

Large amounts have been paid from the revenues of 1900 and 1901 for indemnities dating as far back as 1894, 1895 and 1896. No effort had been made by previous committees to settle these claims and give satisfaction to the citizens who were impatiently waiting for their money. Legal costs and interest were accumulating to the detriment of the civic treasury.

The Finance Committee succeeded in finding funds to pay these claims of previous years. The sum of \$117,928.23 deducted from resources of the two years comprising the present term, materially diminished the amount at the disposal of the Committee for administration, but the Council deemed it the wisest course to make an end of the back accounts, and settle with those whose claims for damages had been sustained by the Courts.

As far as indemnities for the last two years are concerned, the Finance Committee carried out the policy of settling them immediately in the most rapid manner. The City Attorneys were very active in defending the interest of the Corporation whenever a claim for damages was filed. The City experts were set to work without delay, and by the rapidity of their methods the City saved the law costs which were formerly paid out of the City Treasury.

At present all the City's outstanding accounts have been settled, with the exception of those which are now before the Courts, and which will be carefully looked after. Nothing is now pending, and the aldermen who will compose the Finance Committee in February, 1902, will have a clean sheet to commence with. This is unprecedented in the history of the Corporation, and should be noted by the citizens so that the credit may be given to the reorganizers of our municipal administration.

Public Health

The Finance Committee never failed to find the necessary funds to protect the health of our families from an invasion of the smallpox or an epidemic of fever. We remember how rapidly the smallpox developed in 1885, when the City was sadly ravaged. In 1901 we were visited by the scourge again, but, at the