

Lancaster Welcomes

PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

JUNE 25, 1955



THE ANNUAL REPORT

Lancaster - New Hampshire

1955

Highlights of 1955 . . .

Once again the Town Finances operated in the black, as a budget surplus of \$10,049.44 was recorded at the close of the year.

Voters' approval was secured at the March Meeting for the reconstruction of Main Street from High Street to North Main Street. As the 1956 year began, the preliminary plans had been reviewed by Town Officials and the work was being contracted.

A plot of land was purchased by the Town for a new State Armory just above the Fair Grounds.

Ross F. Stanard was re-elected to the Board of Selectmen. High Street and Stevens Terrace were reconstructed and the right angle turn at Bishop's Corner on the Pleasant Valley Road regraded and widened, by the Town forces. Exterior of Information Booth was completely and attractively redecorated.

Plans for 1956 . . .

Presentation to the voters of the reports of the Zoning Committee and the Town-Precinct consolidation committee for their review and possible action.

Purchase of a new dump truck and a power sweeper.

Actual construction on Main Street and on the bridge over Garland Brook in East Lancaster.

Cover Photograph . . .

LEADERS OF OUR NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS are pictured on the cover of this year's report as they met on June 25, 1955 in honor of the visit paid to Lancaster by President Eisenhower. Appropriate welcoming ceremonies were conducted in Soldiers Park and were well attended. Included in the photograph, from left to right, are Hon. Sinclair Weeks, Secretary of Commerce, Arthur Sherman, Chairman, Board of Selectmen, Walter Swett, Governor Lane Dwinell, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, U. S. Senators Norris Cotton and Styies Bridges, Wilbur M. Schurman, Chairman of Lancaster Welcoming Committee, and Representative Perkins Bass.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OF LANCASTER, N. H.

FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 1955 TO DECEMBER 31, 1955

INCLUSIVE

WITH THE REPORT OF
THE LANCASTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

359.07
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1955

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Directory of Officials

Elected Officials

Selectmen

Arthur G. Sherman
Maynard G. White
Ross F. Stanard

Moderator

Dana H. Lee

Town Clerk & Treasurer

Dorothy H. Cross

Supervisors of the Check List

Albert J. Kenney
Lester E. Moses
Edna B. Haley

Trustees of Trust Funds

Raymond W. McCaig
James L. Dow
Daniel A. O'Brien

Library Trustees

Ethel McCarten
Joseph E. Brown, resigned
Edward G. Robinson
Walter D. Hinkley

Col. Town Investment Committee

Harry J. Whitcomb, resigned
J. Wendall Kimball
O. Leo Connary
Daniel A. Sullivan
O'Neil Twitchell, resigned
Raymond W. McCaig
Raymond F. Linscott
Raymond Carr
Hugh Galbraith

Col. Town Spending Committee

Margaret P. Guilmette
Carroll Stoughton
James A. Ferguson
Florence Q. Amadon
Charles T. Bennett
Grace M. Lee
Clinton L. White
George E. Hunter
Arthur Drake

Emmons Smith Fund Committee

Marion M. Balch
Enos G. Fay
Mary H. Carey

Appointed Officials

Town Manager
Tax Collector
Overseer of Poor

John T. McHugh

Town Accountant

Donald E. Crane

Town Counsel

John E. Gormley

Health Officer

James A. Ferguson, M. D.

**Zoning Board of
Adjustments**

O. Leo Connary

Harry J. Whitcomb

John L. Barnes

John E. Gormley

Budget Committee

Harold Alden

Donald McGoff

Harford Nay

Wallace Martin

Wilbur Schurman

John B. Evans

Raymond W. Whitcomb

Reynold Guilmette

Theodore Lund

John E. Gormley

Edward K. Whitcomb

Maynard G. White

Cemetery Committee

Hugh Galbraith

Minnie Currier

Dorothy Johnson

Report to the Voters

The annual Town Report for the year ending December 31, 1955 is presented herein. The operation of a Town government is at once both a large financial undertaking and a subject very close to the people. As such, it deserves a portion of your time so that you may be acquainted with its operation, problems and progress.

For the eighth consecutive year, the Town operated under the Selectmen-Town Manager form of government. The Board of Selectmen meet weekly, or oftener as required, and the Manager attended these meetings. In addition, the Board continued to act as the assessing officials for the Town.

Once again, I would draw your attention to the Town's financial position. The 1955 year ended with a budget surplus of \$10,049.94, due to the unexpended balance of appropriations totalling \$6,667.39, and an excess of revenue over estimates of \$3,382.05. In addition, the Long term indebtedness of the Town at the end of the 1955 year was only \$7,500.00, a small fraction of the total allowed by State law. The prospect of increased revenues and constant appropriations made it possible to reduce the 1955 tax rate slightly, to \$4.10 per \$100.00 of valuation.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the Town Officials, the Town employees and to the several citizens who served on committees or otherwise assisted in the work of the Town.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN T. McHUGH,
Town Manager.

Town Warrant

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Lancaster, in the County of Coos in said state qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Lancaster, on Tuesday, the 13th day of March next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and Town Treasurer to borrow a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate the amount of the tax commitment of the previous year (1955) in anticipation of the collection of taxes for the current municipal year, and to issue in the name and on the credit of the Town, negotiable notes therefore, said notes to be paid in the current municipal year from the taxes collected during the current municipal year.

3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to administer or dispose of any real estate acquired by Tax Collectors' Deeds.

4. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue as an open highway and make subject to gates and bars the following: The Branch Road from its intersection with the Jordon Hill Road to the Town Line, and the Jordan Hill Road from its intersection with the Page Hill Road until its termination, near the Lancaster-Northumberland Town Line.

5. To see if the Town will vote to transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund the sum of \$5,000.00 from the surplus accumulated in 1955 in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 35 of Revisal Statutes Annotated and amendments thereto (Recommended by Budget Committee).

6. (a) To see if the Town will vote to purchase, at a cost not to exceed \$16,000, the land and buildings owned by the Socony-Mobile Oil Company and located at the intersection of Summer and Causeway Streets, said land and buildings to be used as a town highway garage and yard; or

To see if the Town will vote to erect a suitable highway garage on land owned by the Town adjacent to the Town Hall at a cost not to exceed \$16,000; and

To authorize the Selectmen to purchase said Socony-

Mobile Oil Company real estate, or to erect said highway garage on said town land, as they, in the exercise of their sound discretion, may determine;

(b) To appropriate a sum not exceeding \$16,000 for the foregoing purpose; and

(c) To determine what part, if any, of the sum so appropriated shall be provided by use of the accumulated capital reserve funds originally established at the 1953 annual town meeting, including the interest therein, and to authorize and direct the Trustees of the Trust Funds to pay over from said funds and interest the amount so determined to the Selectmen, as agents for the Town, to be expended for the foregoing purpose.

7. To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to appoint a Deputy Tax Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, as provided for by Section 38 of Chapter 41 of Revised Statutes Annotated.

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred (\$800.00) Dollars to assist in paying the cost of free public band concerts (By petition—not recommended by Budget Committee).

9. To see if the Town of Lancaster will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 to cover one half the cost of laying an eight inch water line as recommended by the New Hampshire Board of Fire Underwriters, from "Y" at Coos Junction to the automobile gate at the Fairgrounds and to raise money to pay for the same. (By petition—Recommended by Budget Committee).

10. To hear the report of the committee appointed to study the advantages and disadvantages of dissolving the Lancaster Fire Precinct.

11. To see if the Town will vote to accept the budget as submitted by the Budget Committee.

12. To direct how money raised for the above purposes be expended.

13. To act on any other business which may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this twentieth day of February 1956.

ARTHUR G. SHERMAN,
MAYNARD G. WHITE,
ROSS F. STANARD,
Selectmen of Lancaster

Budget as Proposed by Budget Committee

The following pages contain the Town Budget for 1956 as reviewed and approved by the Town Budget Committee.

You may note that the estimate of revenues, other than property taxes, has been set at \$39,665.00. This amount is larger than 1955's estimate but somewhat less than 1955's actual collections. The estimates of revenues must be adjusted later in the year on the basis of collections to date and will then represent a closer approximation to the monies the Town will actually receive.

A review of the proposed expenditures on the following pages will reveal that this year's total of appropriations is very similar to 1955's proposed expenditures. The 1956 total also includes a proposed appropriation of \$3,000.00 to finance one half the cost of a water main to the Lancaster Fair Grounds.

REVENUES

Source of Revenue	Estimated Feb. 1955	Actual 1955	Estimated Feb. 1956
From State:			
Interest & Dividends Tax	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 10,802.42	\$ 9,000.00
Railroad Tax	900.00	994.83	950.00
Savings Bank Tax	700.00	1,814.64	1,200.00
Reimbursement a/c State & Federal forest lands	170.00	167.96	160.00
Yield Taxes	1,800.00	110.97	1,000.00
National Forest Reserve	5.00	6.78	5.00
Reimbursement a/c Old Age Assistance	500.00	634.97	200.00
From Local Sources			
Except Taxes:			
Dog Licenses	525.00	384.87	500.00
Business Licenses, Permits and Filing Fees	200.00	254.50	200.00
Fines and Forfeits, Municipal Court	850.00	708.86	800.00
Rent of Town Hall & Other Buildings	1,200.00	1,488.00	1,300.00
Interest Received on Taxes and Deposits	800.00	1,074.92	1,000.00

Parking Meter Income	3,000.00	3,800.00	4,500.00
Commission on Head Taxes	700.00	737.00	700.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	12,500.00	15,320.22	14,500.00
Added Taxes		10.15	
Sale of Town Property	300.00	291.98	300.00
Reconstruct Main St.	50,000.00	— 0 —	— 0 —
Construct Bridge Over Garland Brook	10,800.00	— 0 —	— 0 —
From Local Taxes Other Than Property Taxes:			
Poll Taxes, regular @ \$2	2,700.00	2,638.00	2,700.00
National Bank Stock Taxes	600.00	674.60	650.00
Total Rev. from all sources except Property Taxes	\$ 96,050.00	\$ 41,915.67	\$ 39,665.00
Amt. to be Raised By Prop. Taxes			98,968.67
Total Revenues			<u>\$138,633.67</u>

EXPENDITURES

Purpose	Appro. 1955	Actual Expend. 1955	Estimated Expend. 1956
General Government:			
Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 8,760.00	\$ 9,569.87	\$ 9,465.00
Town Officers' Expenses	4,425.00	4,245.82	4,175.00
Elec. & Registration Exp.	150.00	65.80	300.00
Municipal Court Expenses	500.00	500.00	500.00
Expenses Town Hall and Other Town Bldgs.	5,275.00	5,230.57	5,375.00
Protection of Persons and Property:			
Police Department	8,550.00	9,451.76	10,050.00
Fire Department	3,500.00	3,533.04	3,500.00
Moth Exterm.--Blister Rust & Care of Trees	350.00	287.70	250.00
Insurance	2,839.00	3,002.10	3,335.00
Civil Defense	300.00	233.73	300.00
Health:			
Health Dept., includ- ing Hospitals	5,645.00	5,845.00	5,720.00
Vital Statistics	350.00	304.25	350.00
Sewer Maintenance	400.00	400.00	400.00
Town Dump and Garbage Removal	2,000.00	1,983.96	2,000.00
Highways and Bridges:			
Town Maintenance	40,350.00	42,770.57	40,400.00
Street Lighting	9,500.00	9,770.86	9,800.00
Town Road Aid	682.27	682.27	682.14
Libraries:			
Libraries	5,322.00	5,322.00	4,905.00
Public Welfare:			
Town Poor	4,500.00	2,539.96	3,500.00
Old Age Assistance	10,000.00	8,756.21	9,500.00
Patriotic Purposes:			
Memorial Day	100.00	100.00	125.00
Recreation:			
Parks and Playgrounds	2,700.00	2,750.19	1,650.00

Public Service			
Enterprises:			
Cemeteries	225.00	225.00	225.00
Armory	1,200.00	1,200.90	600.00
Unclassified:			
Damages & Legal Exp.	1,400.00	1,474.74	850.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	876.53	876.53	926.53
Employees' Retirement & Social Security	2,000.00	1,976.10	3,000.00
Interest:			
On Temporary Loans	1,000.00	767.20	900.00
On Long Term Notes	245.00	257.50	150.00
Highways and Bridges:			
Town Construction	— 0 —	2,646.86	— 0 —
State Aid Construction — Town's Share, Main St.	3,850.00	3,850.00	3,850.00
Water Works Construction	— 0 —	— 0 —	3,000.00
Sidewalk Construction	600.00	430.03	600.00
Sewer Construction	500.00	2,177.96	500.00
Reconstruct Main St.	50,000.00	— 0 —	— 0 —
New Equipment	5,000.00	4,548.18	5,000.00
State Aid, Bridge Const.	10,800.00	— 0 —	— 0 —
Payment on Principal of Debt:			
Long Term Notes	4,750.00	4,750.00	2,750.00
Total Expenditures	\$198,644.80	\$142,526.66	\$138,633.67

Where the Money Came From

1947

PROPERTY TAXES

Once again this year, the gross valuation of the Town increased slightly to the sum of \$6,908,002. Exemptions for military service amounted to \$132,240.00, leaving a net assessed valuation of \$6,775,762. This figure was only \$1,094 greater than last year's net valuation.

In September, the State Tax Commission approved a tax rate of \$4.10 and the Tax Collector promptly mailed out tax bills totalling \$277,806.38. This amount was reduced by necessary abatement totalling \$994.42 during the remainder of the year. By December 31st, the collector had received \$249,356.18 or 90% of the 1955 levy. In addition \$19,188.38 was collected on previous levies, excluding all the 1955 tax sales which were purchased by the Town.

OTHER TAXES

In addition to property taxes, the Town received the following amounts:

Yield Taxes:

1955 Levy	\$ 110.97
Previous Levies	430.72

Poll Taxes:

1955 Levy	2,002.00
Previous Levies	636.00
National Bank Stock Tax	674.60

Total	\$ 3,854.29
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FROM THE STATE

The Town received the sum of \$18,063.34 from the State from the following sources:

Interest and Dividend Tax	\$ 10,802.42
Railroad Tax	994.83
Savings Bank Tax	1,814.64
Reim. Forest Lands	167.96
National Forest Reserve	6.79
Old Age Recovery	634.97
Commission on Head Taxes	755.50
Fighting Forest Fires	41.36
Gas Tax Refund	526.55
Labor on T.R.A. project	2,287.24
Head Tax Expense	26.28

Blister Rust	4.80
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Total	\$ 18,063.34
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LOCAL SOURCES OTHER THAN PROPERTY TAXES

The revenues received from the several sources listed below, totalled \$23,324.57 and helped reduce the amount that must be raised locally through property taxes.

Dog Licenses	\$ 384.87
Business Licenses and Permits	254.50
Fines and Forfeits	708.86
Rent of Town Buildings	1,511.00
Interest on Taxes	1,053.14
Sale of Town Property	291.98
Parking Meters	3,800.00
Motor Vehicle Permits	15,320.22

Total	\$ 23,324.57
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CREDITS AND EARNINGS

The Town is authorized at the end of each year to carry forward certain appropriations that have not been fully expended so that the proposed work may be completed within the new year. Thus \$5,372.12 was carried forward from 1954 appropriations as follows:

Blister Rust	\$ 150.80
Sewer Construction	1,431.50
Dental Clinic	200.00
High Street Construction	3,000.00
New Equipment	589.82

Total	\$ 5,372.12
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Several Town departments earned credits of \$4,458.82 during 1955 for performing services or providing supplies to individuals, for which the town was reimbursed as follows:

Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 600.00
Town Office Expenses	223.95
Interest	188.75
Police Department	15.40
Town Maintenance	1,434.91
Town Poor	516.56
Retirement	923.02
Dutch Elm	34.00
Sewer Construction	372.25
Parks & Playgrounds	150.00

Total	\$ 4,458.83
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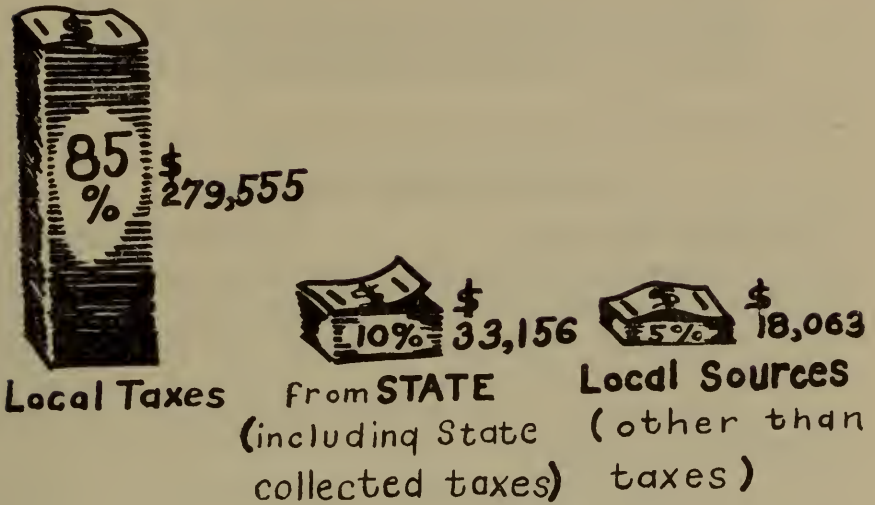
Sources of All Town Revenue

LOCAL TAXES, including Property	\$279,555
FROM STATE, including State Collected Taxes	33,156
LOCAL SOURCES, other than taxes	18,063

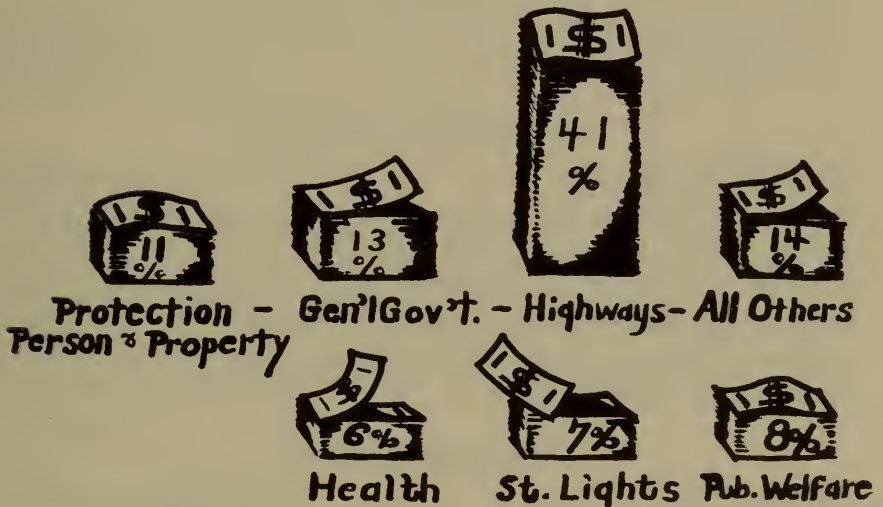
Town Expenditures

Highways	\$59,406.00
General Government	19,612.00
Protection of Persons and Property	16,508.00
Public Welfare	11,296.00
Street Lights	9,771.00
Health	8,533.00
All Others	19,700.00

Where the Money Came From



Where the Money Went



1955
Expenditures

TABLE

General Government

During the year, the sum of \$19,612.06 was spent for the following general governmental activities, as compared to \$19,239.98 in 1954.

TOWN OFFICERS' SALARIES

Appropriated \$8,760.00

Spent \$9,569.87

Twelve officials received their salaries from this account: Selectmen (3), Clerk-Treasurer, Manager, Deputy Tax Collector, Moderator, Supervisors of Check List (3), Treasurer of Trust Funds and Clerk of Budget Committee. A credit of \$600.00 was received from the Fire Precinct for a portion of the Manager's salary.

TOWN OFFICERS' EXPENSES

Appropriated \$4,425.00

Spent \$4,245.82

The expenditures under this heading include those incurred in the assessing of property, the running of the Town Office, the audit of the Town's books, the zoning committee and automobile expenses.

ELECTION AND REGISTRATIONS

Appropriated \$150.00

Spent \$65.80

These expenses were incurred in conducting the March Town Meeting.

MUNICIPAL COURT

Appropriated \$500.00

Spent \$500.00

The amount is the salary of the Municipal Court Judge. During the year, the Court collected \$713.75 in fines, forfeitures and small claims. Of this amount, \$450.00 was turned over to the State Motor Vehicle and Fish and Game departments, \$12.14 was spent for expenses, and the balance of \$251.61 paid to the Town.

TOWN BUILDINGS

Appropriated \$5,275.00

Spent \$5,230.57

This appropriation covers the expense of maintaining, operating and repairing the Town Hall. The major repair work centered around the requirements of the State Fire Marshal's office that additional fire exits be provided from the auditorium and from the lodge rooms.

Protection of Persons and Property

The total expenditure for the protection of persons and property rose to \$16,508.33 in 1955, as compared to \$13,298.36 in 1954.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Appropriated \$8,550.00 Spent \$9,451.76

The Lancaster Police Department has an officer on duty from 8 a. m. each day until 4 a. m. the following morning. Thus, protection is provided twenty out of every twenty-four hours.

The over expenditure in this account resulted from hiring an additional day time officer to assist in handling of traffic and the patrolling of meters during the busy summer months. For the entire year, the Department investigated a total of 74 accidents involving 131 automobiles and 2 bicycles.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Appropriated \$3,500.00 Spent \$3,533.04

This appropriation represents the Town's contribution to the Lancaster Fire Precinct for providing fire protection services throughout the entire town area. A detailed report of the fire department's operations may be found in the Precinct Report.

INSURANCE AND BONDS

Appropriated \$2,839.00 Spent \$3,002.10

This account includes the cost of providing insurance protection to the town against losses due to fire, theft, public liability suits and auto fleet damages, for bonds on employees who handle town funds, and workmen's compensation insurance for town employees. The increased cost of this compensation insurance accounted for the over draft on the appropriation.

CIVIL DEFENSE

Appropriated \$300.00 Spent \$233.73

The Town provides and maintains the building used by the Ground Observer Corps for their vital task of watching the sky approaches to our country. Information concerning both the Observer Corps and the local Civilian Defense organization may be secured at the Town office.

BLISTER RUST AND DUTCH ELM

Appropriated \$350.00

Spent \$287.70

The work of combating the pine blister rust is performed by State forestry department crews and the towns are billed accordingly. During 1955, the forestry crews worked over 1,961 acres in Lancaster and destroyed 2,714 currant and gooseberry bushes.

A portion of the appropriation was also used to finance the removal of three trees found to be afflicted with the Dutch elm disease.

Health

The Town expended the sum of \$8,533.21 to help protect the health of its citizens in 1955, as compared to \$8,187.11 expended in 1954. These funds were materially assisted by the School Health program and the work of many volunteers.

Appropriated \$8,395.00

Spent \$8,533.21

These expenditures represented the Town's support of the following services: Public Health Nurse \$2,245.00, Dental Clinic \$400.00, Health Officer \$200.00, Weeks Memorial Hospital \$3,000.00, recording of Vital Statistics \$304.25, maintenance of town sewers \$400.00 and the operation of the Town Dump and the collection of garbage \$1,983.96.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

To the Citizens of Lancaster:

At this time of year it is my pleasure to report to you the year's accomplishments. I trust you will peruse the various phases of our work as presented for your information.

May I extend my thanks for the splendid cooperation that we, the Board members of the Public Health Nursing Committee and the Public Health Nurse have received. Our aim is "better Health for the town."

Respectfully submitted,

ALICE PICHE,
Chairman.

The Public Health Nursing Board has held regular meetings during the year as has been customary since it was organized in 1919 under the American Red Cross.

The outstanding projects have been—

The Salk Vaccine Clinics
The Well Baby Clinics
The Dental Hygienist Clinics

Respectfully submitted,

KATHERINE N. LANE,
Secretary.

The number of patients served by the district nurse totalled 328 while the number of total visits made to or in behalf of these patients reached 1,795. These visits included non-communicable disease patients, crippled children, communicable disease patients, pre-natal, and post-natal patients. The services rendered included bedside care and treatment, hypo-therapy, supervisory home visits on infants and aged, demonstrations on home care of the sick, welfare visits, and the caring of the hospital bed loans for chronic cases.

This year the heavy work came on organizing and carrying out clinics on the Infantile Paralysis program. A total of 960 treatments of Salk's vaccine was given to the following:

School Children	520
Pre-School Children	233
Pre-Natals	8
Others	52

813 persons

MARY H. CAREY,
Nurse Director

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts

Town of Lancaster	\$ 2,245.00
School District	1,975.00
All others including Victory Fund and Red Cross	697.73
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,917.73

Expenditures

Salaries	\$ 3,930.00
Office Equipment and Supplies	379.05
All Others	133.63
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,442.68
Balance on hand, December 31, 1955	475.05

— It is estimated that the value of the time donated by all volunteers would amount to \$2,004.00. —

Respectfully submitted,
ETHEL McCARTEN,
Treasurer.

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

Annual Report for the School Year 1954-55

This year's work followed closely the approved School Health Services as directed by those studying our problems.

The Victory Fund trustees allocated the balance of the fund for approved equipment for the Health Center. The Public Health Nursing Committee purchased a portable dental chair-lamp and motor. This fund also added four visible files for the individual health records and a starter case of five sections to hold these files. Mr. Truell plans to add to these files—therefore, in a short time, our individual records will be properly filed.

Under the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis approved by the State Board of Health, 147 first and second graders under the signature approval of their parents were given Salk's Vaccine, May 23 and June 6, and another 373 school children received their initial vaccination in December.

Another major activity consisted of complete, physical examinations given to 261 children. These examinations were preceded by screening tests for vision acuity, height, and weights to over 700 children. As a result of these tests, 105 defects were found by the nurse-teacher. Some 136 defects were discovered as a result of the medical examination and all parents were notified in writing of such defects. At least 24 students had been seen or were being treated by their family physicians for the medical defects. In addition, 88 students were under treatment for those defects observed by the nurse-teacher in the screening tests.

The following services were also rendered as part of the school's vaccination and communicable disease program:

Triple Vaccine	42
Tuberculosis Patch Test	270
Chest X-Ray	78
Blood Hemoglobin	223
Urine Analysis	270
Small Pox Vaccinations	39

Fifteen children also received physical therapy while 426 children received first aid treatment at the Health Center.

MARY H. CAREY,
School Nurse-Teacher

THE DENTAL PROGRAM

The new dental equipment was used for the first time at the Health Center on children first through the sixth grades. The committee was able to have the services of Mrs. Elsbeth Johnson, a dental hygienist. With written permission of the parents, 193 children received care, the most important being the teaching on the care of the teeth, cleaning and charting their needs. All parents were notified wherein, of permanent teeth needing dental attention.

Mrs. Johnson gave talks on this most important work to Junior High and High School assemblies, using the movie "Gateway to Health." She also gave interviews to young ladies who might wish to choose hygienist work as a career.

Number of students receiving dental corrections, 28.

Respectfully, submitted,
ALICE PICHE, Chairman.

Two Dental Program Committee meetings were held in 1955 and much has been accomplished. Mrs. Johnson, the Dental Hygienist, was able to have interviews with over 400 children in the three short weeks she was with us. We wish to thank Dr. Haines and the Kiwanis Club for their donations which helped so much in this accomplishment. The students also added their contributions of over \$100.00 to this worthy cause.

Respectfully submitted,
MILDRED A. MARSHALL,
Secretary.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts

Balance on hand	\$ 128.95
Received from Town	400.00
Collected from Children	128.00
Donations	50.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 706.95

Expenditures

Dentists and Dental Technician	\$ 575.00
All Others	7.21
	<hr/>
	\$ 582.21
Balance to be carried forward	124.74

GRACE M. LEE, Treasurer.

SALVATION ARMY FUND

Twenty percent of the funds collected in Lancaster remain here for local needs and were expended in part to provide emergency clothing and groceries for 8 family cases, medications for another 3 families and eye glasses for 4 persons. The total expenditures were \$121.95.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY H. CAREY

CHILD HEALTH STATION

This community project is conducted by volunteer members of the Mahaney-Brisson Post and Unit No. 30 American Legion of New Hampshire, with the financial assistance of the Colonel Town Committee. There were 12 sessions held on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Number of Infants Attending	37
Number of Pre-School Attending	61
Number of Repeat Physical Examinations on Infants	44
Number of Repeat Physical Examinations on Pre-School	66
Number of Pre-School Attending for Salk's Vaccine	15
Number of School Children Attending for Salk's Vaccine	26
Total number receiving Triple Vaccine Treatments for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Tetanus	123
Total Children Attending	139
Total Physical Examinations	208
Total Number of Immunization Treatments	164

It is estimated that the value of the time donated by the volunteers at each of the sessions totals \$50,.00 in addition to the laundry services performed.

Respectfully submitted,

CLARICE JAMES, Unit Chairman
MARY H. CAREY, Post Chairman

Highways and New Construction



The appropriations listed below account for the largest portion of town funds each year. During 1955, the sum of \$52,557.69 was spent to build, maintain and repair the town roads, sewers, and sidewalks.

TOWN MAINTENANCE

Appropriated \$40,350.00

Spent \$42,770.57

The Town received incomes of \$4,248.70 during the year which were credited to this account. Thus, the net expenditures were \$38,521.87, or somewhat less than the appropriation.

During the summer months, some 27,639 feet of Town roads and streets were resurfaced with an application of asphalt and sand. The largest project occurred on the Garland Road, from the Alexander farm to Bunnell Brook.

The Town's rural roads fared well during the year, excepting a portion of the Martin Meadow Pond Road below the Ingerson farm which was heavily damaged by a thunderstorm and the resulting run-off water. In addition to the repair work here, the Wesson Road was widened and culverts on both the Wesson and Prospect roads replaced as needed and as time permitted.

The Town's parking lot on Main Street was improved by applying a black top pavement and widening of the intersection at Park and Main streets.

The 32 miles of Lancaster's streets and rural roads were plowed, sanded and salted as needed during the winter. Some 7 miles of sidewalks within the compact area were plowed as necessary and the heavily used sidewalks were sanded.

TOWN ROAD AID

Appropriated \$682.27

Spent \$682.27

This account is a special one to which the State contributes in order to assist in the construction of suitable rural roads. This year the State contributed \$4,548.50 making available a total of \$5,230.77. The major portion of these funds was expended in graveling the Gore Road almost its entire length. A portion was also used to widen out the turn at Bishop's corner on the Pleasant Valley Road and to flatten the steep approach to this turn.

STATE AID CONSTRUCTION

Appropriated \$3,850.00

Spent \$3,850.00

Each year for several years now the town has raised money under this account. These funds are matched by the State and deposited to the credit of the Town and may only be used to reconstruct those portions of the State highway system that pass through the compact section of a town. It is planned to use these funds and a special appropriation from the Federal Government to pay for the reconstruction of Main Street, as authorized at the 1955 Town Meeting.

TOWN CONSTRUCTION

Appropriated -0-

Spent \$2,646.86

This account covers the work done this summer on High and Stevens Terrace streets. The appropriation of \$3,000.00 was initially set up in the 1954 budget but the wet summer of that year made it necessary to postpone the work and carry forward the appropriated money into 1955. This year, the uneven pavement was removed and the base excavated and back filled with gravel. The roadway was then graded and compacted and two applications of asphalt applied.

SEWER CONSTRUCTION

Appropriated \$500.00

Spent \$2,177.96

A balance of \$1,431.50 was carried forward into this account and \$372.00 was earned during the year making available a total of \$2,303.50. With these funds considerable attention was devoted to the Causeway sewer.. The line was flushed and rodded and the manholes cleaned in an attempt to clear the line. Two short storm water sewers were also built, one for the parking lot and one for the School department.

SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION

Appropriated \$600.00

Spent \$430.03

Two sections of sidewalk were rebuilt with funds from the sidewalk appropriation while repairs were made at two other locations. A section of sidewalk in front of the new Main Street motel was rebuilt at a lower grade while a section of sidewalk on Bunker Hill Street near Summer Street that had a very uneven surface was removed and rebuilt. In addition, the loading platform on Middle Street was narrowed to ease the traffic congestion there, and a short section of bituminous sidewalk on High Street was replaced.

New Lands

During the year, the last note on the Main Street Parking lot was retired. In addition, the Town purchased a plot of land above the Fair Grounds as a site for the new Armory, and transferred the land to the State, as approved at the March meeting.

New Equipment

The sum of \$5,000.00 was appropriated for this account. In addition, \$589.82 was carried forward from the balance of the 1954 appropriation, and \$1,258.36 was transferred into it from the surplus in the Town Maintenance account near the end of the year. A new front-end loader was purchased as well as an oversize bucket for snow removal work, a power sweeper to be used on the town streets, and a supply of snow fence.

Street Lights

Appropriated \$9,500.00

Spent \$9,770.86

This appropriation includes the normal cost of street lighting plus the sum of \$624.00 to amortize the cost, over a five year period, of the new mercury lamps and standards in the business section of the town.

Weeks Memorial Library

The Town appropriated the sum of \$5,322.00 for the operation of the Weeks Memorial Library and the Col. Town Committee donated another \$600.00 for the Children's Library.

In November of 1955, Mrs. Elaine Hickey resigned as Librarian, a position she had filled ably for many years. We regretted losing such a competent and outstanding person. Miss Faith Kent and Mrs. Barbara Miller have been filling the vacancy left by Mrs. Hickey.

During the past year the library has purchased 436 new books, including both fiction and non-fiction. These books included selections for both adult and high school age readers. The Library continues to borrow books from the State Library in Concord, and from libraries in surrounding towns to supplement our own book supply.

The major repair and improvement on the library building was the installation of new tile floors in both reading rooms.

Respectfully submitted,
BARBARA MILLER,
Librarian

REPORT OF THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN

Each year sees a considerable growth in the children's department. The names of 59 children were added to the roll of registered borrowers. Books were increased by 263 volumes. The total circulation shows a greater demand for books in the "read to yourself class."

Classroom collections have been supplied to the grades, and thus have reached a large number of children who are not registered borrowers. Our children's books cover a large range in age, as many high school students borrow from this department. Every effort is made to maintain an adequate supply at any level.

You are invited to visit and see the service which you support.

Respectfully submitted,
ELIZABETH L. CURRIE

Approved:

EDWARD G. ROBINSON, Chairman
ETHEL McCARTEN, Secretary
WALTER D. HINKLEY, Treasurer

Public Welfare

Lancaster expended the sum of \$11,296.17 for public welfare activities during the year, the third year in a row that these expenditures have decreased.

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Appropriated \$10,000.00

Spent \$8,756.21

This program is designed to provide financial assistance to needy persons 65 years of age and over. It is administered by state personnel and financed jointly by the federal, state and local governments. The Town's costs have decreased in the past few years as the social security and private retirement plans have reduced the number of new applicants.

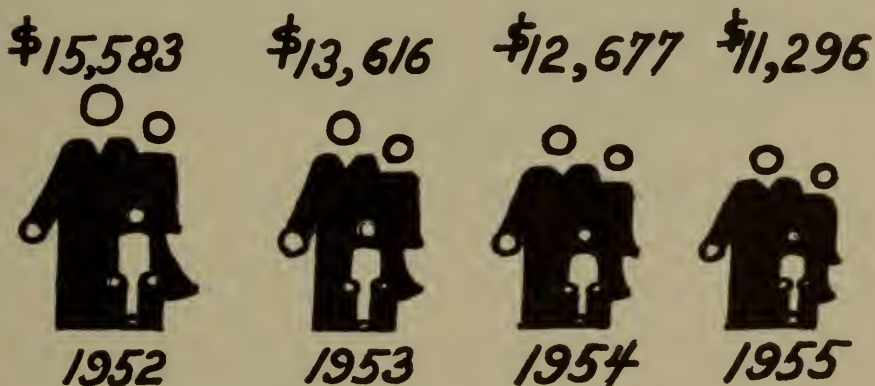
TOWN ASSISTANCE

Appropriated \$4,500.00

Spent \$2,539.96

This assistance is administered by the Town Manager in his capacity as Overseer of the Poor. A total of 18 cases were handled, including 14 family cases and 4 individuals. The sum of \$517.00 was recovered for previous assistance rendered.

DECLINE IN COSTS OF PUBLIC WELFARE



Patriotic Purposes



The Town raised the sum of \$100.00 which was used by the veterans' organizations in conducting Lancaster's colorful and appropriate Memorial Day services.

Parks and Recreation

Lancaster enjoys the facilities and programs of a fine recreation program due to the Col. Town fund and committees. The Town supplements this program by providing free band concerts during the summer, by a grant of \$1,000.00 to the swimming pool, and by maintaining the Town Parks. The total expenditures for these three activities was \$2,750.19.

Cemeteries

The Town raised the sum of \$225.00 for the care of No. 10 Cemetery on Martin Meadow Pond Road and on the Main Street Cemetery. The Town forces do some of the work on the Nov. 10 Cemetery while Mr. Gardner and his crew look after the Main Street Cemetery for the Town. The report of the Summer Street Cemetery is outlined below.

SUMMER STREET CEMETERY REPORT

Receipts

Cash on hand	\$ 154.08
Trust Funds	5,000.00
Sale of Lots	416.00
Burials	561.00
Care of Lots	750.00
Town of Lancaster	181.70
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,062.78

Expenditures

Wages	\$ 5,526.30
Withholding Tax	377.90
Repairs and Replacements	217.63
Improvements	333.81
Supplies	76.95
Water	16.80
Flowers and Plants	202.30
Survey of No. 10 Cemetery	27.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 6,778.69
Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1955	284.09

Respectfully submitted,

S. M. GARDNER, Supt.

Interest

The sum of \$1,024.70 was expended for interest payments during the year. This represented charges of \$767.20 for borrowing \$65,000.00 in anticipation of tax receipts and \$257.20 for interest payments on our long term debt. This debt and the remaining interest charges are outlined in the following table.

Payment on Principal of Debt

As outlined in the following table, the sum of \$4,750.00 was expended to meet the town's debt obligations. The largest payment, \$2,750.00 represented a payment on the Causeway sewer debt, while the remaining \$2,000.00 was used for the final payment on the highway grader, purchased in 1950. The third note for the parking lot was paid from parking meter receipts.

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS, SHOWING ANNUAL MATURITIES OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1955

	Sewer Const. Notes
	2%
Amount of Issue	\$18,500.00
Date of Issue	October 1, 1951
Principal Payable Date	October 1
Interest Payable Dates	Apr. 1 & Oct. 1
Payable at	Lancaster Natl. Bank

Maturities		
Year Ending	Principal	Interest
Dec. 31, 1956	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 150.00
Dec. 31, 1957	2,750.00	95.00
Dec. 31, 1958	2,000.00	40.00
	<hr/>	
	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 285.00

Unclassified

During 1955, the Town expended the sum of \$5,528.27 for the several accounts discussed below.

DAMAGE AND LEGAL EXPENSE

Appropriated \$1,400.00

Spent \$1,474.74

These expenses are for legal services in connection with the Portland Pipe Line abatement case and for the Town Attorney's services during the year.

ADVERTISING

Appropriated \$876.53

Spent \$876.53

This appropriation covers the cost of operating the Town's information booth and of membership in and support for the White Mountains Region Association. The information booth's exterior was completely altered this year and many favorable comments were received on its appearance. Mrs. Sheridan reports that 2,500 cars stopped at the booth this summer and a total of 7,653 persons requested information.

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT

Appropriated \$2,000.00

Spent \$1,976.10

This expenditure is the Town's share of the employees' retirement program. Each member also contributes a percentage of his salary. A credit of \$923.00 was received from the Col. Town Committee for their employees. It is anticipated that it will be possible for the Town employees to transfer from the present State system to the Social Security program during 1956.

ARMORY

Appropriated \$1,200.00

Spent \$1,200.90

This amount was approved at the March meeting to purchase a site for a new armory building. The Adjutant General selected a site on Route 3 above the Fair Grounds, which site has been purchased and deeded to the State. Construction for the building is planned for 1956.

Schools

The Town Treasurer transferred \$153,483.16 to the school authorities during the year. Of this amount, \$73,476.38 represented the balance of the 1954-1955 school appropriation, which had been carried forward as of Jan. 1, 1955. Complete details on the operation of Lancaster's school system may be found in the accompanying school report.

County Tax

Each year, each town within a county is assessed a tax to finance the operation of the County Government. Lancaster's tax in 1955 was \$17,065.52, an increase over 1954's tax of \$16,730.33. Copies of the County Report may be obtained at the Town Office.

Reserve Funds

Lancaster enjoys three separate reserve funds, with resources totalling \$42,532.66, as of December 31, 1955.

The largest fund in this reserve category is the State Aid Construction Fund, with a total of \$30,542.10. This fund was discussed under the highway section of the report.

The other large fund is a Capital Reserve Fund, established by the voters at the 1953 Town meeting. The resources of this fund, \$11,171.46, can be used only for new construction, new equipment or new lands and then only by vote at a Town meeting.

The remaining fund is the parking meter account which had a balance of \$819.10 at the end of 1955.

Town Clerk's Report

During the year the Town Clerk collected and remitted to the Treasurer the sum of \$15,711.09. This sum represented an increase of \$1,394.19 over last year's total of \$14,316.90.

The sources of this revenue are as follows:

Motor Vehicle Permits issued:

1954	\$ 150.01	
1955	15,170.21	
	\$15,320.22	
Dog Licenses		420.67
Filing Fees		6.00
		\$15,746.89
Less Fees retained 179 @ .20		35.80
		\$15,711.09

The Town Clerk recorded the following Vital Statistics during the year:

	1955	1954	1953
Births	191	218	221
Marriages	36	34	35
Deaths	71	75	60

NUMBER OF VEHICLES REGISTERED

1953 **1,557**

1954 **1,650**

1955 **1,845**

THE TOWN OF LANCASTER
LANCASTER FIRE PRECINCT

Consolidation Committee Report

The following report is made by the committee designated by Dana Lee, Moderator, upon vote of the 1955 Town Meeting, to investigate the advantages and disadvantages of abolishing the Lancaster Fire Precinct and have the Town assume and carry out the duties and obligations of said Precinct.

The Committee has held meetings and discussed and studied the many factors involved in such a move. You may note in the following report that the only item within the list of recommendations made by the Committee that did not gain the approval of the entire committee was in reference to the financing and leadership of the Fire Department.

PRESENTATION OF FACTS

The Lancaster Fire Precinct

The Lancaster Fire Precinct is a distinct governmental unit established in 1891 to provide fire protection services for the built up area of the Town of Lancaster. The area included within the Precinct is bounded generally as follows:

1. Coos Junction
2. Middle Street to C. Bennett's
3. Portland Street to Dr. Blodgett's
4. Prospect Street to Mrs. L. Harriman's
5. Elm Street to L. Merrow's
6. Bridge Street to Connecticut River

A precinct meeting is held one week after the Town meeting at which time one of the three Precinct Commissioners is elected. The Commissioners appoint the Fire Chief. By State Law, the Town Manager is also the Precinct Manager.

Analysis of Precinct Budget

The Fire Precinct is financed almost entirely from the proceeds of water rents charged to water users on its lines. For a period of time, the Precinct enjoyed such a favorable financial position, that it undertook to help in the payment of the debt for the high school building.

For the year 1955, the Precinct had a budget of approximately \$23,530. Some of the items in the budget are difficult to divide as to the proportionate share that should be charged

to either the fire or the water departments. However, most of the expenses are very clearly charged to either one of the two departments. When the budget is thus divided, the following division results:

	Fire Dept.	Water Dept.
Precinct Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,205.00	\$ 1,205.00
Precinct Office Expense	542.00	735.00
Water Dept.		9,050.00
Fire Dept.	5,900.00	
Long Term Notes & Interest		1,700.00
Settling Basin		1,000.00
Diversion Dam		2,193.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	\$ 7,647.00	\$ 15,883.00
Grand Total	\$ 23,530.00	

On the income side of the budget, the revenues available to finance the two functions can be divided as follows:

	Fire Dept.	Water Dept.
Water Rents		\$ 18,300.00
Labor and Merchandise	\$ 200.00	800.00
Contribution from Town	3,500.00	
Cash on hand, Surplus from water rents		730.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 19,830.00
Grand Total	\$ 23,530.00	

Thus, it is evident that the fire department enjoys no real revenues of its own. For the year 1955, the budget proposed that its expenditures of \$7,647 be financed by a contribution of \$3,500 from the town, a small income realized for fighting fire out-of-town, and with the balance of \$3,947 coming from water rentals.

At the end of 1955, the Precinct had long term notes and interest outstanding totalling \$9,070. These notes had been issued to finance the construction of a 6-inch line on Summer Street and a new larger line from the headwaters towards the reservoir in 1946.

The water department is presently faced with only one major, immediate problem, that is the presence of muddy water within the mains, particularly in the Middle, Bunker Hill and High Street areas. This is the area served by the North Road branch line. Unfortunately, this line cannot be permanently closed because it is needed to supply sufficient volume of water and pressure for fires in the area. This fact was revealed by tests made by the New Hampshire Board of Fire Underwriters this past summer. A possible solution to

this problem has been offered by a water works engineering consulting firm. However, their estimate of \$35,000 makes the solution a very expensive one.

CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY COMMITTEE

As a result of the several meetings held by this committee, the following facts seem to emerge:

1. The Fire Department is now providing fire fighting services for the entire town. Property within the Precinct area is receiving superior protection because it is nearer to the fire station, there is a fire alarm box system and most important of all, hydrants provide the necessary water.

2. Water users within the precinct area are paying the greatest portion of the cost of the Fire Department. Thus, they are taxed along with the entire Town to raise the \$3,500 appropriation. In addition the sum of \$3,947 is taken from the water rents to finance the rest of the cost of the fire department.

3. It is difficult to assess exactly how the cost of the fire department should be shared between the people within the precinct area and those outside. While it is true that the precinct people receive better protection, they pay more for it in terms of a portion of their water rents and a higher tax value on land within the built up portion of the town than on lots outside the compact area. However, the fire insurance savings realized by persons living within 500 feet of a hydrant tends to balance the higher tax valuation.

4. The diversion of a portion of water rental income to pay more than half the expenses of the fire department, leaves the Precinct Commissioners without funds to make major repairs or additions to the water system. It must be remembered that the largest portion of our supply system is some 60 years old. It must be anticipated that repairs will soon be necessary, and such repairs or replacements to pipes are expensive.

Again, requests are received by the Commissioners to extend a line so that new homes or commercial establishments may be attached to the water supply. Generally speaking most of these requests have been denied, and justifiably so. It takes many water users to justify the cost of laying a water main. On the other hand, ways must be found to extend the water supply lines in some directions so that the Town may grow, particularly along the main highway routes.

POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION

Fire Department

One solution that has been suggested to the problem of how to insure that the water department will have sufficient funds 1. to correct the current problem of muddy water, 2. to extend lines in some directions and 3. to build up a reserve fund against future repairs to the system would be to have the Town assume a greater portion of the cost of the Fire Department. If the budget for the fire department were kept constant, any increase in the Town's appropriation would enable the Precinct to put a corresponding amount in a water works' reserve fund.

If the Town were to assume the entire cost of operation of the Department, it would have to increase its present appropriation from \$3,500 to approximately \$7,400. This increase of \$3,900 would mean an approximate increase of 58 cents in the tax rate, from the current \$41.00 per thousand dollars valuation to \$41.58.

Another serious problem that would have to be faced would be leadership of the department. As has been mentioned, the Commissioners now appoint the Fire Chief. If the Town was to assume the entire cost of the Fire Department, it should naturally have the right of appointing the Fire Chief. He, in turn, could appoint his assistants, as is now the case.

It must be mentioned that the present members of the Fire Department, volunteers all, have gone on record as being in favor of retaining the present system, that is of the Commissioners continuing to appoint the Fire Chief. The point has also been raised that should the Town accept the financing of the Fire Department, more requests would be made to the Town in terms of better equipment, considering the Town's larger revenue raising potentialities.

Water Department

One of the main purposes in creating the present committee was to see if it would be desirable to abolish the Precinct and have the Town assume both functions of water supply and fire protection. The question of fire protection services has already been discussed. As concerns the water supply system, one point that must be clearly remembered is the high initial cost of extending water mains. If the Precinct were to be abolished, undoubtedly many requests for water services would be received from persons just outside the present Precinct Boundaries. These requests are more

easily denied now because they are outside the Precinct boundary. Of course, a policy could be established whereby persons requesting the extension of mains would be obliged to pay a portion of such costs. This line extension policy would be similar to the one used by the electric power companies in rural areas. Under such an arrangement, it would be possible to abolish the Precinct boundaries.

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COMMITTEE

The Committee sees no necessity at the present time for any change in the control of the water system. The Precinct should be continued and the Commissioners would continue to exercise complete control over the water department. It is with regard to the Fire Department that the Committee recommends that some action be taken.

The entire Committee believes that the Precinct is contributing an unduly large amount to the support of the Fire Department and is thus not able to adequately provide for the improvement of the water supply system. Some members of the committee believe that the Town should assume the entire cost of the Department and consequently direct the operations of the department by appointing the chief. The majority of the committee members, however, believe that while the operation of the Fire Department is a Town-wide responsibility, that the Town should assume only an even larger share of the cost of the Department, but not all the cost. Further, there should be no change in the manner of appointing the Fire Chief. However, they also feel that the Precinct should establish and regularly pay into a Capital Reserve fund from the water rents revenue, so as to allow future improvements to the water supply system. It is also considered essential that the Precinct Commissioners be as equally concerned with the water system as with the Fire Department. Therefore, it is recommended that, excepting the present commissioners, no more than two commissioners should be a present or past member of the Fire Department.

Signed:

ARTHUR G. SHERMAN
EDWARD K. WHITCOME
WILLIAM E. HOWARD
LINCOLN H. BERRY
CHESTER C. SAVAGE
JOHN T. McHUGH

Report of Trust Funds

For the Year Ending December 31, 1955

Cash on hand December 31, 1954 \$ 1,371.68

Receipts

Income from Investments \$ 6,768.72
Withdrawn from Invested Income 1,000.00

7,768.72

\$ 9,140.40

Expenditures

Shirley M. Gardner, Superintendent \$ 5,000.00
Rev. E. M. Total—1955 402.96
Town of Lancaster—care of Cross Park 150.00
Treasurer—Weeks Memorial Library 662.48
Treasurer—Lancaster Union School Dist. 97.88
Treasurer—Emmons S. Smith Fund 826.66
Mrs. Glenn S. Sheridan—Historical Fund 36.26

\$ 7,176.24

Cash on hand December 31, 1955 1,964.16

\$ 9,140.40

Assets

Deposits:

Cheshire County Savings Bank
Keene, N. H. \$ 2,000.00
Siwooganock Guaranty Savings Bank,
Lancaster, N. H. 39,980.63
Lancaster National Bank,
Lancaster, N. H. 1,964.16

\$43,944.79

Bonds:

10,000 U. S. Savings Bonds Ser. "G"
2½% due 9-1-63 \$10,000.00
3,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds
2½% due 12-15-68 3,000.00
5,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds
2½% due 6-15-69 5,000.00
1,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds
2½% due 12-15-69 1,000.00
5,500 U. S. Treasury Bonds
2½% due 3-15-70 5,500.00
4,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds
2½% due 3-15-71 4,000.00

3,500 U. S. Treasury Bonds		
2½% due 6-15-72	3,500.00	
	<hr/>	\$32,000.00

Stocks:

950 shs. Boston Fund, Inc.	\$ 9,462.00	
10 shs. Central Maine Power Co.		
3.50% Pfd.	957.50	
283 shs. Chase Manhattan Bank	8,027.69	
62 shs. Continental Illinois National		
Bank & Trust Co., Chicago	5,407.94	
760 shs. Eaton & Howard Balanced Fund	9,671.00	
1720 shs. Fidelity Fund, Inc.	11,388.02	
129 shs. First National Bank of		
Boston	6,815.19	
36 shs. First National City Bank,		
New York	1,616.10	
50 shs. Guaranty Trust Co., New York	2,961.32	
100 shs. Home Insurance Company	4,287.50	
7 shs. Lancaster National Bank,		
Lancaster, N. H.	875.00	
179 shs. Manufacturers Trust Co.,		
New York	9,902.89	
715 shs. Nation Wide Securities Co., Inc.	9,677.53	
600 shs. National Investors Corporation	6,588.00	
35 shs. Public Service Co. of N. H.		
3.35% Pfd.	3,290.00	
6 shs. Siwooganock Guaranty Savings		
Bank, Lancaster, N. H.	600.00	
	<hr/>	\$91,527.68
		<hr/>
Total Assets		\$167,472.47

Liabilities

Cemetery Trust, Principal	\$ 59,980.52
Cemetery Trust, Unexpended Income	7,329.31
Helen Wilder Cross Dennison Trust, Principal	2,631.57
Helen Wilder Cross Dennison Trust,	
Unexpended Income	1,014.42
George M. Stevens Trust, Principal	53,745.21
George M. Stevens Trust, Unexpended Income	2,910.43
Library Trust, Principal	10,735.35
School Trust, Principal	2,153.95
Emmons S. Smith Trust, Principal	14,800.25
Historical Trust, Principal	1,000.00
Capital Reserve Fund, Principal	11,171.46
	<hr/>
Total Liabilities	\$167,472.47

TRUST FUND RECORD

Cemetery Trust

Principal, Dec. 31, 1954	\$ 57,980.52	
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1954	8,102.22	
	<hr/>	\$66,082.74

Receipts:

New Trust Funds	\$ 2,000.00	
Income from Investments	2,630.05	
	<hr/>	4,630.05
		<hr/>
		\$70,712.79

Expenditures:

Shirley M. Gardner, Superintendent	\$ 3,000.00	
Rev. E. M. Total	402.96	
	<hr/>	3,402.96
		<hr/>
		\$67,309.83

Principal, Dec. 31, 1955	\$59,980.52	
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1955	7,329.31	
	<hr/>	67,309.83

Helen Wilder Cross Dennison Trust

Principal, Dec. 31, 1954	\$ 2,631.57	
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1954	1,036.45	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,668.02

Receipts:

Income from Investments		127.97
		<hr/>
		\$ 3,795.99

Expenditures:

Town of Lancaster—Care of Cross Park	\$ 150.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,645.99
		<hr/>

Principal, Dec. 31, 1955	\$ 2,631.57	
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1955	1,014.42	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,645.99

George M. Stevens Trust

Principal, Dec. 31, 1954	\$ 53,745.21	
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1954	2,523.01	
	<hr/>	\$ 56,268.22

Receipts:

Income from Investments		2,387.42
		<hr/>
		\$ 58,655.64

Expenditures:	
Shirley M. Gardner, Supt.	2,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 56,655.64
Principal, Dec. 31, 1955	\$ 53,745.21
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1955	2,910.43
	<hr/>
	\$ 56,655.64

Library Trust

Luella Joslin Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Laura Johnson Fund	2,864.73
Jacob Benton Fund	250.62
George M. Stevens Fund	5,000.00
Annette Jeffers Fund	120.00
Clara M. Kimball Fund	500.00
Minerva S. Congdon Fund	1,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 10,735.35
Principal, Dec. 31, 1954	\$ 10,735.35

Receipts:

Income from Investments	662.48
	<hr/>
	\$ 11,397.83

Expenditures:

Treasurer, Weeks Memorial Library	662.48
	<hr/>
	\$ 10,735.35
Principal, Dec. 31, 1955	\$ 10,735.35

School Trust

Chapin C. Brooks Fund	\$ 2,153.95
Principal, Dec. 31, 1954	\$2,153.95
Receipts:	
Income from Investments	97.88
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,251.83

Expenditures:

Treasurer, Lancaster Union School District	97.88
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,153.95
Principal, Dec. 31, 1955	\$ 2,153.95

Emmons S. Smith Trust		
Principal, Dec. 31, 1954		\$ 14,800.25
Receipts:		
Income from Investments		826.66
		<hr/>
		\$ 15,626.91
Expenditures:		
Treasurer, Emmons S. Smith Fund		826.66
		<hr/>
		\$ 14,800.25
<hr/>		
Principal, Dec. 31, 1955		\$ 14,800.25
Historical Trust		
K. B. Fletcher Fund		\$ 1,000.00
		<hr/>
Principal, Dec. 31, 1954		\$ 1,000.00
Receipts:		
Income from Investments		36.26
		<hr/>
		\$ 1,036.26
Expenditures:		
Mrs. Glenn S. Sheridan		36.26
		<hr/>
		\$ 1,000.00
<hr/>		
Principal, Dec. 31, 1955		\$ 1,000.00
Capital Reserve Fund		
Principal, Dec. 31, 1954		\$ 6,015.03
Receipts:		
Town of Lancaster	\$ 5,000.00	
Income from Investments	156.43	
	<hr/>	
		5,156.43
		<hr/>
		\$ 11,171.46
Expenditures		
		-0-
		<hr/>
		\$ 11,171.46
<hr/>		
Principal, Dec. 31, 1955		\$ 11,171.46

Respectfully submitted,

DAN O'BRIEN,
JAMES L. DOW,
R. W. McCAIG,

Trustees of Trust Funds,
Town of Lancaster, N. H.

Col. F. L. Town Trust Fund

For the Year Ending December 31, 1955

Investments, Dec. 31, 1954	\$458,501.53
Income from Investments	23,894.83
Profits on Securities Sold	8,051.88
	\$490,448.24
Paid to F.L. Town Spending Committee \$23,725.56	
Administration Expense	169.27
Investments, Dec. 31, 1955	466,553.41
	\$490,448.24
Original Trust Fund—1926	
Profits	\$335,022.50
	147,128.61
	\$482,151.11
Losses	15,597.70
	\$466,553.41
Trust Fund, Dec. 31, 1955	\$466,553.41

Respectfully submitted,

D. A. SULLIVAN,
Treasurer.

INVESTMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1955

Deposits:

Dartmouth Savings Bank, Hanover, N. H.	\$ 5,000.00
Siwooganock Guaranty Savings Bank, Lancaster, N. H.	16,354.47
	\$ 21,354.47

Bonds:

23,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds 2½% Due 12-15-68	\$ 23,000.00
36,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds 2½% due 6-15-69	36,000.00
8,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds 2½% due 3-15-71	8,000.00
5,000 U. S. Savings Bonds "K" 2.76% due 10-1-66	5,000.00
	72,000.00

Stocks:

1600 shs. Boston Fund, Inc.	\$ 19,264.36
100 shs. Central Maine Power Co., 3.50% Pfd.	9,575.00
350 shs. Central Penn National Bank, Philadelphia	15,662.50
50 shs. Central Vt. Public Service 4.15% Pfd.	5,000.00
200 shs. Consolidated Edison Co. of N. Y. \$5.00 Pfd.	19,762.50
50 shs. Consumers Power Co. \$4.50 Pfd.	4,331.25
450 shs. Continental Illinois National Bank & Trust Co.	23,250.00
1500 shs. Eaton & Howard Balanced Fund	18,497.90
375 shs. Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co.	21,813.00
324 shs. First National Bank, Boston	16,633.67
515 shs. First Pennsylvania Banking and Trust Co.	15,923.83
800 shs. Great American Insurance Co.	16,125.00
250 shs. Guaranty Trust Co. N. Y.	13,350.00
245 shs. Hanover Bank, New York	17,385.91
2409 shs. Incorporated Investors	15,025.13
238 shs. Manufacturers Trust Co., N. Y.	10,333.83
4290 shs. Massachusetts Investors Growth Stock Fund	12,584.00
1300 shs. Mass. Investors Trust	16,900.00
1100 shs. Nation Wide Securities Co., Inc.	18,161.00
365 shs. First National City Bank, New York	16,860.82
400 shs. N. H. Fire Insurance Co.	17,075.00
300 shs. Peoples First National Bank & Trust Co., Pittsburgh	7,960.31
150 shs. Public Service Co. of N. H. 3.35% Pfd.	14,400.00
2000 shs. George Putnam Fund of Boston	17,622.03
115 shs. Scranton Spring Brook Water Service 4.10% Pfd.	9,701.90
	<hr/> 373,198.94
Grand Total	<hr/> \$466,553.41

Col. Town Spending Committee

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Spending Committee is comprised of nine members, namely:

Dr. J. A. Ferguson, Mr. Charles Bennett and Mrs. Florence Amadon, whose terms expire in 1956.

Mr. Carroll Stoughton, Mrs. Margaret Guilmette and Mrs. Grace Lee, whose terms expire in 1957.

Mr. George Hunter, Mr. Clinton L. White, and Mr. Arthur Drake, whose terms expire in 1958. These three were re-elected at the 1955 town meeting.

Dr. J. A. Ferguson was unanimously elected chairman with Mrs. Margaret Guilmette as treasurer and Mrs. Florence Amadon, secretary.

As in previous years many fine reports were received from recipients of funds. Following numerous requests, appropriations were voted as stated in the treasurer's report. On several occasions the hall was used for charitable purposes and upon request the rent paid was refunded to the organization responsible.

As is customary, flowers were placed on the Colonel Town lot on Memorial Day and during the Summer months. In the fall a Winter wreath replaced the flowers.

A colored film presented by Mr. Clinton White of the swimming and baseball shows clearly what is being accomplished through these activities. He will gladly show the film to any organization or group upon request.

With an attendance of 13,200 at the swimming pool, 7050 people signing the register at the Community Camp and the large number of people using the Community House and Field there can be no doubt as to the popularity of these recreational centers. Many favorable comments have been made in reference to the piano purchased for the Community House Hall.

The school prizes were given again this year. Former students who have borrowed money from the Scholarship Fund continue to show their appreciation for this privilege by making payments on their loans as soon as convenient for them.

The croquet set given by the Kiwanis Club to the Community Camp is gratefully acknowledged.

The committee regrets the loss of our able swimming instructor, Mr. Weymouth Judkins, but wish him much success in his new undertaking. The Spending Committee wish to express their thanks to the townspeople, including the children, Superintendent and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Snell, Caretaker and Mrs. Carl Hartford, for their interest and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

FLORENCE Q. AMADON,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts

Balance on hand	\$ 8,530.03
Col. Town Trust Fund	23,725.56
Net receipts of House	482.06
Community Camp	257.37
Swimming Pool	3,025.30
	<hr/>
Total	\$36,020.32

Expenditures

Appropriations:

Cub Scouts	\$100.00
Weeks Memorial Library	600.00
School Prizes	240.00
Recreation	514.50
Sally O'Neil—Scholarship	100.00
Little League Uniforms	136.30
Catherine Trainor—Scholarship	200.00
Flowers for Town Lot	86.00
Kiwanis Club—Playground	160.00
Kiwanis Club—Skating Rink	800.00
Child Health Station	100.00
Girl Scouts	75.00
Weeks Memorial Hospital Auxiliary	500.00
Boy Scouts	100.00
	<hr/>
Total Appropriations	\$ 3,711.80

Community House:	
All Salaries	\$8,368.30
Telephone and lights	946.35
Fuel	1,427.50
Repairs	849.50
New Equipment, inc. piano	1,505.59
Supplies	507.64
Miscellaneous	1,739.11
	<hr/>
Total for House	\$15,343.99
Field:	
Grandstand	\$ 392.40
All other	198.88
	<hr/>
Total for Field	\$ 591.28
Community Camp:	
Salary	\$1,100.00
Telephone and lights	162.46
Repair work	497.14
Materials	396.99
All others	302.95
	<hr/>
Total for Camp	\$ 2,459.54
Swimming Pool:	
Salaries	\$1,661.00
Lights and power	194.32
Paint	210.96
Insurance	295.20
Heaters and installation	939.67
All Others	531.14
	<hr/>
Total for Pool	\$ 3,832.29
	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$25,938.90
Balance as of Dec. 31, 1955	\$10,081.42

Respectfully submitted,
MARGARET P. GUILMETTE,
Treasurer

COL. TOWN SCHOLARSHIP LOAN FUND

Balance Jan. 1, 1955 Siwooganock Savings Bank	\$ 569.20
Interest to Jan. 1, 1956	22.53
	<hr/>
	\$ 591.73
Payments on Loans	1,555.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,146.73
Loans granted 1955 (5)	1,000.00
	<hr/>
Balance Jan. 1, 1956 Siwooganock Savings Bank	\$1,146.73

CARROLL STOUGHTON,
Chairman

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Each year seems to show a considerable growth in the activities at the Community House, Field and Swimming Pool. This increase, of course, is very gratifying and interesting to those of us who have the opportunity of serving the fine people of Lancaster at these various Col. Town facilities.

Several additions and improvements were made during the year for the safety, convenience and enjoyment of the many people making use of them. More improvements are planned for the coming year. The Community House, Field and Swimming Pool, along with their respective facilities, have been shown to many visitors during the year.

Groups and organizations enjoying the use of the Community House and Field included the following:

Hospital Association, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Cub Scouts, Teachers Association, Daughters of Isabella, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Perseverance Rebekah Lodge, New England Telephone & Telegraph Co., Great Books Club, Business and Professional Women's Club, Tabernacle Society, Kiwanis Club, Girl Scouts, Noyes Free Lecture Fund, Unity Club, American Red Cross, 4-H Clubs, County Extension Service, Churchmen's Club, Y.M.C.A., County Forestry Meetings, American Cancer Society, North Country Boy Scout Leaders, Science Fair, Nurses' Association, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Legion Auxiliary, Piano Recitals, Orchestra Rehearsals, Committee Meetings, Baseball Meetings and Games, Track and Field Events, Basketball Games and Practices, Parties, Dances, and various School activities.

Last Spring a very good grand piano was purchased and is now located on the stage in the Hall of the Community House. This is available for those who wish to use it for musical entertainments and concerts. The large boiler of our central heating plant was completely relined last summer and a new oil burner was installed. This improvement should not only provide the building with much better heat, but also show considerable saving in fuel.

One new floodlight has been added for the parking area and is located so that it gives much better lighting on our rear walk, for those who wish to use that entrance.

One pool table in the recreation room was completely reconditioned and the auditorium floor received its annual application of two coats of durable non-slip gym finish.

Included in plans for the future are new rugs for the parlor, those now in the parlor to be transferred to the dining room, and refinishing the walls and ceiling in the library. It is also hoped that we may get new curtains for the library windows.

The Community Field was used to great extent throughout the spring, summer and fall months by many athletic and other organizations. The grandstand was thoroughly repaired last spring before the baseball season opened. It was necessary to renew all of the foundations with concrete, thus making our grandstand substantially in good shape. We plan to repaint it, both inside and out, this coming summer.

The summer recreational programs including the children's playground, youth athletic activities and the swimming pool, were under capable supervision and enjoyed by many young people. The entire program was very well attended and the weather seemed to be perfect for outdoor activities. New uniforms were purchased for the Little League baseball teams which were under our sponsorship. The tennis courts were resurfaced five years ago and should go through one more season without much trouble. They should be resurfaced again in another year.

The Swimming Pool was repainted again this year with blue plastic coating. We believe that the painting of pools constructed of steel should be done prior to the opening every season to preserve the metal. Spray painting equipment was purchased last spring enabling us to do the work with our own services. Two electric 100 gallon water heaters were installed in the showers which caused many favorable

comments. Two more beach umbrellas were added to the conveniences we now have.

All working machinery at the pool is in fine shape. However, we hope to get an auxiliary vacuum cleaner so that we may vacuum clean and recirculate at the same time. As it is now we use the same pump for both jobs, which means recirculation has to be discontinued at times when it should be maintained. We also hope to renew the main floor in the bath house with concrete if possible.

The Swimming Pool was in operation for ten full weeks with unusually fine weather prevailing throughout the season. Three hundred and three children's tickets were sold which is the largest number sold since the swimming pool was opened. Eighty-four adults bought season tickets and of course there were many daily admissions. There was a total summer attendance of over 13,200 and a total of 2,870 morning lessons were given in the Red Cross or Y.M.C.A. certified programs. The number of awards given out during the season were as follows: Red Cross—beginners 31, intermediate swimmers 3, advanced swimmers 4, junior life saving 5, senior life saving 2, pool aids 4; Y.M.C.A.—minnow 31, fish 4, flying fish 2, and shark 1.

We wish to thank the very able staff, for work well performed in the House, on the Field and at the Swimming Pool. Our appreciation is extended to the people of Lancaster, and to the various organizations and individuals, for their cooperation and many acts of kindness shown us throughout the year.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the Town Officials, also the students, teachers, and officials of the schools for the way in which they have cooperated with us in our endeavors. The cooperation of the American Red Cross and Y.M.C.A. at the Swimming Pool was, of course, vital to its success.

Any accomplishments made during the year have been due to the interest, counsel, guidance and excellent advice of the members of the Col. Town Spending Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT J. SNELL,
Superintendent

Report of Auditors

The annual examination and audit of the account of the Town of Lancaster for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1955 was made by the Municipal Accounting Division of the State Tax Commission, in accordance with the vote of the Town. The complete report, referred to below, is on file in the Town Office and available for inspection at any time. -

SCOPE OF AUDIT

Included in the examination and audit were the accounts and records of the Board of Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Trustees of Trust Funds, Col. F. L. Town Fund, Weeks Memorial Library, Overseer of the Poor, Public Health Nurse, Dental Clinic, and Summer Street Cemetery.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Comparative Balance Sheets as of December 31, 1954 and December 31, 1955, are presented in Exhibit A-1. As indicated therein, the financial condition of the Town changed from a Net Debt of \$1,038.34 to a Surplus of \$9,736.40 during 1955.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

Comparative statements of appropriations and expenditures, estimated and actual revenues for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1955, are presented in Exhibits A-3 and A-4. As indicated by the budget summary (Exhibit A-4), a revenue surplus of \$3,382.05, plus unexpended balances of appropriations of \$6,667.39, resulted in a net budget surplus of \$10,049.44.

AUDIT PROCEDURE

The accounts and records of all town officials charged with the custody, receipt and disbursement of public funds were examined and audited. Vouchers and cancelled checks were compared with supporting invoices and payrolls as well as entries in the books of record. Receipts were checked by source insofar as possible and totals of receipts and expenditures verified. Book balances were verified by comparison with reconciled bank balances made from statements obtained from depository banks.

GENERAL COMMENTS

It is noted that the current surplus (excess of total assets over current liabilities) increased from \$12,211.66 to \$17,236.40 during 1955, as shown by the following statement:

	Dec. 31, 1954	Dec. 31, 1955
Total Assets	\$93,484.06	\$136,038.83
Total Current Liabilities	81,272.40	118,802.43
Current Surplus	<u>\$12,211.66</u>	<u>\$ 17,236.40</u>

Conclusion

The accounts of all town officials which we examined were found in good condition and the accounting and financial procedure conformed to prescribed methods and procedure.

We extend our thanks to the officials of the Town of Lancaster for their assistance during the course of the audit.

Yours very truly,

HAROLD G. FOWLER,

Director

Division of Municipal Accounting
State Tax Commission

Noval D. Lessels, Auditor

Robert L. Curtis, Accountant

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS

LANCASTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

LANCASTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1955

District Officers

MODERATOR

William H. Crouch

CLERK

Eva Phillips

TREASURER

Christina D. Bennett

SCHOOL BOARD

Walter D. Hinkley	Term Expires 1956
Clifford R. Gray	Term Expires 1956
John E. Gormley	Term Expires 1957
Cecile M. Costine	Term Expires 1957
Grace M. Lee	Term Expires 1958
Roland H. White	Term Expires 1958

Report of the Board of Education

At the annual meeting on April 12, 1955, Roland White and Grace Lee were elected to the Board for three year terms, replacing Willard Bean and Ralph Shute, both of whom retired. At this time we wish to express publicly the appreciation of the Board for the many years of faithful and valuable service rendered by Mr. Bean and Mr. Shute while members of the Board.

At the opening of school in September there were many new members on the faculty. We are pleased to report that the new teachers are proving very satisfactory.

During the past year a considerable reduction was made in the deficit, over and above the \$3000 appropriation for that purpose. Your attention is invited to the report of Audit by the State Tax Commission, as well as to the reports of the Superintendent, Principal, Elementary Supervisor and Music Department.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER D. HINKLEY, Chairman
CLIFFORD R. GRAY
JOHN E. GORMLEY
CECILE M. COSTINE
GRACE M. LEE
ROLAND H. WHITE

Superintendent's Report

To the School Board of the Town of Lancaster:

My third annual report as Superintendent of Schools in the Town of Lancaster is submitted herewith.

Supervisory Union No. 31

The Supervisory Union No. 31 is composed of the towns of Lancaster, Carroll, and Whitefield. The duties of the Union, as a whole, are to select the Superintendent of Schools, special teachers, supervisors and the Union secretary. The school nurse is engaged separately by the individual towns. The Superintendent's salary for the school year 1954-1955 was proportioned as follows: Lancaster 33.2%, Whitefield 18.2%, Carroll 6.3% and the State share 42.3%. The salary of the secretary and office expenses of the Union for the school year 1954-1955 were proportioned as follows: Lancaster 57.5%, Whitefield 31.5%, and Carroll 11.0%. These percentages are based on two factors having equal weight as follows: (1) Average Daily Membership of District, and (2) District valuations (adjusted). The following chart might be of interest to show you how these percentages are derived:

DISTRICT VALUATIONS (Adjusted)

Carroll	\$1,529,829.00
Lancaster	5,954,449.00
Whitefield	3,319,334.00

Total valuation of Supervisory Union No. 31 \$10,803,612.00

AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP OF DISTRICT

District	Elementary	High	Total
Carroll	49.6	15.7	65.3
Lancaster	516.9	223.7	740.6
Whitefield	255.4	106.8	362.2
Totals	821.9	346.2	1168.1

DISTRICT PERCENTAGES OF COSTS

District	Valuation Percent	A. D. M. Percent	Average Percent
Carroll	16	6	11
Lancaster	51	64	57.5
Whitefield	33	30	31.5
	100	100	100

Section 47 of Chapter 135 of the Revised Laws has been amended by the 1951 General Court to read, in part, as follows: "The basis for the apportionment shall be one-half on the average membership for the previous school year and one-half on the last adjusted valuation of the district."

The average percentages will vary slightly each year due to changes in the valuation of the districts and the Average Daily Membership of pupils in the districts.

The Union School Board employs a full time elementary supervisor whose duty it is to aid and direct those teachers teaching Grade I through VI. This position has been in existence for approximately six years. Miss Blanche Withereff, Supervisor of Elementary Education, is of great help to these teachers. Special programs relative to the progress of the pupils, both individually and as a whole, are carried on under her guidance. We recommend that her report be read and digested, as we feel that this field of education should be understood by all interested parents and citizens.

School Personnel

Mrs. Elizabeth Moody, third grade teacher of the elementary school and Miss Mary Hartwell, Social Studies teacher; Mr. Harold Greene, Mathematics teacher; Mr. David Moreland, Industrial Arts teacher; Mrs. Ellen Denison, General Science teacher; Mr. David Blair, Social Studies teacher and coach, and Mr. Charles Ricardi, Social Studies teacher of the high school, left their respective positions effective as of June 1955.

Mrs. Jean Stocks, graduate Lyndon Teachers College, Lyndon Center, Vermont, was employed to teach Grade III in the elementary school. In the high school, Mrs. Claresse Swetson, Plymouth Teachers College, Plymouth, New Hampshire, was employed to teach Mathematics; Mr. W. Allister Crandall, graduate of Acadia University and Dalhousie University, Canada, was employed to teach Science; Mr. Lee McCoy, Plymouth Teachers College, was employed to teach Mathematics; Mr. Verne Bryant, Plymouth Teachers College, was employed to teach Social Studies and coach high school sports; Mr. Donald MacGregor, University of New Hampshire, was employed to teach Science; Mr. James Hodgkins, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, was employed to teach Social Studies and Mr. Ralph McLean, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine and University of Maine, was employed to teach Social Studies.

The assignment of elementary teachers for the school year 1955-1956 is as follows: Kindergarten, Mrs. Ethel

MacKinnon; Grade I, Mrs. Florence Allin, Miss Annie McGinley; Grade II, Mrs. Helen Carr, Mrs. Marion Knight; Grade III, Mrs. Shirley Aldrich, Mrs. Jean Stocks; Grade IV, Mrs. Blanche Collins, Mrs. Gwendolyn Parker; Grade V, Mrs. Elizabeth Chase; Grades V and VI, Mrs. Sara Shute; Grade VI, Mrs. Ruby Beecher; Grange School, Mrs. Nellie Rogers; Mt. Cabot School, Mrs. Pearl Gornley; remedial teacher, Mrs. Leola Hall.

The high school teachers for the school year 1955-1956 are as follows: Mr. Verne Bryant, Mr. W. Allister Crandall, Mrs. Elsie Dorr, Mrs. Betty Fowlie, Mr. James Hodgkins, Mr. George Jones, Mr. Donald MacGregor, Mr. Lee McCoy, Mrs. Gertrude McGoff, Miss Rosalie McGraw, Mr. Ralph McLean, Mr. John O'Brien, Miss Mary Rines, Mrs. Clarese Swetson, Mr. Gardner Wentworth, Mrs. Ruth Wentworth and Mr. Carroll Stoughton, Principal.

Repairs

Since July 1, 1955 the following repairs have been completed:

1. Four rooms, located on the first and third floors in the high school building, were painted.
2. Installation of fluorescent lights in the biology classroom.
3. Fluorescent light fixtures were added to existing light fixtures in one of the classrooms.
4. Construction of storm water sewer in front of the elementary school building on school grounds.
5. Replacing and weather conditioning ten exterior doors on the school building.
6. Major plumbing repairs.
7. Instaliation of emergency lighting as required by law.

Other necessary repairs have been made as the need for them has arisen.

Enrollment

The studying of pupil enrollment problem anticipated during the next ten years at the Lancaster school is one of interest. The enrollment does fluctuate to such an extent that it is difficult to define a given trend. Upon analyzing the report, as presented to us by the census return as of September 1, 1955, it would appear that the increase of pupil enrollment will not be too great for several years. We present the following table:

ANTICIPATED FUTURE ENROLLMENT IN GRADE I ACCORDING TO CENSUS REPORTS

Three Year Summary

Anticipated Enrollment Year	Year Census was taken (September)		
	1953	1954	1955
1955	70	73	
1956	58	55	58
1957	73	75	74
1958	57	57	57
1959	53	71	79
1960		51*	78
1961			28*

* This figures includes only children born before September 1 of that calendar year as the census is taken at that time.

To understand the significance of the above table, refer to the school year 1959, and check the anticipated enrollments as presented to us during the last three census reports. According to this table it would appear that in September 1953, the anticipated first grade enrollment was fifty-three, up to September 1, 1953. The census shows that, as of September 1954, the anticipated enrollment in grade one as of September 1959, would be seventy-one pupils. The 1955 September census shows that this expected enrollment for 1959 has increased from seventy-one pupils to seventy-nine pupils. This table will become more valuable several years from now when an over-all picture will be available.

The enrollment in the elementary grades continues to vary slightly. However, it would appear that facts available indicate that the expected grade enrollment for the future will fluctuate around eighty pupils. This number of pupils is actually too many to be handled by two teachers for one grade, but is not sufficient to warrant the employment of a third full-time teacher. At the present time the philosophy of the State Board of Education stipulates that no more than forty pupils may be taught by any one teacher. This means that if our pupil enrollment in any one grade reaches above eighty pupils, your School Board will be faced with a major problem. The reason for such a problem to arise is obvious when one realizes that the information available is only an estimate. For instance, if one refers to the 1954 report of the Superintendent of Schools, it will be noted that the anticipated enrollment for the school year 1955-1956 for grade one was seventy-three pupils. At the present time there are

eighty-two pupils enrolled. In other words, with all the information available the expected enrollment was in error by nine pupils. This number did not upset our present program. However, it is easy for one to see that such an error could necessitate the employment of an extra teacher, even though no provision had been made in the proposed school budget.

At the end of this report will be found a table under the caption "Preliminary Report Lancaster School District" to which we would like to have you refer. This gives, to the best of our ability, a complete survey of the anticipated enrollment in the Lancaster Schools over the next ten-year period. These figures are based entirely on present day enrollment and the census report as of September 1955. Kindly study this report. We suggest that you compare it with the one of last year.

According to last year's chart the estimated enrollment in grades one through six for the school year 1955-1956 was three hundred sixty-six pupils. It will be noted that the actual number enrolled in grades one through six for the school year 1955-1956, according to this year's chart, is three hundred ninety-three pupils. This is an increase of twenty-seven pupils over the number that was anticipated in last year's report. It might be of interest to note that the pupil enrollment in Grades one through six for the school year 1955-1956 is forty-five more pupils than were enrolled in these grades for the school year 1954-1955.

Another interesting study of these two charts will show that last year's table showed an enrollment in grades one through six for the school year 1959-1960 as four hundred four pupils, whereas our present table shows that this figure has increased to four hundred twenty-eight pupils. If the present table is accurate, it means that our enrollment from September 1954, to September 1959, will increase by an estimated eighty pupils instead of the expected fifty-six pupils as reported in last year's table.

Last year it was predicted that there would be an enrollment in grades seven and eight for the school year 1955-1956 of one hundred six pupils. At the present time the enrollment in these two grades is one hundred fifteen pupils. Even though this increase may be small, it does reflect the present trend in our school enrollment.

Whereas last year we estimated an enrollment of two hundred fourteen in the high school as of September 1955, there was an enrollment of only two hundred ten pupils, or a

drop of four pupils. Perhaps it should be mentioned that the present fifth grade is the last grade to have an enrollment under sixty pupils, which means that the pupil enrollment continues to increase greatly as these smaller classes continue to graduate. The above information is being presented in order that the citizens of Lancaster may have a clearer understanding relative to possible increase in future enrollment. What school problems this expected increase in enrollment will create cannot be determined at this time. However, it is obvious that this situation presented a problem which will create much study on the part of the people of Lancaster.

Rural Schools

During the school year 1955-1956 the school district had two rural schools in operation, Mt. Cabot and Grange. As will be noted in studying the enrollment chart mentioned above, the number of pupils attending the Lancaster school will continue to increase for some time to come. This increase will necessitate the employing of additional teachers to the number already employed. Thus, the employment of an additional teacher for an additional classroom for the coming school year 1956-1957 is necessary. The committee realized that if it closed the Grange school for the school year 1956-1957 it could save the town approximately four thousand dollars by transferring the Grange teacher.

The Board held a meeting with the parents of the children attending Grange school on January 4, 1956. At that time it was brought out that if the teacher at the Grange school were transferred to the Lancaster Elementary School, it would not be necessary to employ an additional teacher this coming year, 1956-1957, which would mean a saving of at least three thousand dollars. The present transportation contract for the transporting of Grange school children is seven hundred dollars. If the Grange school were closed this cost would be eliminated. Other savings would include janitor services, lights, heat, and other sundry items which would bring the saving to approximately four thousand dollars annually.

At the regular meeting of the School Board on January 5, 1956, it was voted to close the Grange school for the school year 1956-1957.

Insurance

This year your School Board, in conjunction with the Whitefield and Carroll School Boards, once again offered to

all pupils in these towns the opportunity of participating in a Special School Child Accident Policy for one dollar and twenty-five cents per year per pupil. This is the third year that the pupils attending the Lancaster schools have had this opportunity. Previous to this time the expense of an accident was borne directly by the parent. It is thought that this accident insurance policy will be a great help in meeting expenses which occasionally occur at school.

This policy became effective September 23, 1955, and will continue until September 23, 1956. Four hundred twenty-six out of seven hundred ninety-six pupils and teachers took advantage of this opportunity. This shows that approximately 54% of the entire student body participated in this project.

Social Security

This is to report that the school custodians and Hot Lunch Program personnel are now participating in the Social Security Program. This privilege was voted them at the last regular school district meeting.

Handicapped Children

As previously reported it is the duty of the School Board of each town to furnish educational opportunities to handicapped children, if and when they are incapacitated to such an extent as not being able to attend our school. Last year there were pupils who qualified for special teaching. At this writing there are three participating in the 1955-1956 special program. Special provision for this phase of our educational program appears in the regular budget appropriation.

Hot Lunch Program

The Lancaster elementary and high schools continue to participate in the Hot Lunch Program sponsored for the benefit of the pupils attending these schools. During the school year 1954-1955 the cost was twenty-five cents per lunch per pupil in grades one through six, and thirty cents per lunch per pupil in grades seven through twelve. The School Lunch Program functions on a revolving fund and has been self-supporting to date. The only way we are able to give the pupils such excellent food for so little cost is because of the number of lunches served, available state aid, and the efficiency with which the head dietitian and her very able assistants plan and execute the daily menus.

All pupils attending the Lancaster Schools are privileged to purchase hot lunches during those days when school is in session. It might be of interest to note that the number

of hot lunches served at this writing is exceptionally high. The interest of the pupils in the program continues to increase. These lunches must meet standards established by the State Board of Education through the office of School Lunch Program. Our kitchen is subject to inspection at all times by official state representatives. Not only is the kitchen checked, but a careful study of the menus is made so that properly balanced lunches are served.

May we express our sincere appreciation to Mrs. Elsie Dorr, Mrs. Thelma D. Murphy, Mrs. Hannah Rowe, and Mrs. Belle Smith for making this program so successful.

The following information may be of interest in showing the sizable program that was carried on during the school year 1954-1955:

Lunches served (Children and Adults)	33,193
Milk (In addition to that served with lunches)	5,782
Food and Supplies (Government)	\$2,610.26
Freight charges (Surplus commodities)	\$ 125.15
Salaries (Adults)	\$2,382.33
Salaries (Students)	\$ 549.25
Food Purchases	\$7,615.76
Equipment Purchases	\$ 459.68
Other Purchases	\$ 607.35
United States Department—Agricultural Claims	\$1,481.30
Lunch Receipts (For meals)	\$8,616.67
Miscellaneous revenue	\$1,019.51

May we express to Mr. Willard Bean and Mr. Ralph Shute our sincere thanks for their outstanding work performed while members of the Lancaster School Board. Mr. Bean and Mr. Shute worked hard and diligently for the best interest of the school and its pupils. Their wise counsel and sound advice did much to improve the school system.

Our appreciation goes to Mr. Alpha Kingsley and Mr. Ronald Gainor, school custodians, for their continued interest in having the schools an asset to the town of Lancaster as displayed through their labors.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to Miss Blanche Witherell, Supervisor of Elementary Education, Mr. Carroll Stoughton, High School Principal, and all members of the Lancaster teaching staff for the excellent work which they are doing this year. One only needs to visit the schools to sense an atmosphere of interest and cooperation in the complete school program.

Our appreciation also goes to Mrs. Mary Carey, school nurse, and Dr. Benjamin H. Blodgett, Dr. David M. Cleasby,

Dr. James A. Ferguson, and Dr. Thomas S. Rock, school physicians. The Health Program is one of the best in the state. For the cooperation displayed by the health personnel and other interested citizens, we are extremely grateful. With this cooperation it was possible to administer the Salk Vaccine Program successfully. May we suggest that the Health Program report by Mrs. Mary Carey be read.

We do feel that much credit is due Chief Ramon Hanson for the safety of the children while going to and from school. His fine spirit of cooperation is greatly appreciated. We feel certain that the citizens and parents appreciate the fine work that he is doing.

Our appreciation goes to the Parent-Teachers Association for the cooperation and interest which it has shown during this school year. The various projects which they have completed have been of help to both pupils and teachers.

The fine cooperation given your Superintendent of Schools by your School Board is indeed gratifying. Without an interested and progressive School Board, a school program cannot become successful. These characteristics are evident within the Lancaster School Board. We know that its members are doing their best to give Lancaster pupils the type of educational training desired by their parents.

May we suggest that all citizens make an effort to visit the Lancaster Schools at least once during the next twelve months.

Respectfully submitted,
HAROLD A. TRUPELL,
Superintendent of Schools

PRELIMINARY REPORT LANCASTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP FORECAST - FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1955 - 1960
HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP FORECAST - TEN YEAR PERIOD 1955 - 1965

Year (Sept.)	Grades 1-6										Grades 7-8			Grades 9-12			Grand Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	7	8	Total	9	10	11	12	Total		
1955	82	78	74	65	47	47	393	65	50	115	74	54	46	36	210	718	
1956	58	82	78	74	65	47	404	47	65	112	50	74	54	46	224	740	
1957	74	58	82	78	74	65	431	47	47	94	65	50	74	54	243	768	
1958	57	74	58	82	78	74	423	65	47	112	47	65	50	74	236	771	
1959	79	57	74	58	82	78	428	74	65	139	47	47	65	50	209	776	
1960	78	79	57	74	58	82	428	78	75	153	65	47	47	65	224	805	
1961		78	79	57	74	58		82	78	160	74	65	47	47	233		
1962			78	79	57	74		58	82	140	78	74	65	47	264		
1963				78	79	57		74	58	132	82	78	74	65	299		
1964					78	79		57	74	131	58	82	78	74	292		
1965						78		79	57	136	74	58	82	78	292		

The Kindergarten enrollment is not included in this table.

Report for the Elementary Schools

Mr. Harold A. Truell, Superintendent of Schools
Lancaster, New Hampshire

The report summarizing Lancaster Elementary School supervision is respectfully submitted:

1. Curriculum

Concerning the program of studies, there are several encouraging indications, the first of which is progress shown in our design for Reading. Conclusions in both classroom activities and test results, continue to suggest that we are moving in the right direction. Good Reading is our forte: better reading is our goal!

Supplementary to the basic teaching is the work of our remedial teacher, Mrs. Leola Hall. Children, who have been compelled to be absent from school for extended periods of time, are provided an opportunity to make up the reading work. To those who are having difficulty with some phase of their reading, we offer special help. Many groups are given extra drill in Phonics and Word Building. This area of our Reading program is receiving wide acclaim and many expressions of appreciation from both parents and teachers.

Our Social Reading Hour continues to create interest and to develop new reading skill. At present, our files show approximately two hundred thirty-four sets of books, with at least four books to a set; and these sets are continually changing hands. No doubt, before the year's close, there will be a demand for additional books, especially in the primary grades.

The next step toward achieving the ultimate in reading success must be greater emphasis on Silent Reading, which becomes more important as the child progresses from primary grades to the intermediate category. More of his work requires reading directions, reading for content, learning to skim for important facts, etc. For this phase of our reading we must make more definite provision.

Introduction to a more satisfactory Language prospectus has been set in motion with the purchase, this year, of Language workbooks for Grades One through Six. There is much work to accomplish, but we anticipate acceleration as the plan unfolds.

We continue to spotlight Arithmetic with emphasis on

drill in fundamentals as well as a clearer line of demarcation for each grade's objectives.

The existence of the Kindergarten has been completely justified in the light of recent results and observations. Our first grade children are better prepared for their initial study experiences, and their conduct, attitudes and mental maturity are visible evidences of the value of thorough Kindergarten training.

2. Tests

The Otis Quick-Scoring Mental Ability Tests are administered each year to Grades One and Four. Although the extent, to which the results are reliable, varies with each child and his physical, mental and emotional status at the time of the test, the over-all picture offers one of the criteria which helps us to determine the child's innate ability and his potential.

In May we give the Stanford Achievement Tests in Grades One through Six. In this way we determine the year's progress made by each child in the major subjects. In three subjects, Reading, Language and Arithmetic, the combined average for all grades, for 1955, was compared with that of 1954. This comparison showed that in Reading the average was raised one full year; in Language—.7 of a year; and in Arithmetic—.9 of a year. Although some subjects showed more improvement than others, in every instance there was some progression.

3. Cafeteria

Our School Cafeteria plays an important part in the total school program. It provides well-balanced, attractively-served and reasonably-priced lunches to approximately half the children in our Elementary grades. Our sincere appreciation is extended to the Cafeteria staff: Mrs. Thelma D. Murphy, Mrs. Hannah Rowe, Mrs. Belle Smith and the young people, for the excellent service they provide, and for their cooperation and thoughtfulness, always.

4. Conferences and Workshops

Teacher Workshops, designed to permit discussion of present practices and proposed improvement in both curriculum procedures and school routine, are scheduled weekly.

A "Binney and Smith" In-Service Art Workshop was held on November 7, 8 and 9. The motto was "Learn by Doing", and each member of the class was expected to design and complete several projects that could later be successfully used in the classroom. A good variety of Art media

was available, such as: Crayola, Clayola, Finger paints, Powder paints, Tempora, Papier Mache and Water colors. The media, used as recommended by our consultant, Mrs. Bradbury, revived the artistic talents of over fifty individuals. Our knowledge of the subject was decidedly increased, the time was profitably spent and we were privileged to increase our professional status at no expense.

Parent Conferences, for this year, are well under way, and advisedly so, for they give parent and teacher the opportunity to work together through the year with oneness of purpose and understanding of each other's objectives.

We express our hearty thanks to every parent for the gracious manner in which you have cooperated with us in our effort to make this business of Education a happy, healthy and profitable experience for your children.

5. Personnel

Only one change in the teaching staff was made this Fall. We regret the resignation of Mrs. Elizabeth Moody, but we welcome, in her place, Mrs. Jean Stocks of Littleton.

I am very proud of our teaching staff and consider myself fortunate to be privileged to work with a group who are conscientious, cooperative, and qualified.

6. Conclusion

Mr. Truell, we appreciate your help and guidance, your understanding of our problems, and the encouragement that stimulates us to greater effort.

To the Lancaster School Board we express our gratitude for providing for us so many of the things that make our work more efficient and pleasant.

We are grateful to Mrs. Mary Carey for the splendid work she is doing and her cooperation with us.

We extend to Mrs. Ruth Wentworth of the Music Department a note of thanks for her part in our elementary school program.

To the Custodial staff, who have given willingly of their time and effort, and to all others interested in the program of Lancaster Elementary School we add, "Thanks again".

Sincerely,

BLANCHE M. WITHERELL

Principal's Report

Mr. Harold A. Truell
Superintendent of Schools
Lancaster, New Hampshire

Dear Sir:

I herewith submit my annual report as principal of the Lancaster High School.

The total number of pupils registered in grades seven through twelve for the year 1954-1955 was 332. This was twenty-seven less than the total number registered the previous year and six more than the number registered thus far this year. Of the 332 who registered during the year, 309 completed the year at Lancaster. During the year eleven left school and twelve transferred to other schools mainly because of a change in their parents' residence. Two, however, transferred to Berlin High School, State Aided Area Vocational School, in order to take the Auto-Mechanics course available there. The attendance for the year was 94% and the average number of tardinesses per pupil 1.2. Nine pupils were neither absent nor tardy.

There were a total of fifty-eight pupils who entered the senior class last year, but during the year four left school and one transferred to another school. Of the fifty-three graduating eight have entered military service, eight are in training for nursing, seven are attending their State Universities, and six are attending business schools; three are receiving vocational training, three are at home, and nineteen are regularly employed.

Following are tables with reference to the total registration in this year's classes:

Table I (By residence)

District	Grades						Total
	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Lancaster	65	50	60	42	38	25	280
Jefferson			12	9	5	10	36
Lunenburg, Vermont			1	2	1	1	5
Gilman, Vermont			2	0	2		4
Guildhall, Vermont				1			1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	65	50	75	54	46	36	326

Total: Grades 7 and 8—115, Grades 9 to 12—211

Table II (By classes)

Class	Boys	Girls	Total
Seniors	14	22	36
Juniors	18	28	46
Sophomores	31	23	54
Freshmen	38	37	75
Eighth Grade	32	18	50
Seventh Grade	29	36	65
	162	164	326

Table III (By subjects Grades 9-12)

ENGLISH		HOME ECONOMICS	
English 9	75	Clothing and Textiles	9
English 10	54	Foods	16
English 11	46	Family	19
English 12	36		
SOCIAL STUDIES		SHOP	
Civics	75	Trades & Industries I (Cabinet Making)	14
World History	28	Trades and Industries II (Practical Construction)	15
U. S. History	48	Industrial Arts	3
Problems of Democracy	36	Mechanical Drawing	4
LANGUAGES		MATHEMATICS	
Latin I	25	General Mathematics	43
Latin II	8	Algebra I	31
French	15	Plane Geometry	19
French II	4	Algebra II	12
COMMERCE		Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry	6
General Business	38		
Economic Geography	18		
Bookkeeping	13		
Consumer Education	7		
Typing I	36		
Stenography I	18		
Stenography II	3		
Office Practice	8		

In spite of the decrease in this year's total registration from that of last year, there has been an increase in the number registered in the seventh and eighth grades. Since this increase will probably continue and comparatively small

graduating classes will be replaced by fairly large freshmen classes for the next two or three years, the present trend downward in total registration will be rapidly reversed. At the present time we are able to take care of the seventh and eighth grades in three rooms on the first floor with the overflow seated in a junior home room on the same floor. Such an arrangement can go for the next two years, but then it will be necessary to use four full rooms for the seventh and eighth grade pupils alone. The present seating capacity of home rooms for all grades from seven through twelve is 342 which could be increased to 372 by putting additional seats in the present home rooms. Two other rooms could be used for home rooms and this would further increase the home room seating capacity to approximately 425. This would solve the problem of having seats for all pupils for some time to come, but it would still leave a problem in the arrangement of classes. At the present time many classes have study pupils in them, but with the increased enrollment, practically all classes would have the vacant seats in the room filled with study pupils. Such an arrangement would not be conducive to the best in teaching. Although the need is not immediate, a study should be begun to see what changes or additions can be made to better care for any increased enrollment. Additional teachers will help, but this in itself will not completely solve the problem.

This year the daily time schedule has six one hour periods instead of eight forty-five minute periods as set up in the past. This change was made in order that Mrs. Elsie Dorr could teach seventh and eighth grade home making and still meet the time requirement for her high school courses. There are both advantages and disadvantages in having a six period schedule. It has given more time for class work and supervised study but has limited the number of free periods for pupils. In the eight period schedule the first period was made free for most of the pupils so that assemblies and activities could be carried on during that time. Now assemblies and activity meetings are arranged, in so far as possible, on a rotating basis so that classes will not be interrupted any more than is necessary. With only six periods in the day, pupils taking five academic subjects or Trades and Industries have only one study period and the others only two. This has been a disadvantage, not only to the pupils, but to the principal as well since it is now more difficult to get student clerical help in carrying on some of the school activities.

One of the benefits resulting from the discontinuance of senior class trips has been the amount of money available for school rather than class activities. Previously, fund raising campaigns, such as the sale of magazine subscriptions, were carried on by individual classes and the money earned used primarily for senior class trips. Now they are carried on by the school as a whole and the money received is used for student activities from which the whole school may benefit. Not only has the money raised from the sale of magazine subscriptions enabled the school to support its athletic program without seeking outside funds, but in addition, this money has provided funds for a program of selected school assemblies. Formerly the Colonel Town Spending Committee appropriated funds in support of student activities, but with other means found to support them, the Committee, in recent years, has been appropriating additional funds for scholarships and prizes. For these additional prizes and scholarships and the financial support that has been given student activities the school is very grateful. It is also very grateful to Mr. Lewis Levine of New York City for a four hundred dollar scholarship given Robert Baker to attend Concord Commercial College.

Otis mental ability tests have been given to the seventh and ninth grade pupils and also to other pupils who have not previously taken this test or a similar one. As finances permit further testing should be carried on in the high school. Information obtained from a more complete testing program would be valuable to both teachers and pupils. Such information would also be very useful in counselling pupils in their selection of courses and on their plans for the future.

During the past four years a state-wide testing program for sophomores has been carried on by the University of New Hampshire Testing Service. Two tests measuring scholastic aptitude and general reading level have been given to practically all sophomore students in the state. Last spring, five thousand students took the tests. The median scores on the four scholastic aptitude tests given to the Lancaster High School sophomores have been above the median scores of all students in the state taking the tests each year. This would indicate that the scholastic ability of Lancaster students as a whole was average or above in comparison to other pupils in the state. The scores on the tests measuring general reading level compare favorably with the scores on the Scholastic Aptitude tests.

In closing, I wish to express my appreciation to you and the School Board for the assistance given me in carrying out the policies of the school, to the teachers and pupils for their loyalty and cooperation, and to parents and others for their interest and support.

Respectfully submitted,

CARROLL STOUGHTON,
Principal

Music Department

VOCAL MUSIC

Mr. Harold A. Truell
Superintendent of Schools
Lancaster, New Hampshire

Dear Mr. Truell:

It is with pleasure that I give you my yearly report.

The vocal music in the school continues to grow more interesting. Not only do the young people seem to develop fuller and richer voices, but the rudiments of music do not seem as formidable. From the Kindergarten groups on through Senior High School, theory is taught. Social Studies, History, and Geography enter into the study of music. In the upper grades it is most interesting to compare the times of the so-called old composers with those of modern times. In addition to our school program our students participate in many musical projects of the community. The most surprising activity was the Christmas Cantata given by a group from the Junior High Glee Club. It was rendered very professionally with a great deal of finesse.

The pupils in the two rural schools are becoming more interested in the "whys" and "wherefores" of music, which is a very good sign.

We have lately acquired some new books for the Junior High groups which are greatly appreciated. The new victrola is a great addition.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to you, Mr. Truell and to Mr. Stoughton, Miss Witherell, and the teachers for the interest and cooperation that has been given me at all times.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH C. WENTWORTH,
Vocal Music Supervisor

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Mr. Harold A. Truell
Superintendent of Schools
Lancaster, New Hampshire

Dear Mr. Truell:

I am glad to submit my report of the Instrumental Department of Music for the 1955 part of the 1955-1956 school year. Some changes have had to be made in our program to comply with the new general schedule of six full hour periods per day instead eight forty-five minute periods. This new schedule has worked to the advantage of the instrumental classes. We are now scheduling half hour instrumental classes, with fewer pupils in each class, and well graded according to their advancement. All of the instrumental classes are scheduled on a rotating plan which means that the first class of this week will report for their class on the second period on the following week. By use of this plan, pupils are missing one half of the same class or study hall only once in six weeks.

The Senior Orchestra has thirty-five members this year, and is doing some very good work. As always, graduation makes it necessary to do quite a lot of re-organizing of the orchestra, as we always lose a goodly number each June, and usually some of our lead players. The replacements which come in from the Junior Orchestra have to be carefully placed in the Senior Orchestra where they can work best to their own advantage, and also to the best advantage of the orchestra. The re-seating and re-organizing takes a great deal of time as well as a lot of careful planning.

The Junior Orchestra has twenty-seven members this year and is carrying on as usual. New Members will be brought into the junior group during the remainder of the school year. Pupils are brought into the Junior Orchestra as soon as is possible, so as to give them early ensemble experience as it is to their advantage to attempt playing with others.

On the whole, our instrumental program is going very well this year, and everyone seems to be happy and enthusiastic. While it is always hard to predict any future, I feel sure that we can look forward to the remainder of our school year with a feeling of pleasure and confidence.

Respectfully submitted,
GARDNER E. WENTWORTH,
Supervisor of Instrumental Music

ANNUAL REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER

Summary

Cash on hand June 30, 1954	\$ 981.01
Received from Selectmen, Current Appropriation	158,470.14
Income from Trust Funds	90.99
Received from State Treasurer, (State Aid)	21,637.45
Received from State Treasurer, (Federal Funds)	3,831.78
Received from Tuitions	12,627.52
Received from all other sources	588.71
	<hr/>
Total amount available for fiscal year	\$198,227.60
Less School Orders paid	196,128.34
	<hr/>
Cash on hand June 30, 1955	\$ 2,099.26

CHRISTINA D. BENNETT,
School Treasurer

Audit Report

DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING
STATE TAX COMMISSION
Concord, New Hampshire

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS September 6, 1955

The School Board
Lancaster Union School District
Lancaster, New Hampshire

Gentlemen:

Submitted herewith is the report of the annual examination and audit of the accounts of the Lancaster Union School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, which was made by this Division in accordance with the vote of the District. Exhibits as hereafter listed are included as part of the report.

SCOPE OF AUDIT

Included in the examination and audit were the accounts and records of the School Board and the School District Treasurer.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Comparative Balance Sheets: (Exhibit A)

Comparative Balance Sheets as of June 30, 1954 and June 30, 1955, are presented in Exhibit A. As indicated therein, the Net Debt decreased by \$23,397.15 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955.

Analysis of Change in Financial Condition: (Exhibit B)

An analysis of the change in financial condition of the School District during the fiscal year is made in Exhibit B, with the factors which caused the change indicated therein.

Comparative Statements of Appropriations and Expenditures Estimated and Actual Revenues: (Exhibits C & D)

Comparative statements of appropriations and expenditures, estimated and actual revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, are presented in Exhibits C and D. As indicated by the Budget Summary (Exhibit D), a net overdraft of appropriations of \$4,635.72, less a net revenue surplus of \$1,491.82, resulted in a net budget deficit of \$3,143.90.

Summary of Receipts and Expenditures: (Exhibit E)

A summary of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, made up in accordance with the

uniform classification of accounts, is included in Exhibit E. Proof of the Treasurer's balance as of June 30, 1955, is included in Exhibit F.

Statement of Bonded Debt: (Exhibit G)

A statement of the bonded indebtedness of the School District as of June 30, 1955, showing annual debt service requirements, is contained in Exhibit G.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Decrease in Current Deficit:

It is noted that the current deficit decreased by \$11,397.15 in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, as shown by the following statement:

	June 30, 1954	June 30, 1955
Total Current Liabilities	\$20,750.18	\$10,471.28
Total Assets	981.01	2,099.26
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Current Deficit	\$19,769.17	\$ 8,372.02
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Reduction of Accounts Payable:

A reduction in Accounts Payable was made during the fiscal year as noted herewith:

Accounts Payable—June 30, 1954	\$20,750.18
Accounts Payable—June 30, 1955	10,471.28
	<hr/>
Decrease in Accounts Payable	\$10,278.90

A deficiency appropriation of \$3,000.00 accounted for part of this decrease. It is likewise evident that the net overdraft of the current year's appropriations of \$4,635.72, was the result of expenditures made on account of accounts payable of the previous year. However, it is apparent that progress is being made in the financial affairs of the District inasmuch as the decrease in accounts payable which was made during the fiscal year exceeded the amount of the deficiency appropriation plus the amount of the net overdraft of appropriations.

Conclusion:

The provisions of Chapter 184 of the Laws of 1955, require that the summary of findings and recommendations of this report shall be published in the next annual report of the School District. If this is not done the Tax Commission, at the expense of the School District, may cause the summary to be separately published and distributed or published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the District.

The inclusion of Exhibits in the published report is optional with the School Board.

We extend our thanks to the officials of the Lancaster Union School District for their assistance during the course of the audit.

Yours very truly,

HAROLD G. FOWLER,

Director

Division of Municipal Accounting
State Tax Commission

DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING
STATE TAX COMMISSION

Concord, New Hampshire

September 6, 1955

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

This is to certify that we have examined and audited the accounts and records of the Lancaster Union School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955. In our opinion the Exhibits included herewith reflect the true financial condition of the School District on June 30, 1955, and the results of operations for the fiscal year ended on that date.

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD G. FOWLER,

Director

Division of Municipal Accounting
State Tax Commission

C. David Sullivan, Auditor

Joseph W. Boudreau, Accountant

EXPLANATION FOR REDUCTION OF DEFICIT
FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1954-1955

Deficit	.	\$20,750.18
Less:		
Deficit appropriation 1954-1955	\$ 3,000.00	
June 30, 1954 Cash Balance	981.01	
Closing Gore School	2,115.80	
Fuel	1,288.87	
Coaching appropriation not used	500.00	
Saving on teachers' salaries and substitutes	1,874.17	
Tuition appropriation not used (Portion)	391.70	

Miscellaneous	127.35
Total	<u>10,278.90</u>
	<u>\$10,471.28</u>
Less, Balance on Hand July 1, 1955	2,099.26
Net deficit as of July 1, 1955	<u>\$ 8,372.02</u>

Budget for 1956-1957

	Expended 1954-55	Adopted Budget 1955-56	Proposed Budget 1956-57
Administration			
Salaries, Dist. Officers	\$ 475.00	\$ 477.50	\$ 477.50
Supt.'s Salary-Local Share	2,156.25*	2,280.00	2,443.75
Tax-Statewide			
Supervision	1,390.00	1,450.00	1,494.00
Salaries—Other Admin.			
Personnel	3,767.50	3,723.00	3,991.25
Supplies & Expenses	2,947.24	2,681.25	2,906.88
Instruction			
Teachers' Salaries-High	46,819.04	48,124.52	44,789.48
Teachers' Salaries-Elem.	60,584.91	61,371.04	68,517.79
Books & Instructional Aids			
—High	1,223.23	1,000.00	1,000.00
Books & Instructional Aids			
—Elementary	1,061.10	1,500.00	1,500.00
Scholars' Supplies - High	3,429.77	2,500.00	2,500.00
Scholars' Supplies - Elem.	3,494.93	3,000.00	3,000.00
Supplies & Expenses - High	545.48	400.00	400.00
Supplies & Expenses - Elem.	139.54	325.00	325.00
Operation of School Plant			
Sal. of Janitors - High	3,099.96	3,220.00	3,220.00
Sal. of Janitors - Elem.	3,200.96	3,670.00	3,395.00
Fuel & Heat - High	3,241.72	4,000.00	3,500.00
Fuel & Heat - Elem.	4,660.13	4,000.00	3,500.00
Water, Light, Janitors'			
Supplies - High	1,871.20	2,100.00	2,100.00
Water, Light, Janitors'			
Supplies - Elem.	1,877.52	2,100.00	2,100.00
Repairs & Replacements			
- High	3,803.64	1,250.00	1,625.00
Repairs & Replacements			
- Elementary	1,930.41	1,250.00	1,625.00
Auxiliary Activities			
Health Supervision	2,105.71	2,500.00	2,575.00
Transportation	10,190.00	10,190.00	9,580.00
Tuition	408.30	800.00	800.00
Special Activities	239.15	150.00	150.00

	Expended 1954-55	Adopted Budget 1955-56	Proposed Budget 1956-57
Fixed Charges			
Teachers' Retirement	8,314.06	7,902.45	8,200.12
Insurance	1,629.90	1,500.00	1,659.95
Capital Outlay			
New Equipment	3,803.92	2,500.00	2,500.00
Debt & Interest			
Principal of Debt	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Interest on Debt	3,520.00	3,280.00	3,040.00
Budget Deficiency		3,000.00	3,000.00
Special Appropriation — Social Security		124.80	
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Total Expenditures or School Appropriations	\$193,930.57	\$194,369.56	\$197,915.72
* Superintendent's Salary \$6,500.00 was proportioned as follows: Carroll \$412.50, Lancaster \$2,156.25, Whitefield \$1,181.25, State Share \$2,750.00.			
Superintendent's Travel: Carroll \$110.00, Lancaster \$575.00, Whitefield \$315.00.			

REVENUE

	Actual Receipts 1954-55	Adopted Receipts 1955-56	Estimated Receipts 1956-57
Balance	\$ 981.01	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
State Aid	21,637.45	21,000.00	25,000.00
State Aid (building fund)			2,400.00
Federal Aid	3,831.78	1,000.00	1,500.00
Trust Funds	90.99	45.00	90.00
High School Tuition	12,627.52	8,000.00	7,500.00
Other	395.49	200.00	200.00
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Total Receipts other than Property Taxes	\$ 39,564.24	\$ 30,245.00	\$ 36,690.00
District Assessments	158,470.14	164,124.56	161,225.72
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Total appropriation voted By School District	\$198,034.38	\$194,369.56	\$197,915.72

School Warrant

To the inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Lancaster qualified to vote in district affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Lancaster on the twentieth day of March, 1956 at seven-thirty o'clock in the evening to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose a Moderator for the ensuing year.
2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.
3. To choose one Member of the School Board from the former Town (rural) School District for the ensuing three years.
4. To choose one Member of the School Board from the former Union (village) School District for the ensuing three years.
5. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
6. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers heretofore chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.
7. To choose Agents, and Committees in relation to any subject embraced in this warrant.
8. To see if the town will vote to have the New Hampshire State Tax Commission audit the school district financial books for the school year 1955-1956.
9. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be used to defray the cost of a driver training course in the high school.
10. To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district, and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the state equalization fund together with other income; the School Board to certify to

the selectmen the balance between the estimated revenue and the appropriation, which balance is to be raised by taxes by the town.

Given under our hands at said Lancaster this second day of February, 1956.

WALTER D. HINKLEY, Chairman
CLIFFORD R. GRAY
JOHN E. GORMLEY
CECILE M. COSTINE
GRACE M. LEE
ROLAND H. WHITE

School Calendar 1956-1957

Terms	Begin	End
Fall Term	September 5, 1956	December 19, 1956
Winter Term	January 2, 1957	February 15, 1957
Spring Term	February 25, 1957	April 12, 1957
Summer Term	April 22, 1957	June 14, 1957

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Teachers' Convention	October 18-19, 1956
Thanksgiving Recess	November 22-23, 1956

*Forest Fire Prevention is
Everybody's Business*



1955 RECORD

Number of Fires	None
Acreage Burned	None

The Library of N. H.
University of N. H.
Durham, N. H.



Town Telephone Directory

Town Manager	John T. McHugh	8-3391
Town Clerk and Treasurer,	Dorothy H. Cross	8-3331
Town Accountant and Fire Precinct Treasurer	Donald E. Crane	8-3391
School Department		8-4842

Emergency Numbers

Police Department	8-4402
Fire Department	8-4830
Civil Defense	8-3391