members of the Association that neither their character nor experience references were verified?

Such laxity, much to my sorrow, will very shortly depreciate the value of the National Association diploma to the par of the forelorn Russian rouble.

(4) In addition to your fourth answer, I am certain that there are some men, not necessarily large accounting contractors, but leaders in the thought and exposition of accounting theory and practice, whose names when mentioned in support of our organization will lend weight and prestige to our efforts.

(5) Your answer to question five is sufficiently complete.

Respectfully submitted to advance the aims of the Association, I am,

Yours very truly,

CURTIS MECHNER.

January 25th, 1922.

Mr. Curtis Mechner,

797 East 166th Street,

New York City.

My dear Mr. Mechner:

In reply to yours of January 21st, and to further amplify mine of the 17th, as required by your comments thereon, would say in reply to your further questions:

1. The fiscal year and the annual meeting of the Association are in June, at which time full financial report, properly audited, will be made. In the mean time, any information as to the financial operation of the Association is available to any of the members of the Association so far as is consistent with the exigencies of our situation in fighting a great big strongly established influence such as the American Institute of Accountants.

2. You may not realize that the policy of the Association has been, not to refer to the hand-picked references of the candidate, where it was possible to get information from other independent sources. If you or any other member of the Association knows of a member who was improperly admitted, it is a mutual duty to see that the matter is investigated and proper steps be taken to correct any error or omission.

3. The idea that I meant to convey was that when our policy for a national board of accountancy and national license for all public accountants is established by law, there will be no further necessity of the issuance of certificates by the National Association for the qualification of members; and that, at that time, when the monopolistic power of the American Institute is broken, the main task of the

incorporators and present officials would have been accomplished, and such protective form of organization as they have provided, would be no longer necessary and would be changed and that they then would feel at liberty to take up the more gainful pursuit of their profession, which they naturally all want to do.

(4) There are no doubt many men of a calibre you mention who we would be glad to have in our organization, and we for our part, are doing everything possible to gain their interest. Some of them we already have in and we should be only too glad for your help in getting others.

In connection with the Russian rouble, would say that there have been men turned down by us who would have gladly given from \$100 to \$500 to have gained admission, and that, in New York City, owing to the flood of applications, we were forced to hold another examination on Friday and Saturday of this week, in advance of our intended date in April.

Thanking you very much for your interest, and hoping that you will continue to present helpful criticisms, I remain,

Yours very truly,

W. De LaR. ANDERSON,
Consulting Staff,
National Association.

COMPLIMENTARY

The officers of the National Association regard with great satisfaction the fact that Certified Public Accountants of various States, especially of New York State, are presenting themselves to take the examination given by the National Association. This is entirely voluntary on their part and not at all necessary, for them to obtain the certification of the National Association, as the National Association accepts and certifies all Certified Public Ac-

countants of the various States, without further examination, when the State examination has been conducted by the State Board itself, and not delegated in fact or effect to an unofficial body or organization. The cause for this is the interest which is being aroused by the form of examination given by the National Association, and by the almost universally favorable report made upon this form of examination by those who have witnessed the value of it. The National Association regards it as a great compliment and is most happy to feel that it has contributed something of value in this most important feature of the determination of the qualifications that should be possessed by the Public Accountant.

NEW YORK STATE PROTECTIVE COMMITTEE

Frank Broaker, C. P. A., Chairman

The New York members of the National Association of Certified Public Accountants have recently organized themselves into a State organization. Mr. Frank Broaker, who is the Chairman of the State organization, is the original Certified Public Accountant in the United States, he being No. 1 on the New York list of Certified Public Accountants.

The purpose of the local organization is to protect the interests of the Association and its members in New York State under the New York State law; to take action against any libelous or slanderous statements made concerning any member of the Association; to watch legislation which may be presented in the State Legislature of interest to Accountants; to legally defend the rights of the various members; to keep members informed, as it affects Accountancy; and to call monthly meetings so that members may become acquainted and by mutual expression gain cooperation.

CAPPER BILL

S. No. 2531—H. R. No. 8522

UNCONSTITUTIONAL

The following excerpts from the unanimous testimony of men familiar with the history of C. P. A. legislation in the various States, given at the Capper Bill hearing, indicate that the legislative intent in all C. P. A. legislation, excepting Oklahoma, was and is merely to confer a title of preference to "Volunteer Examination Experts," and that it was not and is not intended to license a profession.

EXCERPTS FROM TESTIMONY OFFICIAL HEARING

"Nothing contained in the Bill interferes with the right of anyone to practice as a Public Accountant or Auditor without being licensed, so long as no title or designation is employed to convey to another that such person is a Certified Accountant." (Page 6, bottom.) "The degree or certificate is intended solely as a credential, NOT AS A LICENSE TO PRACTICE." (Page 9, bottom.) D. J. Donovan, Auditor of the District of Columbia.

"This is a bill to certify a certain grade of Public Accountants and not Government employees or others no matter how capable." (Page 20, bottom.) Mr. Nau, President, The American Institute of Accountants.

"It is a useless proposition, except to give a designation or title." (Page 27, middle.) William de LaRoche Anderson, Accounting Counsel, National Association of Certified Public Accountants.

"While this will virtually pronounce C. P. A.'s as a part of a selected class of men, hundreds of others, including Government employees, bank officials, and others similarly situated, will continue to practice as Public Accountants." (Page 31, bottom.) Frank Broaker, C. P. A. No. 1 of the United States.

"So I find in going over this Bill, it does not, in my judgment, in any way, shape or form regulate Accountancy for the Accountant." (Page 34, lower middle.) J. R. Hutchison, C. P. A. No. 1 Wyoming, C. P. A. Iowa, C. P. A. and President, National Association of Certified Public Accountants.

"This simply sets up the machinery by which the qualifications of the candidate may be ascertained and a certificate granted to him upon his demonstrating that he possesses those qualifications. It does not stop any other man from calling himself a Public Accountant." (Page 35, middle.) Edward E. Gore, representing Illinois Society of Public Accountants.

"Mr. Anderson. May not any public accountant practice freely and uncontrolled under the provisions of this Bill?"

"Mr. Montgomery. I think so, just as in every State, except Oklahoma, which is the only exception." (Page 38, top.) Robert H. Montgomery.

"Mr. Anderson. Is there anything in this Bill that controls the Public Accountant?"

"Mr. Springer. No. That is your job. Go to it. We are talking about Certified Public Accountants. I don't know anything about what you are talking about." (Page 40, top.) D. W. Springer, Secretary, Michigan State Board of Accountants, and President, The American Society Public Accountants.

"They are asking you gentlemen to protect what? To protect a title of preference over the other Accountants. They have secured in the various States what? A C. P. A. degree which gives them a preference title over other Accountants." (Page 40, middle.) Charles R. Carpenter, National Association of Certified Public Accountants.