

**EXAMINATION QUESTIONS SET AT EACH
EXAMINATION FORM NOVEMBER, 1899, TO
NOVEMBER, 1907, INCLUSIVE
INCLUDING ALSO COPY OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA C. P. A. ACT AND THE RULES
OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS, PP. 1-156**

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Examination Questions Set at Each Examination Form November, 1899, to November, 1907, Inclusive including Also Copy of the Pennsylvania C. P. A. Act and the Rules of the Board of Examiners, pp. 1-156 by Pennsylvania State Board of Examiners of Public Accountants

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**PENNSYLVANIA STATE BOARD OF
EXAMINERS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

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Pennsylvania
State Board of Examiners
of
Public Accountants

907 Betz Building

Philadelphia

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

Set at each Examination from
November, 1899, to November, 1907, inclusive

Including also

COPY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA C. P. A. ACT

and the

RULES OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS

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1908

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Introductory Note

The Pennsylvania C. P. A. Act, which became effective on March 29, 1899, was the second law attempting in any manner to recognize accountancy as a profession in the United States. Under its provisions the Governor of the State is charged with the duty of appointing the members of the Board of Examiners, which is composed of three accountants and two lawyers, and soon after the passage of the law Governor William A. Stone appointed the first Board, consisting of Charles N. Vollum, of Philadelphia; John Vaughan, of Pittsburgh; George R. Heisey, of Lancaster, Pa.; Hon. Frank Reeder, of Easton, Pa., and J. Willis Martin, Esq., of Philadelphia. Of the membership of this original Board, the only one now in service is Charles N. Vollum, C.P.A.

The first examination was held in Pittsburgh on November 13 and 14, 1899, and in Philadelphia on November 17 and 18, 1899, thus covering but two days of eight and one-half hours each, or a total of seventeen hours. This examination consisted of questions grouped under four heads—Theory of Accounts, Practical Accounting, Auditing and Commercial Law.

From the above date until the close of 1907, twelve examinations have been held, and the same order of subjects was observed until the last one, when, under revised rules of the Board in effect from January 1, 1907, the examination questions were grouped in accordance with the language of

the Pennsylvania C. P. A. Act under General Accounting and Commercial Law. It is believed that the revised grouping affords opportunity for a more comprehensive examination in topics with which a practicing public accountant should be familiar than is practicable under the old form of examinations. The first practical test of the working of the new plan was had in the examination held in November, 1907, at which the Board endeavored to set an examination in keeping with the outline published in connection with the rules. The experience of this examination has convinced the Board of the wisdom of the new order.

The time allowed for the examinations has from time to time been increased from the seventeen hours required in the first examination in 1899, until in the November, 1907 examination, three days of seven hours each were devoted to General Accounting and a fourth day spent on Commercial Law, thus making a total of twenty-eight hours. The latter would seem to mark the limit of time that may reasonably be required of a candidate at a final examination.

It is in the hope that students of accountancy may be assisted in their efforts and that other boards of examiners may have the benefit of the experience of the Pennsylvania Board that this volume, containing the Pennsylvania C. P. A. Act, the rules now in force and the full text of the questions set by this Board from its creation in 1899 to the close of 1907, is published.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20, 1908.

Certified Public Accountant Act

An Act to establish a Board for the examination of accountants, to provide for the granting of certificates to accountants, and to provide a punishment for the violation of this Act.

SECTION I.—BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that any citizen of the United States residing or having an office for the regular transaction of business in the State of Pennsylvania being over the age of twenty-one years, and of good moral character, and who shall have received from the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania a certificate of his qualification to practice as a public expert accountant as hereinafter provided, shall be designated and known as a certified public accountant, and no other person shall assume such title or use the abbreviation C. P. A., or any other words, letters or figures to indicate that the person using the same is such certified public accountant. Every person holding such certificate and every co-partnership of accountants, every member of which shall hold such certificate, may assume and use the title of certified public accountants, or the abbreviation thereof, C. P. A., provided that no other person or co-partnership shall use such title or abbreviation, or other words, letters or figures to indicate that the person or co-partnership using the same is such certified public accountant.

SECTION II.—The Governor of the State of Pennsylvania shall appoint a Board of five examiners for the exam-

ination of persons applying for certification under this act. Three of said examiners shall be public accountants, who shall have been in practice as such for at least five years, one of whom shall be appointed for the term of one year, one for two years, and one for three years, and upon the expiration of each of said terms an examiner shall be appointed for the term of three years, and after one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine these three examiners shall be certified public accountants. The other two examiners shall be practicing attorneys in good standing in any of the Courts in the State of Pennsylvania. One of them shall be appointed for the term of one year and the other for two years, and upon the expiration of each of said terms a successor shall be appointed for the term of two years. The examination for certificates shall be based upon an examination in commercial law and general accounting; said examination shall take place in Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, twice a year, during the months of May and November of each year, under such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Board. The fees provided by this act shall be twenty-five dollars for each applicant, from which shall be paid for the expenses incident to such examination, for stationery and clerk hire, a sum not exceeding two hundred dollars, and if any surplus above said expenses shall remain at the end of any year it shall be paid, after the traveling expenses of the Board shall be deducted therefrom, into the treasury of the Commonwealth. The results of such examination shall be certified to the Governor and filed in the office of the Secretary of Internal Affairs, and kept for reference and inspection for a period not less than five years, the Governor to issue the certificates.

SECTION III.—The Governor of the State of Pennsylvania may revoke any such certificate for sufficient cause