## Imperial Bank of Canada

Proceedings of the Thirty-third Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders, Held at the Banking House of the Institution, in Toronto, on Wednesday, 27th May, 1908.

The Thirty-third Annual General Meeting of the Imperial Bank of Canada was held in pursuance of the terms of the charter at the Banking House of the institution, 27th May, 1908.

The chair was taken by the President, Mr. D. R. Wilkie, and the Assistant General Manager, Mr. E. Hay, was requested to act as Secretary.

The Assistant General Manager, at the request of the Chairman, read the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Affairs.

#### THE REPORT

\$4,965,757.50.

Branches of the Bank have been opened during the year at the corner of Bloor street and Lansdowne Avenue (Toronto), and also at Port Arthur, Marshville, Port Robinson, Cottam, Amherstburg, South Woodslee, Harrow, Niagara-on-the-Lake, St. Davids and Theesalon, all in the Province of Ontario.

The Head Office and Branches of the Bank have all been carefully inspected during the year and your Directors have again much pleasure in bearing testimony to the faithful and efficient manner in which the Staff have performed their duties. duties. whole respectfully submitted.

D. R. WILKIE, Presiden's

#### 30th April, 1908 PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

PRUFI	I AND	LUSS ACCOUNT
Dividends Nos. 68, 69, 70 and 71, paid quarterly, for year ended 30th of April, 1908, at 11 per		Balance at credit of account 30th April, 1907, brought forward
cent. per annum \$ 5	35,524 21	months ended 30th April,
Transferred to Rest Ac-		1908, after deducting
count 1	91.809 06	charges of management
Written off Bank Premises		and interest due deposit-
and Furniture Account	36,052 55	ors, and after making full
special appropriation ap- plied in writing down		provision for all bad and doubtful debts, and for
	00,000 00	rebate on bills under dis
Balance of account carried		count
orward 4	75.914 62	Premium received on new

\$1 330 300 44

**REST ACCOUNT** lance at Credit of Account 30th April, 1907 \$4,773,948 44

mium received on new Capital Stock. 191,809 06

Capital Stock

\$4,965,757 50 30th April, 1908 LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation \$2,907,042 00
Deposits not bearing interest \$5,958,467 43
Deposits bearing interest including i terest accrued to date). 24,191,658 14 - 30.150.125 57 Deposits in other Banks in Canada ..... Capital Stock (paid up)

Rest Account

Dividend No. 71 (payable 1st May, 1908), for three month, at the rate of 11 per cent. per annum

Rebate on bills discounted

Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward

475,014 62

Dalance of Front and Loss Account carried forward 475,914 62	5,657,629	23
	\$43,804,195	62
ASSETS		
Gold and Silver Coin         \$1,111,575         27           Dominion Government Notes         5,999,586         60		
[1987] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [2] [2] [2] [3] [3] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4	\$ 7,111,161	
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of note circulation	189,621	
Notes of and Cheques of other Banks	1,368,555	38
Loans to other Banks in Canada, secured, including bills redis-		
counted		74
Balance due from other Banks in Canada		82
Palance due from Agents in the United Kingdom		
Balance due from Agents in Foreign Countries		
	\$11,637,188	77
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities \$ 534,618 07		
Loans to Provincial Governments 915,843 73		
Canadian Municipal Securities and British or Foreign		
or Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian. 1,604,558 89		
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks 673,074 83		
manual and other bonds, believed and stocks Violity of	2 729 005	50

Call and Short Loans on Stocks and Bonds in Canada ...... 3,356,607 90 \$18 721 892 19 Other Current Loans, Discounts and Advances ... ... ... Overdue debts (loss provided for)
Real Estate (other than Bank premises)
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank
Bank premises, including Safes, Vaults and Office Furniture, at
Head Office and Branches 1.100.000 00 18,671 31 \$43,804,195 62

D. R. WILKIE, E. HAY,
Assistant General Manager.

The usual motions were presented and carried unanimously.

The scrutimers appointed at the meeting reported the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year: Messrs. D. R. Wilkie, Hon. Robert Jaffray; Wm. Ramsay, of Bowland, Stow, Scotland; Elias Rogers, J. Kerr Osborne, Charles Cockshutt, Peleg Howland, Wm. Whyte (Winnipeg), Cawthra Mulock, Hon. Richard Turner (Quebec), Wm. Hamilton Merritt, M. D. (St. Catharines).

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors Mr. D. R. Wilkie was elected President and Hon. Robert Jaffray Vice-President for the ensuing year.

DROWNED IN BAY LAKE.

Two Swedish Prospectors Upset From

a Canoe.

ccident took place last week on

Mr. Archie Gillies were

Cobalt, May 26 .- A double drowning

Lake, when two Swedish prospectors for

out fishing in a canoe. They were Eric Helenjus, aged thirty-eight, and Otto Pyyliko, aged thirty-one. They were not long out when a squall suddenly arose and capsized their canoe. Both bodies were recovered from the lake shortly afterwards

Cobalt.

Another Swedish prospector is missing in the Anama-Nipissing region, and it is thought that he, too, has been

A Plucky Stratford Lad.

Stratford, May 27.-Arthur John-

### IN PERFECT ACCORD.

French Ministers Confer With Sir Ed-

French Ministers Confer With Sir Edward Grey.

London, May 27.—M. Pinchon, the French Foreign Secretary, and M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, today had a long conference with Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, at the Foreign Office. It is announced that all questions affecting the policy of France and Great Britain were discussed, showing a complete agreement.

feeting the policy of France and Great Britain were discussed, showing a complete agreement.

After attending an official dinner given by Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State, at the Foreign Office, M. Fallieres, accompanied by the King and Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the Royal family, attended a gula opera given at Covent Garden Theatre. This, perhaps, was the most gorgeous incident of the whole visit of M. Fallieres. The great theatre was richly decorated with roses, while a crowded audience glittered with diamonds and blazed with uniforms. The orchestra played the "Marseillaise" and "God Save the King" as M. Fallieres and the Royal party entered. An enthusiastic ovation followed.

The programme consisted of an act each of Bizet's "Pescatori di Perle," and Gounod's "Faust," in which Tetrazzini and Melha, respectively, sang the parts of Leila and Marguerite. Both singers were accorded a great reception.

of Leila and Marguerite. Both singers were accorded a great reception.

The resignation of Mr. Armand Laturate workings of the criminal courts with regree, M. P. for Montmagny, has been received by the Speaker

Those who are most familiar with the workings of the criminal courts with the triple of the criminal courts with the triple of the criminal courts with the triple of the criminal courts with the workings of the criminal courts with the

## AT BATTLEFIELD.

TWO FUNCTIONS

WOMEN'S WENTWORTH HISTORI-CAL SOCIETY KEEPING BUSY.

Mrs. John Calder Again Elected President—Arrangements for the Gov-ernor-General's Visit.

An important meeting of the execuive of the Women's Wentworth Historical Society was held in the Y. M. C. A. parlor yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Calder, president, in the chair. As so many of the members are engaged in various ways, and two entertainments are com-ing off at the battlefield, the date for the annual meeting was changed to June 10th. officers elected for the ensuing

The officers elected for the ensuing year are:
President—Mrs. John Calder.
First Vice-President—Mrs. John S.
Hendrie.
Second Vice-President—Mrs. R. R.
Waddell.
Third Vice-President—Mrs. John Crerar.

Crerar. Fourth Vice-President-Mrs. J. M.

Fifth Vice-President-Mrs. Thomas W. Watkins

Fifth Vice-President—Mrs. Thomas W. Watkins.

Secretary—Mrs. Bertie Smith.

Treazurer—Miss Mary Gartshore.
Historian—Miss M. J. Nisbet.
Executive Committee—The officers and Mesdames George H. Glassco, Hamilton, Husband, Carscallen, Denne (Stoney Creek), J. W. Nesbitt, Harry Burkholder, McNeilly (Stoney Creek), Harry V. Cann, Waddie, Foster, Wardrope, Misses Hendrie, Calder, Carrie Crerar, Isabel Burrows.

Convener House Committee—Mrs. Shawcross.

Arrangements were completed for entertaining Earl Grey, Lady Grey and Lady Sybil Grey at the battlefield on Friday afternoon. The party will be taken down in autos at 2.30, when an informal reception will be held and afternoon tea served. The guests will be limited to members and their husbands or escorts, who must get tickets of admission in advance from the secretary. or escorts, who must get tickets of ad-mission in advance from the secretary, Mrs. Smith, 27 Gore street, phone 522. Extra cars will leave the Terminal Sta-

.\$ 426,316 31

721,175 07

191.809 06

\$1,339,300 44

Extra cars will leave the Terminal Station at 2.10, returning at 5.25.

The County Fair to be given on the anniversary of the battle, June 6th, promises to be the most successful affair ever given in the locality. The advance sale of tickets is surprising, as the date is still ten days off. A resolution of sympathy was passed for Miss Isabel Burrows, whose mother died this week. St. Cecilia Chapter will hold its closing meeting for the season at the battlefield on Saturday afternoon, and Caxton Chapter will meet there Monday afternoon.

#### INSPECTION OF HIGHLANDERS.

FINE TURNOUT OF REGIMENT BE-FORE COL. D'INISON.

Work Well Done and Elicited Favorable Comment-The Inspecting Officer Entertained.

The inspection of the right half of the 91st Regiment was held last even-ing, and work done by the four companies of that half must have been pleasing indeed to the commanding officer, Col. Logie. Col. Septimus Denison, of Toronto, was the inspecting officer, and after a thorough ining officer, and after a thorough inspection lasting for two hours, he said that he was greatly pleased with the work of the companies. The whole regiment was on parade, and whife A company, under Captain Skedden, was going through its movements, the rest of the regiment under Major Roberts, with the two bands, took a marchout through the principal streets.

marchout through the principal streets.

Col. Denison was entertained in the officers' mess at the conclusion of the inspection.

The parade state was as follows:
Col. Logie, Majors Roberts and Bruce, Capt Bell, adjutant; Capt. Chisholm, paymaster; Capt. Dickson and Lieut. McEdwards, surgeons, Capt. Somerville, quartermaster; Capt. Drummond, chaplain; staff sergeants 10, A 44, B 40, C 41, D 47, E 36, F 42, G 38, H 40; buglers 38; pipers 20; band 34; bearers 16; signallers 9; total 464.

#### PERU'S PRESIDENT.

Senor Leguia Elected to Succeed Dr. Pardo.

Lima, Peru, May 28.—Senor Don Augusto B. Leguia has been elected to succeed Dr. Pardo as President of Peru.

Senor Leguia is 45 years old, and for Senor Legula is 43 years oid, and for a long time was engaged in the life in-surance business. Later he became man-aging director of the British Sugar Es-tates, limited, a corporation which has many million dollars invested in Peru. He has served as Minister of Finance and Las uses

#### STUDENTS HURT.

Lisbon, May 28.—A procession of students of Coimbra University, to present homage to the King, was attacked last night while passing through certain quarters of the city. Five of the students were injured. injured.

the police arrested 28 of their assail, and a vigorous investigation has ordered.

#### HEAVY SENTENCE.

London, May 28.—Mrs. Margaret Hamilton, who was one of the principal witnesses to the alleged identity of the Duke of Portland with T. C. Druce, was to-day sentenced to 18 months' penal servitude for perjury, her appeal having been disallowed.

#### GEN. LEE DEAD.

Vicksburg, Miss., May 28.—Gen. Ste-phen Lee, commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans, died at his home here this morning.

#### AN IDEAL SPOT.

Stratford, May 27.—Arthur Johnson, twelve years of age, son of Jonah Johnson, of this city, rescued a younger companion from drowning on Monday afternoon. The younger lad had gone into the River Avon to swim, got beyond his depth, and was about to sink when the Johnson boy, who was on the bank, plunged in and brought the former safe to land. For an enjoyable and healthful outing there is no finer place in Canada than Mountain View Park. The roller rink is now open 'hree sessions every day, with band in attendance every evening and Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. After a hard day's work a couple of hours on the little wheels are guaranteed a sure cure for that tired feeling. Friday Special Value Day

## The Right House "HAMILTON'S FAVORITE SHOPPING PLACE"

Friday Special Value Day

# Friday special value day: Extra values

OF course you have noticed how quick this store is to save its patrons' money—selling as low as possible—crowding in value to the very last cent. It's to the interest of the store to do so—it's to its interest to consider your interest. That's one great secret of its rapid growth of late. Friday values are especially good all over the store—every department putting its best foot foremost, giving economies of an especially generous character. To-morrow's list of economies is exceptionally interesting both in morning sale specials and all-day offerings. Read every word of the saving news.

\$2 blouses \$1.39

Made of fine muslins and lawns Some have dainty Val. lace yoke with pretty embroidered fronts. Others have tucked fronts with embroidery and Val. lace trimmings. Still others are finished with pretty shadow embroidery work, and edged with file lace insertion at yoke, with tucks and lace below to finish. A dozen other styles for selection, also. styles for selection, also.

### \$3 blouses \$1.95

Fine muslins, mulls and Persian lawns, also some sheer, crisp spotted Swisses, in dainty yoke designs; fine tucked fronts and panel designs, daintily and abundantly trimmed with eyelet and solid embroidery and German and filet lace insertions. Ten or twelve styles to choose from.

Tropical weight Panamas, that are dust shedding, and light weight Panne Cheviots, smartly tallored in pleated all around, box pleated, fold trimmed and strapped styles. Black, browns, greens, navies and cream.

Five dollar Chiffon Taffeta Silk Un-derskirts, firm, lustrous quality, tuck-ed and frilled full flounces; deep un-

\$7 skirts at \$5.50

Underskirts \$3.95

### Great final reduction clearance sale of new dress goods

FIVE thousand yards of this season's newest and smartest P Dress Goods goes on sale to-morrow morning. Over three thousand dollars' worth in most fashionable wanted colorings in plain and fancy weaves and patterns-products of the foremost European manufacturers and imported direct, at first

The greatest underprice sale of fashionable summer dress goods ever attempted in Hamilton

Absolute price reductions-some lots are marked to nearly half price. These were special purchases, at great price reductions, for this sale. Every piece offered is fashionable, new and good.

Sale starts to-morrow. Buy NOW an extra two or three dresses and skirts for summer and early fall wear. Buy, too. for the children. See the grand window displays and tell your friends.

39c were 65c and 75c 69c, were 85c and \$1.00 59c, were 75c and 85c 88c. were \$1.25 and \$1.50.

There are Smart Worsteds, Panamas, Mohairs, Taffeta Cloths, and practically every wanted summer weave in every stylish coloring and pattern, also in plain weaves. All are crisp new goods, extra wide and of very superior Right House quality. Sale starts to-morrow. Be on hand bright and early.

A great quality

\$3.50 suits \$2.39

Women's Wash Suits of White Lawn. Waist is tucked to yoke depth and finished with two rows of lace and embroidery insertion; % sleeve, trimmed to match; extra full, side-pleated Skirt.

\$2.50 suits \$1.38

Children's Wash Suits—Boys' Two-piece Suits, and Girls' Percale and Lawn Dresses, in Buster Brown, straight one-piece and French styles; neatly trimmed with buttons, lace edgneatly trimmed with buttons, lace edg-ings and braids; sizes for boys of 2 to 5 years, and for girls of 5 to 14 years.

\$3.50 hats \$2.25 Children's Trimmed Flops, in white, pink, sky or tuscan; flower and lace trimmings.

Pattern hats

Every new styles that are becoming and graceful, over a hundred beauties and no two alike. Every new style of merit is represented.

\$3.50, reduced from \$6.00

\$4.75, reduced from \$7.00 \$5.50, reduced from \$8.50 \$6.00, reduced from \$10.00 \$8.50, reduced from \$15.00 \$12.50, reduced from \$20.00

Thomas C. Watkins

and value store

Thomas C. Watkins

### COLE BROTHERS AT PITTSBURG.

THE GREAT SHOW MADE A HIT THERE RECENTLY.

Will Be in Hamilton Next Week and Promise Novelties and Sensations in Great Variety.

Cole Brothers opened the circus season in Pennsylvania early this month, and re creating widespread interest wherever they go. As this great show is to be here on June 3rd, the following from the Pittsburg Post will be interesting to the steamer General Diaz. in Pennsylvania early this month, and are creating widespread interest wherever they go. As this great show is to be here on June 3rd, the following from the Pittsburg Post will be interesting to

Hamilton people: Hamilton people:

Pittsburg's circus season was opened auspiciously by Cole Brothers' circus at the Homewood grounds, and the attendance, especially in the evening, when the huge canvas tents were crowded, clearly showed that Cole Brothers have established an enviable reputation among Pittsburgers. The performance merited the warmest approbation, and the audience was quick to perceive the myriad ence was quick to perceive the myriad novelties, sensations and remarkable ser-ies of acts that have not, as yet, been duplicated. All in all, the first Pitts-

burg circus day was a big success.

Harry Clark and his comical congress of 40 clowns made merry during the tire performance, and the clown playlets tire performance, and the clown playlets they enacted were enjoyed as much by the older persons as they were by the children. The riding acts were among the best that Pittsburg audiences have witnessed for a long time, while the aerial artists, performers with names and reputations, cavorted aloft to the keen delight of the small boy and to the evident enjoyment of his older escort.

cort.
The Stirk family of bicyclists, the Flying DeNovas, the seven Delemeads, Mlle. Ritchie, Mike Rooney, Miss Costello and Prof. Eugene Cousins divided the stellar horses but they by no means comlar honors, but they by no means com-pleted the show. The exhibits in the various rings and platforms included those who are well known to every cir-cus-goer, and their work yesterday was of the highest order. Tumblers carried with the show exhi-

bit the most remarkable ability in accomplishing triple somersaults, pirouet-tes and dives, while the horse flesh is of the highest class. A number of ground acrobatic acts tend to keep the true

acrobatic acts tend to keep the true circus spirit ever prevalent, and the races wind up a performance that can but satisf; the most exacting.

The parade attracted large crowds, and the procession was one of the best of its kind. The pageant was noteworthy in its style and costuming. The trimmings, trappings and various uniforms were new, and showed the trained eye of an expert in selecting and fitting. The free exhibitions were up to the standard and increased the enthusiasm among the large crowds on the show grounds from noon until the last of the evening performance. evening performance

#### TO SUMMER HAUNTS.

To summer Haunts.

That "Tours of Summer Haunts" issued by the Intercolonial Railway is a favorite with the travelling public, each year becoming better acquainted with the territory it describes, was demonstrated by the enormous demand for the last edition of the valuable little booklet.

This spring it comes dressed in chaste blue covers and containing over 100 pages. Taking Montreal the metropolis as an initial point the country so replete with historic lore and scenic attractions adjacent to over 1,000 miles of railway is described in readable style. Neat half tone reproductions of scenes along the line illustrate the text, and in addition over 100 well thought out tours, with special rates, are presented.

Free copies will be furnished on application to the city ticket agents at Toronto, Montreal, etc., or to the General Passenger Department, Moncton, N.B.

Hon. A. G. Mackay's meeting at Sim-

CHINESE MINERS MUTINIED.

Killed Several Mexicans in Town o Santa Rosalia.

Victoria, B. C., May 27.—After holding up the mining town of Santa Rosain, on the Mexican coast, and killing several Mexicans with knives, in boisterous street fights, 300 mutinous Chinese miners were shipped away to Manzanillo on May 12, according to news received last night by the steamer Lonsdale. The Counces: rotes in er Lonsdale. The Chinese rioted the streets, and when a mob tried

HEARST MAKES GAIN.

Recount of Two Boxes in New York

Mayoralty Election in 1905. Mayoralty Election in 1905.

New York, May 27.—In the recount of the ballots cast in the Mayoralty election of 1905, when George B. McLellan, Republican, was officially declared elected over William Randolph Hearst, Independent, by a plurality of 3,400, a recount of the contents of two boxes today showed a gain for Hearst of 27 votes. Hearst's friends maintain that if the same average is maintained he will be shown to have been elected by 22,000.

Hearst claimed immediately after the election in 1905 that he had been defrauded out of the Mayoraity, and began proceedings through the courts and Legislature, leading up to the present recount.

#### TRANSPORTATION BUREAU.

Montreal Board of Trade Makes a New

Move.

Montreal, May 27.—The Montreal
Board of Trade to-day started a new
departure, when they made the initial
moves for the organization of a transportation bureau to take charge of the portation bureau to take charge of all matters between the business interests and the railways. Already 150 members of the Board of Trade have joined the bureau, and an expert railway man will be permanently engaged to study railway questions, such as freight rates and classification, looking after overcharges, and, in general looking after overcharges, and, in general look after overcharges, and, in general, lo after Montreal's railway interests as distributing point. The expert w distributing point. The expert will have to attend all the meetings of the Railway Commission.

Forty new members were admitted to the Board of Trade to-day, making a total of 240 for this year so far—the greatest number for the time on record.

# **ELECTION NEWS**

You should keep in touch with the Provincial campaign now on, and intelligently study the issues. Subscribe now for the TIMES and get our views on the situation.

30c a Month **Delivered to Your Home** 

# THE POWER QUESTION

Hon. A. G. MacKay's Tenth Letter to the People of Ontario.

HISTORIC-Day by day the possibilities of electric energy are being the better understood. The advance made in the past fifteen years indicates that even yet we are moving somewhat in the dark. This limited knowledge naturally found its reflex in legislation. The agreement of April 7, 1902, with the Canadian & Niagara Power Company, whereby an absolute monopoly of Niagara power was granted the said company was ratified in that year without a single objection, and without one dissenting word from either side of the House. With better knowledge came better legislation. In 1899 the then Government were able to obtain a cancellation of this monopoly clause and all the subsequent agreements were limited in their scope, and gave the right to the Government, in case the company failed to comply with the terms of the agreement, to step in, take possession and operate the works for the generation, transmission and sale or lease of electric power. Later came legislation empowering the municipalties to act in concert in the work of transmitting electric energy. The lack of any official or controlling head to such concerted action militated against the usefulness of this statute, and then in the na-

tural process of evolution came further legislation. THE STATUTES OF 1906 AND 1907-These statutes placed the Government, through the Hydro-Electric Commission, in the position of an agent for any and all the municipalities. I said at the time the statute of 1906 was passed, and believe now, that it was a step in the right direction, inasmuch as it lent the strong arm of the Province to the movement for cheap light and power. The statute of 1907 but clarified the law as passed in 1906.

GOVERNMENT'S MISTAKE-The Government's stupid concer tion of their own position in the matter has led to unnecessary delay and confusion. The Administration, acting through the Commission forgot that they were merely agents of the municipalities. The statute was clear that no financial liability could attach to the Province, no matter how the Commission blundered. It was, therefore, undoubtedly the duty of the Commission to lay all the facts before the municipalities in accordance with the requirements of the statutes The 1906 statute called for the submission to the municipalities of estimates, a form of contract, etc. When such estimates, form of contract, etc., had been published and carefully studied out by the ratepayer he could vote on the by-law with some degree of intel-No such form of contract was submitted to the municipalities prior to the submission of the by-law. The 1907 statute made matters even clearer by calling for a publication of the provisional contract the estimates, the by-law, etc., before the vote was taken Instead of following the statute certain figures were verbally guaran teed as to the cost of power delivered. If power can be delivered for these figures the Municipal Councils have authority from the ratepayers to sign contracts. If the figures exceed those given by the Minister, the Councils have no authority from the ratepayers to execute a contract

CURING MISTAKES-At last the Government admitted their bungling by bringing down at the close of the session a measure to validate the by-laws, and to bind the municipalities to pay variant cost, whether that exceeded the figures given prior to the voting or not. I rather leaned to the view that the Government should have submitted the by-laws again, this time following the statute, in order that no rate-payer or municipality could complain bound to a figure which might exceed the arbitrary figures originally given as to cost. The Commission may, however, still municipalities by declining to enter into any contract that may make the actual cost higher than the particular figure quoted to the municipality. Still, in advance, in a large undertaking of this kind it is difficult to make exact estimates, and the Government's position would have been infinitely sounder had a summary of all the estimates, the form of contract, and the by-law been in advance of the vote, and had the municipalities been told frankly that the Government, under the statute, could guarantee nothing that if actual cost were more than estimates, the municipalities must pay the same; if less, then less. Had this been done the Councils would have had the mandate of the ratepayers to pay the full cost, and a special statute would not need to be evoked to cover a pos-sible gap between the estimates and the actual cost, and concerning which gap the ratepayers were never consulted. The safe course in this, as in all else, was to lay all the facts in accordance the requirements of the statute before the people, and then "trust the people" to look after their own interests. As to other phases this question, more anon.

A. G. MACKAY.