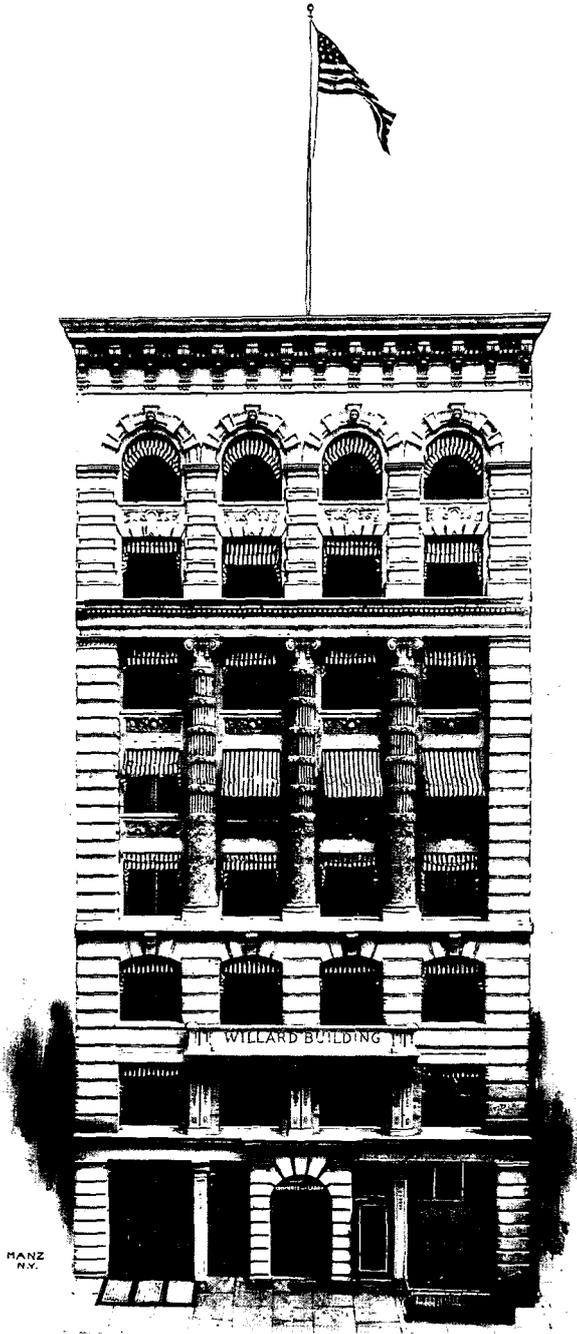


Organization of Department of Commerce and Labor



EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

ORGANIZATION

AND

LAW

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
Washington, D. C., November 17, 1903.

SIR: In transmitting to you for publication the Organization and Law of the Department of Commerce and Labor, prepared under your direction, it may be stated that chapter 1, Origin of the Department of Commerce and Labor, comprises facts gathered, in the main, directly from an examination of the annals of the Congresses, from the first one under the Constitution down to the present time—the only source whence much of the history here given could be drawn. The history and functions of the older offices of the Department, some of which date from the first year of the Government, are given in condensed form. The history of the enactment of the organic law of the Department, chapter 16, gives fully the proceedings of Congress from the introduction of the bill until its approval by the President, and has been edited only to the extent of eliminating repetitions and irrelevant matter. It is interesting to note the contents of the bill at different stages of its passage, as given on pages 419, 544, 625, 638, and finally on page 25.

All the law, the administration of which is vested in the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, given in this volume, is made up of what has been in the immediate past a rule of action for three of the older Executive Departments—Department of State, Department of the Treasury, and Department of the Interior—and two independent offices—the Fish Commission and the Department of Labor, now known respectively as the Bureau of Fisheries and the Bureau of Labor—taken in conjunction with the acts of February 14 and March 3, 1903. The acts last mentioned effected the transfer to the new Department of these established governmental agencies on July 1, 1903, and provided for the organization of the Bureau of Corporations and the Bureau of Manufactures.

The provisions of law relating to the various branches of the Department have been submitted to the several officers in charge for verification, and the entire work has been carefully reviewed by Hon. Herbert Knox Smith, Deputy Commissioner of Corporations, while acting as Solicitor of the Department, and by Mr. Frank H. Hitchcock, chief clerk of the Department.

Respectfully,

CLAIR RICHARDS HILLYER,
Law Clerk.

Hon. GEO. B. CORTELYOU,
Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

CONTENTS

	Page.
I. Origin of the Department of Commerce and Labor	7
Bibliography of legislative proceedings	13
II. Organization of the Department of Commerce and Labor:	
Organization	22
Organic law	25
III. Fur-Seal and Salmon Fisheries of Alaska:	
History	35
Law	38
IV. Bureau of Corporations, law of	49
V. Bureau of Manufactures, law of	59
VI. Bureau of Labor:	
History	60
Law	61
VII. Light-House Board:	
History	65
Law	66
VIII. Bureau of the Census:	
History	78
Law	81
IX. Coast and Geodetic Survey:	
History	97
Law	99
X. Bureau of Statistics (including old Bureau of Foreign Commerce):	
History	103
Law	106
XI. Steamboat-Inspection Service:	
History	114
Law	115
XII. Bureau of Fisheries:	
History	149
Law	151
XIII. Bureau of Navigation:	
History	154
Law—	
Part 1	156
Part 2	246
XIV. Bureau of Immigration:	
History	381
Law	382
XV. Bureau of Standards:	
History	413
Law	416
XVI. Legislative history of Senate bill 569, establishing Department of Commerce and Labor:	
Part 1. Proceedings in the Senate	419
Part 2. Proceedings in the House of Representatives	531
Part 3. Adoption of conference report	637
Indexes	659, 709, 713

ILLUSTRATIONS

	Facing page
Executive offices of the Department of Commerce and Labor.....	1
Temporary office of the Secretary, White House, February 18 to March 15, 1903..	7
Temporary offices, Builders' Exchange Building, March 16 to June 16, 1903..	12
Temporary office of the Secretary, Builders' Exchange Building.....	22
Temporary office of the Chief Clerk, Builders' Exchange Building.....	24
Temporary office of the Disbursing Clerk, Builders' Exchange Building.....	32
Temporary quarters of the Bureau of Corporations, Builders' Exchange Building.....	49
Building occupied by the Bureau of Labor.....	60
Building occupied by the Light-House Board, the Bureau of Navigation, and the Steamboat Inspection Service.....	65
Bureau of the Census.....	78
Coast and Geodetic Survey.....	97
Building occupied by the Bureau of Statistics	103
Bureau of Fisheries.....	149
Bureau of Standards.....	413