is asked to pass a payment, and he ought also to prove the correctness of interest charges both on debenture and bank loans.

When the ledger is closed on the lines laid down in the chapter on that book, its trial balance will represent the assets and liabilities of the town, and it is the duty of the auditor to verify these. This is perhaps the most difficult duty an auditor is called upon to fill, for he is not expected to be a valuator of property .

He should first insist upon seeing the title to all real estate shown as an asset, and strictly speaking, he should ask the town solicitor to certify that they are in good order. Assets other than real estate he should insist upon seeing a certified inventory for, and always make a point of comparing the prices at which say, coal on hand, is charged, with the invoices, and follow this rule out in all such cases.

It is wise for the auditor to get an outside opinion of the value of real estate, and most real estate agents are willing to give an idea of values to the town auditor where that official is not qualified to judge.

If the figures thus obtained do not agree with the figures in the books, it is then the plain duty of the auditor to acquaint the Mayor of the fact, and either alter the values in his statement, giving his reasons, or include them at the old figures, stating his objections in a special report.

The verification of the town's liabilities is a matter often skimped by auditors, and this should not be the case, for very often this feature leads to serious trouble.

The bank should always be interviewed personally as to the town's liability (if any), and the debentures verified with the debenture register, and whilst the auditor should know the town's standing with the schools direct from the books, he should examine the engineer's progress certificates to verify contractor's drawbacks and use every effort to prove the correctness or otherwise of the total of unpaid accounts.

He should also be most particular to see that moneys received as proceeds of the sale of debentures are devoted