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MONTREAL**HYDRO-ELECTRIC RAILWAY ASSOCIATION OF
ONTARIO.**

At the annual meeting of the Hydro-Electric Railway Association of Ontario recently held in Toronto, the following officers were elected: Honorary president, Sir Adam Beck; honorary vice-president, Hon. I. B. Lucas, Attorney-General; president, J. W. Lyon, Guelph; vice-presidents, Mayor T. L. Church, Toronto; A. F. Wilson, Markham; C. R. Somerville, London; George Duncan, Peterboro; C. G. Booker, Hamilton; W. B. Burgoyne, St. Catharines; Fred Milman, Picton; John Derbyshire, Brockville; Peter Ray, Watertown; secretary, T. J. Hannigan, Guelph; treasurer, G. P. Hamilton, Guelph.

ADVISES CURTAILMENT OF EXPENDITURES.

Commissioner Bradshaw of Toronto, in his annual statement advises curtailment of capital expenditure during the present year. Considering that the programme of work to be proceeded with during the current year has already been far exceeded, he urges that, having regard to the credit of the city and the strain on the taxpayers, additional capital undertakings be laid over.

The capital amount of work to which the city is now committed, including local improvements recommended, and which has not yet been financed, amounts to over eight and a quarter million dollars. This includes \$1,000,000 for the housing scheme, \$115,000 for bridges, \$200,000 for street cars, \$185,000 for railway pavements, \$917,000 for waterworks, \$845,000 for schools, \$503,000 for sewers, \$102,000 for libraries, \$150,000 for parks, \$496,000 for improvements along the water front and \$272,000 for miscellaneous matters. The local improvements are: Pavements, \$2,042,647; Sewers, \$594,845; Curbs, \$14,598; Sidewalks, \$144,174; Gradings, \$140,858; extensions and widenings, \$645,521.

Water works improvements, \$864,770; public school sites and building \$845,00; authorized by legislation, \$500,000; harbor works and improvements, \$487,539; civic car lines \$200,000; public libraries, \$100,000; Terauley street and Applegrove extensions, \$244,063; bridges, \$15,000; relief sewers, \$389,585; registry office \$23,000; parks and playgrounds, \$147,600; local improvements, \$280,799; total, \$2,912,770.

The Commissioner points out that no reference has been made to the following matters, which, in the course of time, will be proceeded with: Waterfront railway viaduct, right of way for Hydro radials, North Toronto street railway, paving, etc., Bloor street railway, widening and paving, purchase of Toronto Street Railway, new parks, live stock arena, new trunk sewer and sewage disposal system, duplicate waterworks system. Mr. Bradshaw also adds:

"It will be observed that the amount of new debt proposed is \$2,912,770, necessitating an annual addition to debt charges of \$265,397. At the close of 1918, the margin of the city's borrowing power was \$8,055,172. After the creation of the foregoing debts, and after eliminating those which are not to be reckoned against our borrowing powers, the margin is reduced by \$2,042,000, or, to \$6,013,172."

STANDING OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

The City Comptroller of Edmonton, in his report of the City's Revenue and Expenditures (General Administration) for the six months ending 30th June, draws attention to a feature in the revenue in connection with the collection of current taxes showing that as at 30th June \$1,085,118.13 had been collected, reducing the city's overdraft with the bank to the comparatively small sum of \$37,727.70; while on account of tax arrears the sum of \$526,054.34 was recovered within the period.

The results of the operation of the city's utilities, including electric light and power, street railway, telephone and waterworks are particularly deserving of notice, a net surplus for the six months being shown of \$71,292.52 after providing for capital and depreciation charges on the combined utilities.

The following is a recapitulation of the net results of each particular utility for the half year:

Net Surpluses.

	To 30th June, 1918.	To 30th June, 1919.
Electric light and power	\$54,628.76	\$72,464.78
Telephone	16,579.72	26,375.98
Waterworks	14,588.79	17,064.05
	\$85,797.27	\$115,904.81

Net Deficit.

Street Railway	56,127.93	44,612.29
	\$29,669.34	\$71,292.52