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READ IT.

We print in this issue of GRIP the twelfth annual report of the Toronto General Trusts Company, and we trust everybody will read it, not merely to learn that this Company has proven a solid financial success, but because it must be intensely interesting to any man with the slightest business instinct. Trust companies of this sort have nothing in common with the so-called trusts, which control various lines of business now-a-days, and which are simply pirates under a pretty name. This company is on the contrary a great public benefactor and worthy of the unlimited confidence which the Canadian public has in it, as attested by its splendid success.

* * *

THE last possibility in the way of a new musical organization for Toronto has been discovered and realized by Mr. J. D. A. Tripp, a gentleman who bids fair to become as eminent in the conducting line as he has long been as a piano soloist. This favored city only needed a Male Chorus Club to complete the list, and it now has it. What's more, it has a male chorus which (or who, even at J's or their—Oh, that somebody would settle this English pronoun nuisance!)—very first appearance sang superbly. No weaker word will describe the Club's rendering of the part songs, glee etc. on the programme of their first annual concert at the Grand Opera House on Tuesday evening of this week. Mr. Tripp covered himself with glory, though we know he would insist on dividing the praise liberally with his singers, who certainly did him proud. It was eminently a performance with brains in it from first to last, brains and good judgment, backed with voices capable of carrying out the musical idea to be expressed. To be sure, in the novelty of his position, and the pardonable enthusiasm of the moment, Mr. Tripp displayed a tendency to conduct somewhat acrobatically—to mark the time with his limbs as well as his arms (arms are not limbs, you know) and although perhaps this was quite appropriate in the case of a "March," it is an eccentricity which time will no doubt correct. The work of the Club was delightfully varied by the contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lavin, of Boston. Mrs. Lavin (Miss Mary Howe) has a brilliant soprano voice with which she can apparently do anything she wishes; Mr. Lavin is a capital tenor. Both scored an unqualified success. Miss Susie Ryan (a popular young lady of this city who for some reason wishes to be known by the rather absurd stage name of Arna Senka) made her first appearance after a prolonged stay in Europe, and sang some contralto solos. The result was highly gratifying so far as the lower notes were concerned—her voice having the rich quality of a "cello. Beyond these notes, however, there was uncertainty and sometimes failure. Miss Ryan, we are informed, has lately undergone an operation for throat trouble, which no doubt accounts for the defect just mentioned. Her reception was such, at all events, as to testify her great personal popularity in her home city.

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- No. 10—"Baby" solid gold pins set with one real diamond, \$1 each.
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FRANK S. TAGGART & CO.

89 King St. West, Toronto.

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