

servative or Liberal scrutineers nor the constables or poll clerks saw anything of even a suspicious nature, and the cases having been thoroughly fought out were dismissed. In dealing with the cases, the *Mail and Empire* said that they were dismissed "on the advice of the Crown Attorney," anxious apparently to have its readers infer that that official is a henchman of the Ontario Government. Unfortunately for its theory, Mr. Bowlby has never been looked upon as a supporter of the present Government. He was not even appointed by it. The charge is also made that the defaced ballots were not produced at the trial. Col. Clark, the Clerk of the House, attended with all the papers and ballots that were in his possession, but the ballots in question had not been returned from the Court of Appeal where they were sent in connection with the Election Trial. The case for the prosecution suffered nothing, however, by their absence, as everything that could have been proven by their presence was admitted by Counsel for the defence. The prosecution, nevertheless, offered to send for the ballots—indeed, had them wired for—and they could have been on hand the next morning, necessitating only a slight adjournment, but the admissions of the defence rendered their production unnecessary. It is worthy of note that these prosecutions are extraordinary inasmuch as the Attorney-General departed from the usual course followed in regard to criminal prosecutions and took it upon himself to expressly instruct the Crown Attorney to proceed with the cases.

Municipal Accounting As It Was and Is.

Previous to 1st May, 1897, there was no Governmental supervision of Municipal accounts. Numerous serious losses had been sustained by the Municipalities throughout the Province of Ontario for many years. No reliable record can be obtained of the deficits that accumulated during those years of Municipal mismanagement, but it is safe to say the sum total would reach a very large amount.

During the first year (1897) in which the office of Provincial Municipal Auditor was created the ascertained losses by the Municipalities throughout the Province were nearly \$100,000.

In 1898 they were	\$11,000
" 1899 " "	4,000
" 1900 there were	no losses.
" 1901 " "	" "

BUILD UP ONTARIO