

ANNUAL REPORT CITY AUDITOR. 1918-1919.

Office of the City Auditor,
Halifax, N. S., Nov. 1st, 1919.

*To His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of the City Council.*

Gentlemen:—I have much pleasure in presenting this my nineteenth Annual Report.

The Board of Control, by the vote of the ratepayers, ceased to exist at the last election. One outstanding feature of the Board of Control System was that it brought forth men who, in spite of strongest opposition, even when in a hopeless minority, would "stand to their guns" and do the right thing by the ratepayers who elected them.

The live question to-day is taxation and it must be grappled with sooner or later. In face of existing circumstances I think that any ratepayer who has the welfare of the City at heart enough to scan my report of 1914-1915, pages 26 to 28 will feel that suggestion made therein were such that had they been carried out we would now have been in a much better financial condition.

Legislation has been obtained by the classes against the masses and one thing is certain—when the latter become educated to the right point, they will not stand such unloading. At the same time I think I should state that had the elected representatives of that period been amenable to suggestions by their old officials who had ripe experience in matters of taxation and civic requirements, it would have been much better for the general ratepayer.

In spite of the high cost of building, there are more houses of a substantial character being built at the present time than at any other period of our existence and yet the housing problem is a serious one, and is now being prosecuted vigorously by different interests.

Our streets are badly torn up in order to place them on a more permanent basis, which we hope to have accomplished within another year or so.

Our Tram Service is being very much improved. Steel shipbuilding is progressing favorably, and general business with us is very good, with a favorable outlook for the near future.

The Relief Commission are doing a good work for us and we cannot be too thankful for the sympathy and monetary relief extended us by the world on account of the Explosion of December 6th., 1917, when over 1600 of our people were wiped out in a few seconds of time.

Halifax was hard hit by the War, not only through the Explosion and the death of many of our bright young men at the front, but indirectly through disease and disabilities which are the inevitable results of war. On the other hand, we can point with pardonable pride to the fact that "to know our duty was to do it", as is evidenced by the accompanying accounts.

1918-19

CITY AUDITOR'S REPORT

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RELIEF COMMISSION.

Schools Account.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on Schools (Relief) Account from May 1, 1918 to April 30, 1919.

1918					
Jan. 25	By	Cash from Relief Commission	.....	\$	25000 00
Apr. 26	do	do do do	.....		5000 00
May 7	do	do do do	.....		5000 00
		31 do do do	.....		15000 00
Aug. 6	do	do do do	.....		50000 00
Sept. 17	do	do do do	.....		30000 00
Oct. 12	do	do do do	.....		20000 00
		19 do do do	.....		50000 00
Nov. 30	do	do do do	.....		50000 00
Dec. 13	do	do do do	.....		50000 00
1919					
Feb. 18	do	do do do	.....		25000 00
May 14	do	do do do	.....		40000 00
		do do do	.....		6711 58
					<u>\$371711 58</u>

1918					
Jan. 25	To	School Board	.....		25000 00
Apr. 26	do	do do	.....		5000 00
May 7	do	do do	.....		5000 00
		31 do do	.....		15000 00
Aug. 6	do	do do	.....		50000 00
Sept. 17	do	do do	.....		30000 00
Oct. 12	do	do do	.....		20000 00
		19 do do	.....		50000 00
Nov. 30	do	do do	.....		50000 00
Dec. 13	do	do do	.....		50000 00
1919					
Feb. 18	do	do do	.....		23288 42
26		Wm. Fraser, plans	.....		2250 00
		A. R. Cobb, do	.....		1500 00
May 14		Brookfield Bros	.....		21204 51
		Harris & Sons	.....		14704 65
		Salaries	.....		275 00
		Gordon & Keith	.....		500 96
		Harris & Sons on acct. \$13011.23	.....		5711 58
					<u>\$370435 12</u>

Balance carried forward \$ 1276 46
LOAN WIDENING STREETS;

Statement of Expenditure on Loan Widening Streets from May 1, 1918 to April 30, 1919.

1918					
May 1	By	Balance on hand	.....	\$	3 88
		Transfer Special Loan acct	.....		5000 00
					<u>\$ 5003 88</u>