

METHODS OF ACCOUNTING IN PROPOSED NEW DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A LETTER FROM THE COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY, CALLING ATTENTION TO THE LANGUAGE IN SECTION 2, PAGE 9, OF THE BILL TO ESTABLISH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR, AND SUGGESTING A SUBSTITUTE THEREFOR.

JANUARY 21, 1903.—Referred to the Committee on Commerce and ordered to be printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, January 20, 1903.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Comptroller of the Treasury, of the 19th instant, directing attention to the language in section 2, page 9, contained in Senate bill No. 569, "To establish the Department of Commerce and Labor," recently passed the House of Representatives, in regard to the methods of accounting in the proposed new department, and suggesting a substitute therefor in accordance with the provisions of the act of July 31, 1894 (28 Stats., 162, secs. 3 et seq.).

Respectfully,

L. M. SHAW,  
*Secretary.*

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY,  
*Washington, January 19, 1903.*

SIR: I have the honor to direct your attention to the language contained on page 9, commencing at the word "and," line 13, and closing with the word "thereon," in line 18, same page, of an act entitled "An

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act to establish the Department of Commerce and Labor," recently passed by the House of Representatives.

It will be seen at a glance that if this method were followed by the Auditor these accounts would be audited under the old system and not under the provisions of the act of July 31, 1894 (28 Stats., 162). This would result in great confusion, if not great mischief.

I assume this language was inserted by oversight. I would suggest the following language as a substitute:

And the Auditor for the State and other Departments shall receive all accounts accrued in or relative to the Department of Commerce and Labor and examine the same and thereafter certify the balances arising thereon to the division of bookkeeping and warrants and send forthwith a copy of each certificate to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Respectfully,

R. J. TRACEWELL,  
*Comptroller.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

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