Simplicity in Municipal Accounts.

American Association of Public Accountants

Follow this and additional works at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/jofa

Part of the Accounting Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/jofa/vol6/iss2/4

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Archival Digital Accounting Collection at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Accountancy by an authorized editor of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.
satisfactory to all they will hope for improvements in the future despite the proverbial inertia of government bureaus. Great credit is certainly due to the unwearying efforts of the representative accountants at Washington, who have accomplished what appeared a hopeless task at the outset. Whether the various State Commissions will support the I. C. C. by adopting this proposed classification remains to be seen. If they do, as it is to be hoped they will, the final step will seem to have been taken to secure uniformity of accounts.

Simplicity in Municipal Accounts.

Important steps looking to greater uniformity in the accounts and reports of the municipalities of the country were taken at a meeting in Washington, D. C., on May 22, 1908, of the Committee on Uniform Accounts and Reports of the League of American Municipalities. The committee's action will be submitted to the national convention of the League of American Municipalities to be held in Omaha, Neb., in September, for its approval.

Committees were appointed requesting the Municipal Bureau of Research of New York City to make recommendations and a report for a uniform schedule for city budgets; to submit suggestions on the question of making the calendar year the fiscal year in all cities; to confer with officials of the Census Bureau and other bodies with a view of perfecting and making more effective the present system of keeping accounts and rendering reports in the various municipalities, and also to work out a complete report and recommendations of schedules for uniform reports.

General discussion of the subject showed unanimity of opinion among the members for greater uniformity and simplicity in municipal accounts and reports. It is the desire of the committee to have municipal authorities render their accounts and reports in such a manner that anybody can understand them.

The meeting was presided over by Chairman Hugo S. Grosser, of Chicago, formerly city statistician of that city. Among the cities represented were New York, Baltimore, Charleston, Detroit, Duluth, Philadelphia and St. Paul.