

76th ANNUAL REPORT
to the Citizens of
KEENE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

1949



OFFICE OF
CITY MANAGER

CITY OF KEENE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Honorable Mayor and
members of the City Council.

The year 1949 will be best remembered in City Government circles as the last year of the bicameral or two-council government. By action of the New Hampshire legislature the Board of Aldermen went out of existence at the end of 1949 leaving only the Mayor and a 15 member Council.

To the construction crews 1949 will long be remembered as the year they installed almost four miles of water main including a new line from Babbidge Dam over rough hillsides and across the Branch River. They will not soon forget the difficult Spruce Street drainage job—much of it through mud and gray clay.

The tax rate was up slightly in 1949 and some were quick to place the blame on the new form of City Government. Those who took the trouble to find out the real reason soon discovered the cost of City Government had been reduced in spite of an expanded construction program. They discovered that the real cause of the increased rate was the withdrawal by the State of almost \$40,000 of annual aid to the Union School District. The City's property tax had to make up that difference and, in addition, a \$9,086 increase in the County requirements.

Everyone would like to hear that future tax rates will be down. Every indication is that the opposite will be true. Keene needs many things that cost money. The most costly of all is new schools.

Criticism of government is welcome, especially when it is based on facts and is of a constructive nature. Citizens are encouraged to discuss city problems with their elected representatives on the Council, the Mayor and City Manager. Detailed information on City Government activities is available to those interested.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. GOODNOW,

City Manager.

In 1949 the City Councils:

★ **Approved a revision** of the City Charter as presented by a special charter committee and forwarded a copy to the 1949 session of the General Court.

★ **Adopted a budget** of \$606,755 for the operation of the city government.

★ **Granted permission** to the New England Power Company for locations to cross public highways—the same locations used originally by the Connecticut River Power Company of New Hampshire.

★ **Granted permission** to the Town of Swanzey to use the Keene City Dump free of charge.

★ **Granted easement** to the Public Service Company of New Hampshire for permanent right to encumber strips of land on Appleton Street, Island and Winchester Streets, and easterly of Ashuelot River and south of City Pasture.

★ **Accepted a petition** of 923 signatures presented at a public hearing held in the City Hall Auditorium on proposed budget requesting Councils to include \$25,000 in the budget as Keene's share toward the Elliot Community Hospital's annual operating deficit of \$63,000.

★ **Authorized the Mayor** to appoint a member of the City Councils to attend all meetings of the Trustees of the Elliot Community Hospital and report back to the City Councils.

★ **Authorized the purchase** of pipe for construction of a new supply main for Babbidge Reservoir to Beech Hill and Stone Dam Filter plants.

★ **Adopted a policy** relating to sidewalk assessments that owners of property abutting on such street be assessed for one-third of the expense of any hard surface sidewalk.

★ **Observed the 75th Anniversary** of the incorporation of the City of Keene at a banquet at the Hotel Ellis, attended by the City Councils, city officials, and all living ex-mayors, with the exception of ex-Mayors Arthur R. Jones and James C. Farmer.

★ **Authorized the replacement** of existing radio facilities on Police cruisers and Engine No. 3 of the Fire Department with very high frequency equipment and the transferral of the old equipment to the Public Works Department.

★ **Approved the installation** of nine additional parking meters on the north side of Railroad Street and three additional two-hour parking meters on the north side of Winter Street in front of the Bloomer and Haselton Block.

★ **Prohibited parking** on the north side of Winter Street in front of Central Junior High School.

★ **Purchased lands** for non-payment of taxes for the year 1948 to the amount of \$10,431.43.

★ **Approved the extension** of 3,600 feet of water main from the intersection of Maple and Park Avenues down Hastings Avenue to meet present dead end from Arch Street.

★ **Requested the State Highway Department**, in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Public Roads, to have an origin-destination survey made of the city.

REVIEW

In 1949 City Departments Report:

★ **Requested the State Highway Department** to prepare plans and estimates on the reconstruction of West Street to the Ashuelot River and construction of a new bridge across the Ashuelot River at West Street.

★ **The City Clerk** reported the first non-partisan Biennial city election for the city of Keene, held November 8, 1949, and also for the first time in the history of Keene, candidates at a municipal election were obliged to file with the City Clerk and pay a filing fee.

★ **The Public Works Department** installed four miles of new water main. This is an all time record for the City by a wide margin and ten times the usual amount. New main supply lines to the filters totalled 13,642 feet. New sewer mains came to 3,431 feet. The new Spruce Street storm drain installation was 1,350 feet long.

The Public Works Department took over the old Police and Fire radio equipment to become the first such department in New England with radio communication.

★ **The Police Department** reports a decrease of 255 in the number of criminal arrests and no fatal traffic accidents, but a slight increase in the number of complaints and arrests involving juveniles.

★ **The Health Department** reports a higher rate of contagious diseases in 1949, which included an epidemic of measles in March and April.

★ **The Public Library** commemorated its 50th Anniversary by an open house held in the Thayer Library building September 27th.

★ **The Recreation Department** held its summer swimming program at Richardson Park, at Swanzey Lake.

★ **35 new homes and 10 apartments** were reported by the building inspector in 1949.

★ **Water Consumption** in 1949 reached a new high of 655 million gallons.

★ **The City Planning Board** reports the land use map brought up to date; surveys and maps made on parking and traffic; and proposals presented the improvement of parks.

★ **The Fire Department** reports the total fire loss for 1949 30% less than in 1948. It responded to 281 alarms in 1949, a decrease of 10 under the previous year.

★ **The Welfare Department** reports some cases previously given supplementary aid are now total support cases because of the continued high cost of living and increased unemployment. There were 360 people receiving direct aid in 1949.

★ **The Board of Assessors** reports an assessed valuation of \$23,400,616, an increase of \$610,759 over 1948. The Board unanimously recommended a revaluation of the City.

★ **The Airport** runways were sealed with 32,000 gallons of asphalt. The airport lighting project was begun. When this project has been completed the airport will be approved for night operations.



1st Row (left to right) Alderman Vena DiLuzio, Alderman Olande C. Putney, Alderman James M. Erwin, Mayor Frederick D. Mitchell, Alderman Harold K. Hall, Alderman Waldo Giovannangeli and City Clerk Mrs. Lena F. Warren.

2nd Row (left to right) Board of Common Council—Burleigh R. Darling, Ward 3; Henry J. Claywood, Ward 2; Harold B. Nims, Ward 5; Robert G. Calef, Ward 2; Gordon S. Proulx, Ward 1; Robert M. Sayers, Sr., Ward 4; Harry E. Gale, Clerk of Council; C. Harold Warner, Ward 2; Clair E. Wyman, Ward 4; Franklin A. Carey, Ward 1; Arthur A. Kingsbury, Ward 4; and Clarence B. Ewins, Ward 3.

Not pictured are: Joseph T. Cristiano, Ward 1; Alton B. Collier, Ward 3 and Chairman; Angelo DeBernardo and John J. McGrath, Jr., Ward 5.

The
 KEENE CITY COUNCILS
 of 1949

City Clerk in 1949

Statistics

Personnel	1
Expenditures	\$3,709.32
Receipts	\$10,167.28
Revenue from fees	\$1,846.01
Number of City Government Meetings	42
Number of ordinances	5
Number of Resolutions	57

Comparative Vital Statistics

	1949	1948	1947	1946
Births	635	679	770	627
Marriages	251	260	306	380
Deaths	229	233	224	220

THE FIRST NON-PARTISAN BIENNIAL CITY ELECTION FOR THE CITY OF KEENE WAS HELD NOVEMBER 8, 1949

One Mayor, one Police Commissioner, fifteen Councilmen and fifteen Selectmen were elected.

Total names on Check List	8,032
Total number of Ballots cast	5,256

Three questions appeared on the Ballot to be voted on:

- (a) Shall it be lawful for motion pictures, lectures, concerts and theatrical or vaudeville performances to be held on the Lord's day in the City of Keene, but not before two o'clock in the afternoon, and such entertainments be regulated by licensing or otherwise as the city councils may deem best:

3,873 Voted Yes
1,150 Voted No
- (b) Shall the provisions of Chapter 171-A of the Revised Laws relative to playing games of beano be adopted in this city?

3,362 Voted Yes
1,521 Voted No
- (c) Shall the city discontinue the employment of a City Manager?

2,108 Voted Yes
3,037 Voted No

For the first time in the history of Keene all candidates filing for office at a municipal election were required to file with the City Clerk and pay a filing fee, as prescribed by law.

The total cost of elections was \$1,908.35

ELECTIONS

A special City Election was held September 13, 1949 to vote on adoption of an Act to revise the Charter of the City of Keene, which act was approved June 29, 1949 by the General Court in session.

Total number of votes cast	3,747
1,683 votes cast for adoption	
2,064 votes cast against adoption	

By such a vote "An Act to provide for mayor-councilmen form of charter for the city of Keene" approved July 28, 1949, by General Court in session became effective.

CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

There were 42 meetings attended by the City Clerk during the year.

32 regular meetings were held, five special meetings of the Councils and one adjourned meeting due to lack of quorum in Common Council.

Three Special meetings were held by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

There were three Public Hearings relating to change in Zoning and one Public Hearing relating to the Annual Budget.

57 Resolutions were adopted, including 14 relating to Cemetery Trust Funds, and five Ordinances were adopted.

BOUNTIES AND VITAL STATISTIC PAYMENTS

The amount paid to Physicians, Clergymen, Justices of the Peace for making returns of records to City Clerk as required by law was \$278.75

\$204.25 was paid from City Treasury for 479 porcupine heads produced to City Clerk. On July 14, 1949, by General Court in session a law became effective reducing bounty on Porcupines from 50c per head to 25c.

RECEIPTS

\$10,167.28 was received by City Clerk during the year, which included \$1,673.01 for Recording Mortgages, Conditional Sales, Discharges, issuing Marriage Licenses, Certified copies of Vital statistics and certificates of registered voters.

Receipt of Cemetery Trust Funds	amounted to	\$3,800.00
1,270 Dogs were licensed in 1949	amounting to	3,060.27
The sale of Maps and Histories of Keene netted		70.50
Filing Fees received totaled		173.00
Business Licenses—including taxi, theatre, Peddler's, Auctioneers, bowling alley, pool table, Circus and Carnival		1,390.50

Public Works Department

HIGHWAY DIVISION

The mild winter and early spring made it possible to start the construction season early. The "Pine Banks" project which was started in 1947 was completed in April. A six inch gravel base for future sidewalk construction was laid, and the grass plots between the walk and roadway were graded and loamed.

Royal Avenue has been extended to connect with Park Avenue eliminating a "dead end" street, making it more convenient for traffic and an aid to snow plowing. Pinchurst Avenue was extended a distance of two hundred feet to give access to Alumni field and relieve the congestion on Arch street following games at the field. Pitcher Street and Symonds place, which were graveled in 1948, were regraded and surface treated with tar. An extension of Symonds place, to Pitcher street, was built to facilitate snow plowing and to accommodate through traffic.

The "Town Road Aid" (State Aid Funds) were used to help pay for the reconstruction of a portion of the Jordan Road. Thirty-eight hundred and fifty feet south from the Concord Road were rebuilt. New culverts and drains were installed, the road was widened from fourteen to twenty-four feet, a 12" gravel base constructed, and surface treated with two applications of Tar. This construction eliminated an old piece of road which was in very poor condition and expensive to maintain.

Petitions were granted, by the City Government, for new sidewalks in the following locations and this work, completed at an average cost of \$4.00 per square yard, included:

Streets and Roads	
SURFACE TYPE	MILAGE
Concrete	6.7 miles
Brick	.6 "
Asphalt and Tar	60.2 "
Gravel	18.2 "
Unimproved	16.1 "
TOTAL	101.8 "

The routine activities of the highway division were carried on throughout the year. Mild winter conditions made snow removal operations lighter than usual, but the freezing and thawing weather caused heavy damage to road surfaces. Wind and rain storms in June resulted in considerable damage to shade trees and caused numerous washouts. Approximately \$1,000 of damage was caused by these storms. Through the cooperation of the Telephone and Public Service Companies, poles at the intersection of Wyman Way and at Willow Street and Marlboro have been removed to other locations. This program will be continued until all poles in the intersections of streets are relocated. A number of catch basins have been rebuilt and the grates reset. New basins were constructed on Marlboro street, Gilsum Street, and Spruce Street. Gutters and ditches were cleaned and graded. Brush has been cut and burned on the out-lying roads. The City has experimented with weed killing sprays, and it has proved successful in the area where it was used. It is necessary to mow the growth before spraying and allow it to start a regrowth, that the spray may have something to work on. These chemicals kill or retard the growth of broad leaf plants without affecting ordinary grasses. They are non poisonous to animal life.

Concrete Sidewalks Constructed in 1949

Main Street in front of the Exchange Building	75 Feet
Main Street in front of the Colonial Theater	75 Feet
Main Street in front of the Crystal Restaurant	75 Feet
Main Street in front of the Goodnow and Kresge Stores	96 Feet
Church Street, (South side) from Beaver Brook, east to Valley Street	1,361 Feet
Winter Street, (North side) from the Court House to the School property	119 Feet
Vernon Street, (North side) from Elm Street east	60 Feet
Total	1,861 Feet

The Public Works Department is responsible for:

1. Building and maintaining of streets and roads of which there are over one hundred miles. It maintains over sixty-four miles of sidewalks and is engaged in a sidewalk construction program. It is also responsible for the snow plowing, sanding and snow removal from these streets and walks.

2. Street cleaning. The business district of the city is swept by a motor sweeper four days each week. This work is carried out between four and seven o'clock in the morning except during the winter months, when the sweeping is done by hand as conditions require.

3. The operation of the Incinerator and city dump on lower Main street. They are open from 7:00 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. daily, Monday through Saturday, excepting Holidays.

4. The semi annual rubbish collections which are carried on in May and October each year.

5. The care and maintenance of shade trees. The work is done by a registered arborist, equipped to do this kind of work.

6. The operation of the City's Water system, which supplies nearly two million gallons of water daily. It comprises over sixty-five miles of cast iron pipe six inches in diameter and larger, thirty-five hundred service pipe and meters, two slow sand filtering units, a pumping and chlorination plant and four storage reservoirs. It also constructs new mains, service lines, reads the meters, issues the bills and makes the collections. This division of

the Public Works department is financed, not from general taxes, but from water revenue only.

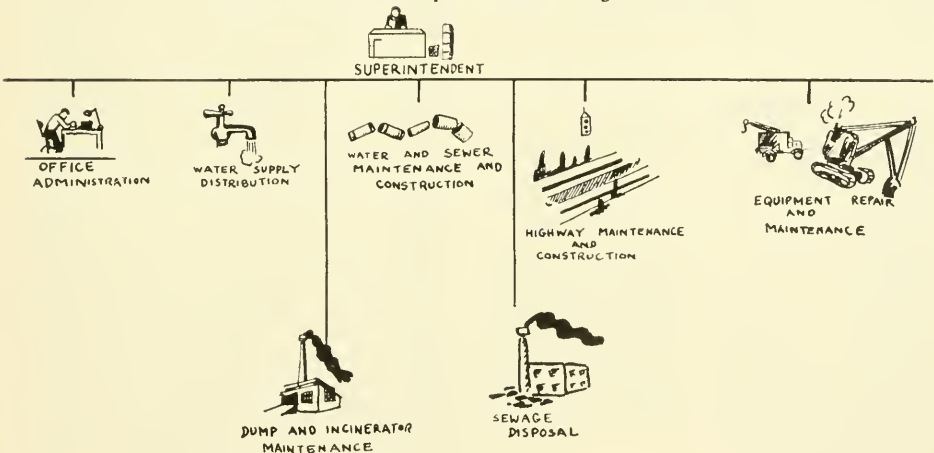
7. The operation of the Sewerage System, consisting of fifty miles of pipe, thirty-five hundred service connections, a pumping station and disposal plant. The installation of new mains and services is also a Public Works Department Job.

8. The Public Works Department, in addition to these services which are rendered directly to the citizens, is a "service unit" to other city departments. The Public Works Garage, which services the Department's equipment also assists in maintaining the vehicles of other departments. The Public Works Department, upon request, furnishes labor and equipment to other units of the city.

9. The Public Works Department carries out its work with an average of fifty employees, its major equipment consists of eleven dump trucks, six pick-up trucks, a power shovel, a power grader, a bulldozer, four small sidewalk tractors, a snow and materials loader, two air compressors, a ten ton roller and the necessary hand tools.

10. The Department offices, in City Hall, are open from 7:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Monday through Friday and from 7:00 A. M. until noon on Saturdays. Emergency services of the department are available twenty-four hours a day and can be obtained when the office is closed by calling the Police Department.

Public Works Department Organization



AIRPORT RUNWAYS SEALED

The Airport Runways and Taxiways were sealed with 32,000 gallons of asphalt and covered with washed sand. This is a necessary maintenance job on this type of pavement. The original construction leaves an open or porous surface that after a period of a few years requires this seal treatment. A surface equal to more than fifteen miles of road (145,961 sq. yds.) was treated and the job was completed in two days.

KEENE'S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FIRST IN NEW ENGLAND TO HAVE RADIO EQUIPMENT

Through the coordination of the City Manager's office, the Police Department's two-way radio equipment, which has been replaced with more modern equipment, was made available to the Public Works Department. Instruments were installed in the vehicles of the general foreman and in the Superintendent's car, the base station was set up in the Public Works Office in City Hall, and the system put into operation October 24th. We became the first Public Works Department in New England to be issued a license by the Federal Communications Commission.

The experiment has proved very successful. It makes it possible for the superintendent to be in constant contact with his foremen and the office, all at one time, and from any point in the city, if conditions require. It keeps the entire supervisory personnel advised on the operations being carried on, and makes the exchange of equipment and men practical, without any duplication of effort or loss of time. This leads to more efficient use of men and equipment as well as lowered costs.

The range of the stations covers the entire City and the water shed in Roxbury, so that intercommunication between any of the mobile units or the office is possible over our entire working area. This method of communication makes it possible to give the quickest service to any emergency. It is a matter of seconds for the office to contact a foreman and assign him to the job and at the same time alert the whole organization, that they may stand by to give any assistance required. Radio communication makes it possible to dispense with two telephone services, one at the incinerator and one at Stone Dam in Roxbury.

Water and Sewer Facts

Average 1949 daily consumption	1,821,292 gallons
Number of new services (1949)	51
Total number of services 12/31/49 (Keene)	3,547
New Hydrants installed (1949)	10
Total number of hydrants (Keene)	449
Total length of water mains in system	66.8 miles
Total number of services (No. Swanzey)	187
Total number of hydrants (No. Swanzey)	34
Of the total annual consumption of 655 million gallons 45,573,242 gallons were pumped from Goose Pond. The pump operated 1,461 hours.	
Sewers	
Number of new services (1949)	40
Total number of sewer connections	3,450
Total length of sewer mains	49.6 miles

SEWERAGE DIVISION

Work in this Division has been confined to routine maintenance of the system, the operation of the disposal plant, and the extension of mains. Six inch tile installed totalled 3,431 ft.

Forty new service connections were made.

SPRUCE STREET DRAIN PROJECTS

The Spruce street drainage project, authorized by the City Government, was started on October 1st. The existing 24 inch tile pipe from Ellis Court to Beaver Brook was cleaned, and the ditch from Ellis Court to Gilsum street dug out and widened. Corrugated Metal Pipe of 24" and 30" diameter was laid to replace an old tile pipe installed in 1899. The new pipe is a standard corrugated metal pipe, bituminous coated, and is laid on a minimum grade of one foot in four hundred feet which made it possible to get it somewhat deeper than the old line. The new pipe runs north-westerly along the ditch for sixty feet to an angle where the 30" pipe starts and runs in a south-westerly direction to the intersection of Gilsum and Howard streets; thence along the west side of Howard street to the corner of Spruce Street, and continues along the

WATER MAINS INSTALLED IN 1949

Location	Length (feet)	Size of Pipe (inches)	Hydrant	Gates
Knowl Street	110	6	1	2
Barrett Avenue	200	6		1
Woods Street	930	6	1	2
Edgewood Avenue	192	6		1
Kenworth Avenue	101	6	1	1
Hastings Avenue	60	6	3	5
Hastings Avenue	3,888	8		
Washington Street	966	6	1	2
Bridge Court	366	4		1
River Street	138	6		
Beech Hill Line	1,068	6	3	12
Beech Hill Line	1,750	10		
Beech Hill Line	6,768	12		
Beech Hill Line	4,056	16		
Totals	20,926		10	27

6" Pipe	4,098 ft.
8" "	3,888 "
4" "	366 "
10" "	1,750 "
12" "	6,768 "
16" "	4,056 "

Hydrants in use in 1949—436, not including 11 flush hydrants.

north side of Spruce street to the low point between Howard and Carroll streets. At this point—after 1,260 feet of 30 inch and 90 feet of 24 inch had been installed—delivery of pipe was stopped by the national steel strike. The remaining 528 feet of 24" pipe to continue the line to Elm street was finally delivered on December 3rd. Because of the uncertainty of weather conditions at this time of year it was advisable to postpone the completion of the job until next season. While this job will not effect a complete drainage of the area, it will materially reduce the damage and inconvenience of excessively high water in the spring, and flooding from heavy rains.

The construction presented problems due to the soft "quick sand" conditions encountered in excavating the trenches and ditches. It was necessary in digging the ditch from Ellis Court to Gilsun Street to operate the power shovel from "pads", wide plank platforms which give the machine sufficient bearing on soft ground. At one time during the operation the shovel became bogged down and it was necessary to assemble heavy equipment and rigging to extricate it from the swamp and get it back on the pads. At

the corner of Spruce Street the ditch attained a depth of ten feet and had to be retained by sheathing which supported it long enough for the pipe to be installed.

New Fire Hydrants were installed in the following locations to extend fire protection and reduce fire insurance costs:

Beech Hill, on the South Road at Saw Mill Road.

Beech Hill, on the South Road at the junction of the Jordan Road.

Washington Street—900 feet north of the intersection of the Concord Road.

Three on Hastings Ave., between route No. 12 and the Hurricane Road.

The Water division takes a small amount of credit for Keene's admirably low fire loss. The division has, in the face of adverse conditions maintained adequate fire reserves and the Fire Department has not been hampered by lack of water from the City System.

SEWER MAINS INSTALLED IN 1949

(All are 6 inch pipe)

Location	Length
West Street	322 ft.
Knoll Street	446
Marshall Street	180
Barrett Avenue	230
Greenwood Avenue	790
Edgewood Avenue	254
Kenworth Avenue	78
Charles Street	248
Nelson Street	112
Knight Street	771

3,431

THE NEW ROXBURY TRANSMISSION MAIN

As a part of the rehabilitation of the Water System recommended in the engineering report of Camp, Dresser & McKee of Boston, Mass. (1947), a new main has been laid from the Babbidge reservoir in Roxbury to the filters on Beech Hill a distance of two and a half miles. This line consists of 4,242 feet of 16-inch pipe, 7,200 feet of 12-inch pipe, and 1,700 feet of 10-inch pipe. There is also a side line running to the Stone Dam filters a distance of 1,200 feet, this is a 6-inch pipe. All the pipe is "Universal, type T-Cement lined" and was furnished by the Central Foundry Co. of New York City.

The mild weather made it possible to start the clearing of the right of way in February and this work was done by the Highway Division labor. The 16-inch line from the reservoir to the Stone Dam Road is on a steep hillside and over very rough terrain. It was necessary to excavate a roadway over this section to facilitate the movement of materials and equipment. This preliminary work was started on May 9th and completed on the 30th.



Superintendent of Public Works compares the old, undersized mains with the pipe which now brings water to Keene from Roxbury.

The first shipment of 16-inch pipe was received on June 6th, the fittings for the start of the job were delivered on the 20th and the actual laying of the pipe commenced on the 23rd. An average of three hundred feet of pipe were laid each working day. The pipe laying was carried on by a crew of six men, a power shovel, a bulldozer, and an air compressor. The pieces of pipe are joined by large bolts which are usually tightened with hand wrenches. We obtained a pneumatic wrench, driven by the air compressor, which cut the time for this operation to less than one fourth the time required to do it by hand.

The pipe is laid at an average depth of 50 inches and is on true grades throughout its entire length. This new pipe replaces an old 8-inch main laid in 1886, and is capable of carrying three and a half times the amount of the old line. It will deliver to the Beech Hill Storage Reservoir over 3 million gallons a day. The Beech Hill Filters have a normal capacity of only nine-hundred thousand gallons per day, but by a system of by-pass valves and chlorination, the total capacity of the new line can be used, until such time as new filtering units are built.

Following is a break down of the construction cost of the pipe line (excluding the cost of controlling and metering equipment).

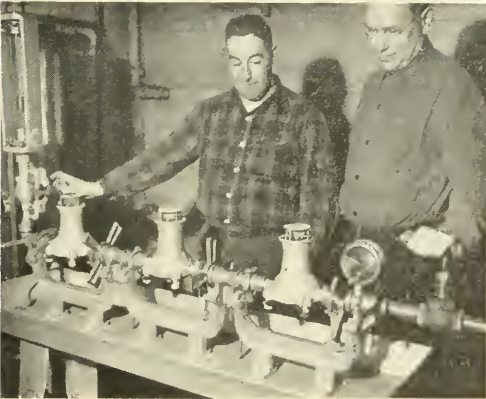
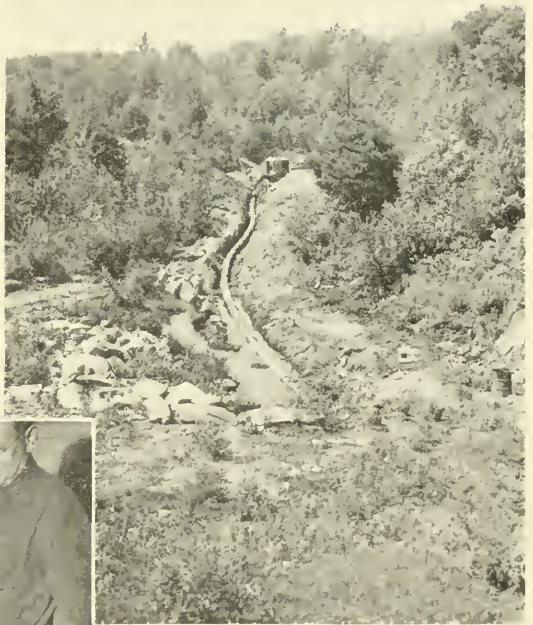
<i>Labor and equipment for preliminary excavation and clearing</i>	\$3,650.26
<i>Labor and equipment for trenching, laying and backfilling</i>	18,832.91
<i>Materials, pipe and fittings</i>	62,767.63
<i>Unloading and transporting pipe from Keene railroad yard</i>	5,186.78
	<u>\$90,437.58</u>

The engineering consultants estimate for this work was approximately \$139,000.00.

In addition to the new transmission main from the reservoir in Roxbury to the Beech Hill Filters, the division has installed a number of main extensions for the accommodation of new houses and the improvement of the system. An eight inch connecting main, from Maple Avenue to Arch Street via Hastings Avenue has been installed. This pipe in addition to improving the service and fire protection in this area, extended the water facilities to an area of future residential development. This project was 3,888 feet in length.



Below: Foreman Joseph Bruce and Clarence Pelletier look over new water meter testing equipment.



Above: Photos taken during construction of new water main from Babbidge Dam to Beech Hill filters. Branch River crossing is shown at upper left.

City Engineer in 1949

Statistics

Personnel	3
Expenditures	\$10,386
Monthly Cost Per Person	6c

1. Building Inspection: This work involves the issuing of permits as requested, at which time the location and use of the structure are examined, and later involves one or more visits to the site for actual construction inspection. A minor phase of this work involves the issuing of sign permits and the control of signs in relation to Zoning.

2. The interpretation and the application of the Zoning Ordinance. A great majority of the problems call for an interpretation of the Ordinance and in doubtful situations calls for a review by the Zoning Board of Adjustment. It is our policy that all doubtful cases be referred to the Adjustment Board.

This department works very closely with the Zoning Board of Adjustment and attends all meetings held by them. It is the current practice of the City Engineer to sit in with the Board at the conclusion of the hearing and review the situation with them before the matter is voted upon. It is also a function of this department to provide maps and the necessary printed matter relating to zoning.

3. Providing the Engineering required by the other departments in the City with which we collaborate. For the Fire Department we have prepared and kept up to date the location of its fire alarm circuits. We inspect structures both before and after fires with the Board of Health and the Fire Chief. We inspect all of the

convalescent homes in the City. It is the policy of the Fire Chief and the City Engineer to inspect any building possible and in that way we are able to find many unsatisfactory situations that may be remedied before any danger occurs. We supply plans, lines, and grades for the Public Works Department in connection with its sewer, water, highways, and sidewalks. Considerable work is done in collaboration with the Board of Assessors such as the location of buildings, of property, the areas of pieces of property, and the ownership of said property. This is a phase of the work that will increase annually as the Tax Maps become in use.

This department also works with the Public Service Company and the Telephone Company in the matter of pole locations. We provide grades, we establish sidewalk and building grades wherever requested by the property owners and as well as sewer service elevations for the installation of plumbing.

Engineering services have been provided as requested by the City Departments throughout the year. This has usually consisted of a great variety of operations, the largest of which was the layout and location of the new water line from Babbidge Dam to Beech Hill which included the staking out of the pipe line, the necessary grades, the location of the pipe after it has been laid and as built drawings prepared. Easements to lay the pipe were obtained from several of the property owners on Beech Hill. The location and grades were provided for the Spruce Street Drain that was laid by the Public Works Department during the summer. Layout and grades have also been provided for the construction of the new sidewalks built during the year and upon completion the sidewalks have been measured and the area apportioned to the property owners. The so-called Winchester Street Ditch has been reconstructed to the original lines and grades and the cost of this work has also been apportioned to the several property owners.

The usual problems of Zoning have occurred throughout the year and a new 300 scale Master Zoning Plan has been prepared. In connection with the proposed revival of the Winding Brook Golf Course, estimates on the proposed reconstruction have been prepared for hearings held by the City Government. Elm Street from Vernon Street northerly to Court



Street has been resurfaced with the hope that this street may be relocated in approximately its present locus so that the lines may be defined.

A small section of Vernon Street has been widened and a new cement sidewalk has been constructed. It is the hope that the widening of this street will be continued so that eventually the whole street will be 40 feet in width.

The intersection of Pearl, Island and Winchester Streets has been established and a portion of a lot there conveyed to an abutter to balance off his lot.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES AND APARTMENTS IN 1949

All meetings held by the Zoning Board of Adjustment have been attended by the City Engineer as well as all the meetings of the Planning Board.

The house number book has been brought up to date this year and work has continued from last year in the copying

of the Wadsworth Plans. These plans will be of tremendous value in the preparation of Tax Maps. A considerable amount of preliminary work was done on the tax maps during the winter season.

A large number of plans have been secured of the Roxbury water shed area and work is currently in progress on plans for the acquisition of additional property in the Water shed area.

A total of 233 permits have been issued during the year of an estimated value of \$463,730. Almost all of the buildings altered or added to in the City have been inspected during the course of construction and several permits have been revoked due to failure of the builder to follow the City Ordinances. In all cases the situations have been corrected. There have been several violations of Zoning Ordinances and one of these cases is in the hands of the City Solicitor for necessary action.

Weight Inspection



Packages Reweighed

Reweighed	1,143
Not properly marked	90
Correct	983
Underweight	150
Overweight	10
Warnings given	11

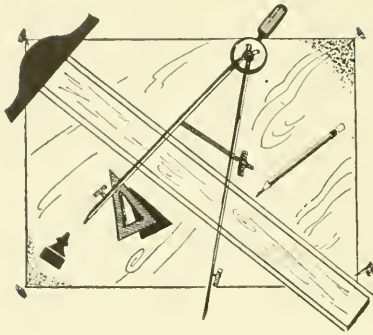
	Correct	Adjusted	Condemned
Scales	463	43	3
Weights	920		
Gasoline Pumps	132	27	2
Oil Bottles	308		
Kerosene	28		1
Grease Dispenser	89		2
Liquid measures	155		1
Wood Carts	39		
Personal slot scales	14		2
Measuring Machines	3		
Yard Sticks	54		
R. R. track scales with B. & M. Inspector	1		
Private pumps	32		

Plumbing Inspection



Permits issued	212
Water tests made	84
Nature of Plumbing installed:	
Plumbing installed in new buildings	55
Alterations—Additions and new work in Old buildings	157
Closets	172
Sinks	152
Bowls	130
Baths	90
Shower baths	24
Wash trays	17
Washing Machines	15
Urinals	19
Drinking Fountains	3
Plumbers Licenses issued	1
Plumbers Licenses renewed	21

Planning Board



Excerpts from "Surveys and City Plan for Keene, N. H.—A Report to the Planning Board" by George Nez.

LOCAL PLAYGROUNDS

Keene needs local playgrounds in certain neighborhoods. Fine large parks on the city's edge, and lakes and mountains within driving distance, take care of active adults. Backyards take care of toddlers. But the *school-age group* is beyond the backyard stage, and yet unable to travel to outlying parks and lakes for daily recreation. It is this school-age group, growing out of direct home supervision, which needs the local playgrounds.

ON SWIMMING

For year-round swimming Keene should include a pool in the new high school where it could serve both the high school and the public on a full daily schedule. It could be built at a great saving over the cost of a separate indoor pool elsewhere. Such a pool can be designed for pleasant summer sunlight and outdoor access. It would be part of the gymnasium and community center set-up which should properly be included in a new high school.

ON DOWNTOWN CONGESTION

Average daily parking in downtown Keene occupies every curb, every nook and cranny between buildings, every approach street coming into the area, and half of "the world's widest paved" Main Street. At least 100 parking spaces are either dangerous (center of Main Street and around Central Park) or they are bottlenecks to traffic (sections of West Street, Winter Street, Roxbury Street, Church Street) or they are both. And still there are too few parking spaces!

In the summer of 1949 a study of down-

town parking and traffic was made. It looked at the situation from all points of view: the driver's, the parker's, and the pedestrian's. Turning volumes were measured, and the signal lights rearranged for a trial system of direct turns through the square. The experiment failed, mainly because it was unable to discharge outgoing traffic fast enough through certain parking bottlenecks. A parking destination survey showed that over half of the parkers were unable to park near their destination. A pedestrian survey measured street crossings and showed they were much more numerous than auto traffic and much less safe. Following this study there were improvements: police direction of traffic during rush periods, one-way traffic on certain streets, and the elimination of a few bottleneck parking spaces.

Last summer's effort to plan a large off-street parking lot in a central location along Main Street came up against the prohibitive expense of acquiring a site. Aside from prohibitive cost, a single large lot cannot efficiently serve the opposite side of the business area. Moreover it would compound the traffic problem by concentrating many cars and pedestrians at one point in a business area which already suffers from traffic over-concentration.

By-passes to eliminate through traffic from Central Square, and parking lots to handle shoppers who desire to come into the Square, would loosen up downtown congestion for the benefit of business and good appearance. Federal road aid is available to the city for improvement of traffic capacity and the better handling of regional traffic. Keene should try to use as much of this aid as it can match, and go ahead by itself on off-street parking.

ON EXPANSION

Keene may expect a population of about 16,800 by 1970; 280 more families. This may seem too conservative for the Keene booster but it is the most reliable basis for planning.

This increase calls for no drastic expansion of subdivisions, new streets, or public works. Rather, it calls for improvement of the facilities which already exist, and a certain amount of extension work in which the city can do a gradual and high quality job.

On the basis of long-range industrial trends in Keene and in the region, Keene may expect a moderate increase of about 200 in basic industrial employment. This

would require about ten acres, a part of which space already exists as plant vacancy. Keene has potential industrial land exceeding the total area of present industrial land.

ON LAND USE

The upper limit of practical building land may be seen on the topographic map. It is that area lying above enough city water pressure for fire fighting and/or lying on slopes too steep for road construction and/or on solid ledge. While these conditions do not prevent building isolated homes up in the hills, they are a practical obstacle to the extension of the city's complete system of streets, sewers, water, and fire-fighting protection. In view of all the good land available it would be bad policy for the city to allow use of such poor land for any type of intensive development.

The main fact about land uses is that certain mixtures are injurious or mutually injurious, and lead to general degradation. Zoning recognizes this and attempts to hold the line between land uses. Planning recognizes this and plans for a better pattern of land uses which will allow each use full freedom in its area without harming or being harmed by neighboring uses, and at the same time fit into a convenient pattern which allows people to circulate to and from home, workshop, store, school, and playground in the course of their daily routine.

ON HOUSING

Estimates, based on forecast population and present housing occupancy, indicate 430 additional houses for urban Keene by 1970. Part of these will occupy existing developed frontage. About 15,000 feet of new residential streets will be required to provide for the balance of frontage. There is more than enough first class buildable land lying on the north and west side of urban Keene.

Building houses on cheaper second class land is false economy because the soft foundations, drainage problems, road conditions, etc., will depreciate a new house right from the start.

ON ZONING

The fact stands out that there is more than twice as much frontage zoned for business as has been actually taken up by business in 200 years. All the "extra" area is existing residence faced with degradation and/or with business valuation. That

is to say the quality of existing housing tends to degenerate, and no residential improvement or new housing can be encouraged in all this surplus business zone.

Ultimately the zoning ordinance should be revised: (1) to reduce the ribbon zone which allows business to skip out along both sides of an avenue. (2) to recognize that business is best located at junctions where neighborhood streets focus into a main street, (3) and to require that all street-front business construction be set back to provide for parking off the main street, even though street parking is permitted today.

ON SUBDIVISION CONTROL

Keene needs a standard Subdivision Control ordinance to give effect to the purposes of planning as set forth by the City Planning ordinance. State law prescribes the purpose and form of subdivision control which may be exercised by municipalities. The principle is to place upon the Planning Board responsibility for guarding the quality of new developments and weighing city commitments.

Subdivision control is the point where city planning can be translated into good future communities. Without subdivision control city planning can have only vague influence. Experience in many cities has taught the need for a process of control by systematic review of applications for new subdivision developments.

An Official Map is needed to supplement the city plan and Subdivision Controls. It is a scale map showing existing streets and public lands; it may be abstracted from the tax map which is now being developed. Proposed new streets and changes in public lands would be entered as amendments after due process. Only the City Council can adopt or amend the Official Map. It serves as the official record of progress in city development.

The taste for low density should be respected in planning. On the other hand inefficient street patterns and overextensions can be checked by a combination of (a) charging costs of street and utility installation against individual builders or developers on a benefit basis, rather than paying most of these costs out of public money, and (b) adequate subdivision control which empowers the city, after hearings, and subject to appeal, to refuse public works and building permits for layouts which violate standards of health or safety, or would necessitate excessive expendi-

TOTAL POPULATION: 17,000

ESTIMATE OF TOTAL POPULATION BASED ON ACTUAL 1949 RATIO OF TOTAL POPULATION TO TOTAL BASIC EMPLOYM'T.

TOTAL POPULATION: 15,750

TOTAL POPULATION IS APPROX. 5.5 X TOTAL BASIC EMPLOYM'T.

TOTAL POPULATION: 13,832

TOTAL POPULATION WAS APPROX. 6.2 X TOTAL BASIC EMPLOYM'T.

TOTAL BASIC EMPLOYMENT: 2900

MACHINERY 488

METALS 286

FURNITURE & WOOD PROD. 503

LEATHER 425

INSURANCE FINANCE REALTY 334

TEXTILES 417

PRINTING 163
LUMBER 63
CHEMICALS 43
HOTELS 55
OTHER IND'Y. 126

TOTAL BASIC EMPLOYMENT: 3080

MACHINERY 560 ±

METALS 330 ±

FURNITURE & WOOD PROD. 500 ±

LEATHER 400 -

INSURANCE FINANCE REALTY 450 ±

TEXTILES 400 ±

PRINTING 160 ±
LUMBER 60 ±
CHEMICALS 40 ±
HOTELS 50 ±
OTHER INDY. 130 ±

TOTAL BASIC EMPLOYMENT: 2230

MACHINERY 186
METALS 69
FURNITURE & WOOD PROD. 380

LEATHER 328

INSURANCE FINANCE REALTY 245

TEXTILES 416

PRINTING 126

LUMBER 102
CHEMICALS 37
HOTELS 68

OTHER IND'Y. 284

1 9 3 9
SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS

1 9 4 9
SOURCE: N.H. STATE EMP'L SERV.

1 9 7 0
ESTIMATED
SOURCES: SEE TEXT

TRENDS IN KEENE'S BASIC INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND ITS BEARING ON TOTAL POPULATION

G. NEZ MARCH 1950

tures of public funds to provide streets, sewers, water pressure, health service, or fire protection.

THE PLANNING BOARD'S JOB

The Planning Board has the important function of studying Keene's development apart from current pressures and politics. It takes the long view of desirable growth, develops a long-range city plan, promotes public and official understanding of the plan, and advises the Council and administration on specific development problems such as new street extensions, subdivisions and public works which have a bearing on the quality of future Keene.

The Planning Board was established in 1940 under Chapter 55, General Laws of New Hampshire. The city ordinance prescribes:

"It shall be the function and duty of the Planning Board to make . . . a city plan for the development of the municipality including any areas outside its boundaries . . . which bear relation to the planning of the municipality. Such city plan, with the accompanying necessary maps, plates, charts and descriptive matters may be designated with the intention of showing as fully as possible . . . the Planning Board's recommendations for the desirable development of the City. The Planning Board may make careful and comprehensive surveys and studies of existing conditions and of data and information relative to the probable future growth of the municipality and its environs. The city plan shall be made with the general purpose of guiding . . . a harmonious development of the municipality and its environs which will, in accordance with existing and probable future needs, best promote health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and the general welfare, as well as efficiency and economy in the process of development; including among other things adequate provisions for traffic, the promotion of safety from fire and other dangers, adequate provisions for light and air, the promotion of good civil design and arrangement, wise and efficient expenditure of public funds, and the adequate provision of public utilities and other public requirements."

Board of Adjustment

The duties of the Board of Adjustment are to grant certain exceptions to the zoning ordinance to prevent undue hardship in specific cases and at the same time protect the public interest. It also hears appeals from Zoning decisions made by the Building Inspector. 1949 activity included:

1. Mrs. Beatrice E. MacDonald, 49 Water St., General Residence District, from two to three apartments—*Granted*.
2. Joseph D. and Jessie V. Kelleher, construction of Grocery Store at 61 Armory Street, on sight of former Greenhouse office, Gen. residence district—*Granted*.
3. Mrs. Dorothy Dewey, 17 Hardy Court—the erection of an apartment in her single residence home. Single residence district—*Granted*.
4. Robert E. Brown—use of so-called Bardis lot at 82 Main St. for parking and used car sales lot—*Granted*.
5. Mr. Clyde R. Partridge, remodeling of a single residence into a two apartment home. Single residence—*Granted*.
6. Mr. James Franklin Abbott: Erection of a greenhouse at cor. of Dort and Royal Ave. Single residence district—*Not granted*.
7. Mr. N. Neil Myers for reconstruction of house at 138 School St. into a two family residence. Single residence district—*Not granted*.
8. Petition of Ulysse Arseneault, reconstruction of a three apartment house at 133 Roxbury St. into a four apartment house—*Not granted*.
9. Petition of Keene Oil Co. The erection of filling station and sales room next to the Junction of Park and Royal Avenues. Business district—*Granted*.
10. John and Mary Tasoulas—remodeling house at 138 Roxbury St.—a four tenement house out of a two. General residence district. Petition *not granted*.
11. Clara Beauregard for alterations of a ten-room house at 48 Water Street to make a three apartment house. General residence district—*Granted*.
12. Mary A. Lampros, property at 347 Elm St.—Permission to use barn for storage purposes and as a place for distribution. (Wholesale). House in single residence and most of barn in general residence district. Petition *not granted*.
13. Petition of Clarence G. Worcester and Florence Corliss doing business as Worcester Farm—enlargement of milk distributing plant. In single residence zone but been doing business since before zoning—*Granted*.

Respectfully submitted,

DON W. COOK, Clerk.

Fire Department in 1949

Statistics

<i>Permanent Personnel</i>	11
<i>Expenditures</i>	\$46,820
<i>Monthly cost per person</i>	28c
<i>Total fire loss</i>	\$66,117
<i>Fire loss per capita</i>	\$4.25
<i>Total alarms</i>	281
<i>Still alarms</i>	256
<i>Box alarms</i>	25
<i>False alarms</i>	3
<i>Pieces of apparatus</i>	8

The Fire Department of the City of Keene is a protective organization, set up for the protection of life and property against fire, on a 24 hours a day basis. There are 11 permanent men and 45 call men. The permanent men operate and repair the equipment and maintain the Fire Station and property. They also make routine inspections of all the property in the Fire Precinct in search of fire hazards and observe changes in building construction that take place from time to time. They recommend changes to eliminate fire hazards and for safer housekeeping conditions where they feel they are necessary, and in general improve conditions around the properties inspected.

The Fire Department issues permits for the storage of flammable fluids; the location of this material is inspected and safety installations are recommended.

The Fire alarm system maintained by the permanent men, is of the type where warning would be given audibly should

any breaks occur in the system. There are 56 Fire Alarm boxes dispersed throughout the City. The outskirts are covered to a fair extent as well as the more heavily populated central sections. In case of fire, if the call comes over the telephone, two permanent men with equipment respond. If the fire is of proportions greater than they can handle, a call for more men and equipment is sent to the Fire Station, usually by radio, and a box alarm is sounded and the call men respond to give the support in man power as needed.

The call men are also available for special duty and assistance at brush fires. They are trained in the use of fire fighting equipment and salvage work, such as covering property with salvage covers and removing debris that will keep the fire loss as small as possible. The call men are all volunteers—in varied activities other than the Fire Department for their livelihood. They like to fight Fire!

SLIGHT DECREASE IN NUMBER OF ALARMS IN 1949

The Fire Department responded to 281 alarms of varied nature during the year of 1949. There were 25 bell alarms and 256 still alarms, of which 18 were for out of town assistance. The fire loss for 1949 was \$66,117, about 35% less than the 1948 figure of \$102,500.

There were 65 calls for grass and brush fires, one being of good size before we were able to reach it. With the aid of the Power-Wagon we were able to carry water to the top of the hill where the fire was and to keep it limited to that area. Because of the dry weather it was necessary to keep a constant watch on the area for several days. The Power-Wagon has shown its worth in this type of fire several times during the year. This unit will be equipped with a radio, enabling it to be in direct contact with the station.

In January the State put on a training session in brush fire control and the meetings were very well attended. The Department had training sessions during the year and handling of tools and equipment was stressed as well as question and answer periods. About 20 men attended the sessions of Firemen Training that were held in Concord under the sponsorship of the N. H. Fire Chiefs Club. The men attending these sessions were able to act as



instructors for the local sessions. Several Keene firemen attended a school at the Framingham Police Barracks, sponsored by the Mass. State Fire Marshal and the Mass. Fire Chiefs Association, for oil burner fire control as well as bottled gas fire control.

NEW RADIO EQUIPMENT

The Fire Alarm circuits are in good condition. The lines have been cleared of brush at different intervals during the year. Three new boxes were placed in the circuits as replacements. No serious interruption of service occurred during the year, and while some of the call men complain of being unable to hear the whistle in different locations, this condition is more or less climatical.

The inspection of business places and properties within the fire precinct was carried out. The low percentage of fires starting in basements or from rubbish in

or around properties shows that this service is very successful. Recommended changes have been complied with by the occupants. 170 oil permits were issued during the year. All of these locations were inspected as to the proper installation.

The apparatus is in good condition. Some of the pieces of equipment are now getting to a ripe old age and replacement is being considered. The pumps have been tested and found to deliver their rated capacity. The hose was tested and 600 feet, found to be porous, was taken out of service and 1,000 feet of new hose purchased. A smoke ejector was purchased to enable us to remove smoke from very heavy atmosphere. This device will enable us to enter smoky areas more quickly to locate the seat of the trouble.

All of the plastered ceilings on the second floor of the station were painted and repaired as necessary. The permanent



Left to right, Back row: Charles M. Ballou, Prescott M. Little, Lawrence E. Thompson, Robert C. Callahan, Paul E. Gallup, Harry F. Hammond.
Left to right, Front row: Lyman O. Cass, Captain Samuel J. Guyette, Chief Walter R. Messer, Captain Elton P. Britton, Frank M. Reid.

men painted all of the woodwork on the exterior of the building. The lavatories and shower room were completely refinished as well as several floors in the different rooms.

The annual inspection and ball was held during Fire Prevention Week. Schools were visited and checked as to the ability of the children to conduct a satisfactory fire drill. Several spot talks on fire protection and prevention were given on the radio, and trailers were run in the theatres. The Fire Department put on a parade, with an exhibition of equipment and man power operation in Central Square for the general public.

The most spectacular fire of the year, the Crocker storehouse called out the whole fire department and left the station without good coverage. The Town of Troy was called for assistance and they brought in a pump that "stood by" in the station in case any more trouble developed. These situations arise occasionally and about 25 departments and towns in the area from New Hampshire, Vermont and central Massachusetts have been working on a system of mutual aid to assist each other. This system will begin to operate in the very near future. The main dispatching station will be in Greenfield.

The Fire Department wishes to thank the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Department for their efforts in feeding the members at the several fires; also the Red Cross for their assistance at the brush fire on the Hurricane Road, and to all the City Departments for their cooperation and assistance in combating fires this year.

Alarms

From Box	10
By Telephone	268
At Station	3
<hr/>	
Total	281

Fires

In Buildings	160
Brush or grass	62
Motor vehicles	18
Other	13
<hr/>	
Total	253
False Alarms	3
Rescue or Emergency	6
Fire Loss	\$66,117
Investigations	141
Inspections	1,357

Public Welfare

EXPENDITURES		
Old Age	1949	1948
Assistance	\$20,065	\$19,066
Direct Aid	27,329	21,097
<hr/>		
Total	\$47,394	\$40,163
Direct Aid		
persons	360	196
Old Age Assist-		
ance, persons	136*	141
*Receiving aid	12/31/49	

The records for 1949 show an ever increasing case load with its corresponding increase in costs. The causes for this continual increase are: unemployment, illness, insufficient income, physical and mental inability to work and old age. During 1949 a large number of cases which had heretofore been given supplementary aid only, have developed into total support cases. This condition is caused by the increased cost of living and the existing industrial situation.

Why Aid Was Required

Unemployment	50%
Illness	33%
Children	3%
Old Age	10%
Cripples	2%
Widows	2%

Old age assistance, which is supervised entirely by the State Welfare Department, is not directly affected by the industrial situation as in most cases these people are beyond the age of employment.

During the past year this department has taken care of all applications for direct aid according to the Welfare Laws of the State. (Chapter 124 of the Revised Laws of New Hampshire). All cases have been investigated, and if found eligible for direct aid from the city have been provided for. All cases found ineligible by lack of legal settlement have been referred to the agency responsible for their care.

How the Direct Aid Funds Were Expended

Rent	\$1,134
Provisions	7,409
Fuel	754
Clothing	252
Medical	2,838
Burials	270
Administration	2,473
Board and Care	12,199
<hr/>	
	\$27,329

Health Department in 1949

Health Department in 1949		
Personnel		2
Total expenditures	\$5,523	
Monthly cost per person		3c
Monthly cost per person for garbage collection		7c
	1949	1948
Sanitary Inspections	950	907
Water sample tested	1,499	1,418
Milk samples tested	417	450
Veneral diseases	153	202
<i>(Cases, contacts, follow-ups)</i>		
Contagious Diseases Reported		
	1949	1948
Chancroid	0	4
Chicken pox	78	12
Diphtheria	1	0
Dog Bite	1	0
German Measles	20	2
Gonorrhoea	22	33
Measles	323	7
Mumps	8	3
Poliomyelitis	3	1
Scarlet Fever	6	7
Syphilis	20	24
Whooping Cough	42	23
	524	116

Sanitary inspections, laboratory work and investigations of unsanitary conditions were carried on throughout the year. Food stands and concessions at carnival and fairs were inspected to see that they complied with the regulations for the storing, preparation and serving of milk, soft drinks and food.

Because of the extended drought this past summer and fall, the Health department and laboratory tested a great many samples of water from wells and springs owing to attempts of farmers and others living in the country to find new potable sources of water supply. Also tests were made on all ponds and streams around



Keene to locate possible swimming places. Tests were made of the water in Swanzey Lake at Richardson Park where the Keene Recreation Department's swimming program for children was carried on.

There were three cases of poliomyelitis in Keene during the year, all of them mild, and with a minimum of after effects. There was an outbreak of measles during the months of March and April, of about 300 cases but no other epidemics. The Health Department furnished Diphtheria Toxoid to Keene schools for Toxoid Clinic for about 275 children. With a State Sanitary Inspector your health officer inspected all Keene schools for lighting in classrooms, sanitary conditions etc., and gave report to Supt. of Schools Thompson.

Thirty-five talks were given on various subjects relating to Public Health to classes from Keene Teachers College, Keene High School and Junior High School, also to P. T. A. and other organizations. It is a good way to inform the public on what the Health Department does.

Many permits for the installation of septic tanks were granted after inspection of the sites in places where no sewers were available, chiefly to owners of newly constructed houses.

The garbage collection the past year has been very satisfactory, there being only 66 calls during the year, mostly for resuming the service after absences or new stops. The route on Marlboro Street was extended to include twenty six families from numbers 657 to 725 inclusive.

A letter of thanks to Health Officer was received from Girl Scout Health Committee for assistance on sanitary facilities and procedures at Camp Kay Carey. As this is the only juvenile camp within the township of Keene special attention was given to it and it was inspected and passed without criticism by State Department of Health Inspectors and National Inspectors of the Girl Scouts of America.

Your Health Officer attended a seminar in Concord, N. H. October 3 to 6, inclusive, given by the State Department of Health on food sanitation, and on Nov. 22 a seminar at the State Laboratory in Concord, N. H. on Standard Methods of Milk Analysis.

Public Library in 1949

Personnel	6
Expenditures	\$19,589
Revenues	\$2,132
Monthly cost per person	12c
Total circulation	100,949
Number of registered borrowers	6,619
Total number of books	37,254
Number added during year	1,256
Number withdrawn	489
Circulation per borrower	15.3
Circulation per capita	6.5

To the Trustees of the Keene Public Library, the 76th annual report is herewith submitted:

A recently published book "The Library's Public," explains the diversity of library users as follows: "The several publics of the library are the several distinctive groups which make distinctive demands for library materials. There is the public of high school students who mainly want from the public library what their school libraries cannot adequately supply. There is a public mainly composed of housewives and white collar workers who want some light reading. There is a public of business representatives who want specific and isolated pieces of information from the library files. There is a public of ambitious young people who hope to use the library in their drive for occupational mobility. There is a public of serious-minded people concerned with serious-minded materials on a variety of topics who find in the library what they cannot get elsewhere. There is a public of miscellaneous people with leisure and nothing else to do. There are other publics."

Our library's public is composed of these same varied groups and it is our purpose to keep in mind their diverse interests and needs, to know the value of and use our basic materials, purchase new ones, and serve these groups impartially.

Branch service to the Fuller, Roosevelt and Symonds schools, the Elliot Community Hospital, Invalids Home and Summer Playgrounds has continued successfully. Circulation in the three above schools totaled 11,682. Twenty-seven school classes visited the library during our attractive Childrens Book Week observance, and on Saturday morning Mrs. Barbara M.

Ruelke delighted 75 children with a Story Hour.

Our circulation gain of 8,008 was divided as follows: adult gain, 5,939; juvenile 2,069; fiction gain 3,926; non-fiction 4,082. The percent of non-fiction circulated meets the average of libraries serving populations of 25,000 to 100,000, but as librarians so often remind their boards, circulation is not the sum of library services.

The library has acquired a duplicating machine and we plan to issue lists of new books at least quarterly, and timely special lists and interesting library information for distribution to library patrons.

The Trustees of the Library were hosts at an Open House in recognition of the fiftieth anniversary of the Library in the Thayer Library Building, on September 27th. The Cheshire County Historical Society exhibited and the Harriet Parkhurst Ingersoll collection was shown in a new arrangement in a room to be known as the Ingersoll Room. These two will be permanent exhibits. In the newly decorated club room the Keene Button Club displayed buttons illustrating subjects about which books are written. A pre-showing of Childrens Book Week books was of interest to guests. Refreshments were served in the Trustees Room and each guest received a souvenir history of the library which contained an attractive print of the library and one of Mr. Edward Carrington Thayer, the donor of the Thayer Library Building.

Miss Hill and Miss McGregor of the Library staff attended the spring meeting of the New Hampshire Library Association at Concord, and Miss Drenan and Miss Haskins were present at the fall convention of the New England Library Association at Swampscott, Massachusetts.

The club room was used by 15 organizations for 79 meetings with a total attendance of 760.

We wish to gratefully acknowledge the loan of exhibits, gifts of books and flowers, the loan of books from the New Hampshire State Library, and publicity printed in the Keene Evening Sentinel.

The success of our service this past year is due in no small measure to the interest and loyalty of the Library Staff. The librarian wishes also to express her appreciation to the Trustees for a year of helpful counsel.

Police Department in 1949

The personnel of the Department consists of the Chief and eleven patrolmen. During the year 1949 Officer Fred J. Bergeron, a member of the Force for twenty years, applied for his pension and was retired. Officer Orlando J. Boccia resigned and Mervyn W. Frink was appointed on March 30, 1949.

Criminal arrests continue to decline. The number of arrests for 1949 were 632 which is a decrease of 255 since 1948. Complaints received at the station for 1949 were 1,956 in comparison with 2,096 in 1948. However our records show a decided increase in the number of complaints received involving juveniles. It has almost reached the peak war years of 1943-44 and 45. There is a slight increase

in the number of juveniles arrested. The total number of juveniles arrested numbered 49 this year in comparison with 42 for 1948.

During the year our complete FM radio installation was transferred to the Public Works Department and new very high frequency equipment installed in the Police and Fire Departments. Three of the fire trucks and two police cruisers and a new motorcycle in the police department are now so equipped. There is no doubt the efficiency of both departments should be increased by the installation of this latest equipment.

Traffic accidents are in a downward trend. The City enjoyed its first year without a fatal accident since 1945. We do feel that if some of the following recommendations are adopted by the City Councils this year a further reduction in the number of



Left to right: Front row: Sgt. Paul J. Fontaine, Sgt. William T. Bridgham, Chief Joseph L. Regan, Sgt. Michael T. Griffin.

2nd row: Patrolmen: Daniel D. Henderson, Harold E. Savage, Carl R. Sawyer, Carl W. Swanstrom.

Back row: Patrolmen: Raymond F. Britton, Mervyn C. Frink, Albert A. Matson, Arthur E. O'Neil, John D. Donovan.

accidents should be expected. We recommend that Church and Railroad Streets be made one way; parking on the southerly side of Spring Street from Washington to the intersection of Brook Street be prohibited; Two hour parking meters be installed on Washington Street directly in front of the High School; a traffic light be placed on the southerly side of West St. at Central Square for the protection of pedestrians using the crosswalk located there; further study of a possibility of making Winchester and Island Sts. an alternate route for west-bound and south-bound traffic on route 12 with the construction of a traffic island at the intersection of Winchester, Island and Pearl Streets; that the present Ordinance covering the parking situation on the north side of Winter Street be amended to allow parking there except during school hours. We feel that an off-street parking lot, easily accessible to the center of our business district, is a "must" for this year. We strongly urge that the City Councils take whatever steps necessary to make this a reality for the year 1950.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the cooperation extended us during the past year to the Mayor, members of the City councils and the City Manager. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the



city and County Solicitors, Judge Olson, and other department heads in the City's service.

Respectfully submitted,
 RUPERT E. ROBINSON, *Clerk*
 Board of Police Commissioners.

Arrests and Disposition	
Arrests	632
Males	597
Females	35
To H. of C.	70
Other Institutions	7
Fines or Costs	335
To Grand Jury	9
To Other Agencies	13
Pending	2
Other dispositions	196

Summary Comparison of Police Department Activities

	1948	1949
Complaints received	2,096	1,956
Stolen property recovered	\$7,894	\$7,844
Operators stopped, warned and booked— <i>Vio. M. V. Law</i>	495	163
Operators checked for license, occupants of car, etc.	1,570	663
Tags issued for violation of parking laws	6,376	5,244
Repair tags issued for defective lighting equipment	63	26
Accidents investigated:		
Property damage	79	119
Personal Injury	50	68
Fatal	3	0
Total accidents investigated	132	187
Accidental deaths investigated	16	9
Prisoners accepted for safe keeping	333	172
Business doors and windows secured	7,333	4,168
Lights left on in business places	1,393	1,163
Business night lights out	859	1,958
Street lights reported out	261	385
Vacant residences inspected	371	695
Persons accepted for night lodging	313	352

City Solicitor

Your City Solicitor reports activities from the date he took office on September 1, 1949 to complete the unexpired term of the late Edward C. Sullivan to the end of the year.

During that time the City Solicitor has attended regular and special meetings of the City Government and has drawn ordinances and resolutions on request. Criminal and juvenile matters in which the City has been interested have been prosecuted. Conferences have been had with and advice given the City Manager and various department heads upon request. Deeds, leases and complaints have been drawn and letters written. Claims against the City have been investigated and reported on.

During the past year two law suits in which the City was engaged were terminated. Both concerned zoning changes in the Court Street area neighboring and including the Foley Funeral Home. The action brought by Vincent P. Wilbur was dismissed; the suit brought by Glenroy W. Scott was heard and decided by the Court, the zoning into a business district of the east side of Court Street from Vernon Street to one hundred feet north of Mechanic Street being declared void.

No tax suits against the City are pending. The City is at present engaged in two law suits. One is a petition by the City against the Town of Roxbury for an abatement of taxes. The second requests instruction from the Court as to whether the City can appropriate \$3,000 of the John Symonds fund to pay for and establish carillon bells on the Grace Methodist Church building.

Cemeteries in 1949

<i>Expenditures</i>	\$17,594
<i>Receipts</i>	\$9,744
<i>Number of acres</i>	90
<i>Number of miles of road</i>	6
<i>Number of burials</i>	117
<i>Lot sales</i>	23
<i>Lots on annual care</i>	259
<i>Lots on perpetual care</i>	896

In 1949 all lots with annual or perpetual care were mowed regularly. The lots with no care were scythe mowed once. The brush in the meadow east of Greenlawn Cemetery was cut this year.

Section B. in Monadnock View Cemetery has been redressed, fertilized and seeded. A water main has been extended to this section and six stand-pipes installed.

Sixteen walk-ways in old Woodland Cemetery were filled, loamed and seeded. Approximately seventy depressions were filled, loamed and seeded. These depressions were in lots with perpetual care and located in various cemeteries.

About one hundred and twenty-five stones were straightened and repaired. The majority of these were in the West Cemetery.

Thirteen perpetual care funds were added to those already held in trust by the City.

There was one lot sold in Monadnock View Cemetery.

There were eight funerals held in the Sumner Knight and Family Memorial Chapel during the year.

There were one hundred and seventeen burials during the year, seventeen of which were brought here from out of town.

Municipal Court



During the year 1949 there were 1,224 cases handled by this court. Of these 898 were criminal; 35 juvenile; 197 small claim and 94 civil.

Of the 898 criminal cases, 31 of these were felonies.

During the year 1949 the total number of cases in the court was 1,547, 323 more than during 1948. The largest decrease was 218 in the number of criminal cases.

During the year 1949 the court handled 378 violations of the automobile laws, an average of more than one a day throughout the year.

Recreation in 1949

Playgrounds* 1949 — 10-week period —

	<i>Attendance</i>
Fuller Park	9,094
Robin Hood	5,949
Tilden School	4,755
Wheelock Park	3,579
Cleveland School	3,502

Total Attendance 26,879

Swimming Program

Swanzy Lake 2,115

Music and Drama Program

Average per day 40

Children transported from

Wheelock School Area to

Robin Hood Park 749

*No official records of attendance kept at Band Concerts, Picnic Areas, Softball and Baseball Games, Tennis and Dances.

Recreation in 1949

Full Time Personnel	1
Part Time Personnel	14
Water Safety Instructors	5
Total Expenditures	\$14,636
Monthly cost per person	9c
Number of Playgrounds	5

THE PURPOSE OF A CITY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Recreation program developed in Keene now embraces practically all ages and all interest groups. Many new activities are needed but the existing facilities are taxed at present. It is interesting to note that while the participation figure in recreational activities has increased about ten per cent the juvenile problem rate has also increased. This shows that our program is not adequate for some age groups. Better facilities are urgently needed.

Keene has five playground areas. Of these areas, two are school play areas, and three are public parks. The three park properties are under consideration for development and improvement. All of the maintenance work is done by the Park Department with the approval of the Recreation Department. All areas are under supervision during the summer by the Recreation Department.

The playgrounds are being equipped as rapidly as possible with various types of playgrounds apparatus and equipment. The development of shelter houses, construction of multiple use areas, grading

and seeding, and fencing are being considered for the future.

The City Council's action which allowed the use of the City Hall Auditorium has aided the recreation program greatly during the past year. With this indoor facility, the recreation department has been enabled to foster interest in those activities which need this kind of space.

WINTER PROGRAM

WINTER SPORTS—

During the winter months of 1949, as has been the custom in the past, the following city streets were closed to traffic to allow youngsters to slide in their respective neighborhoods: Ellis Court; Beaver Street; Giffin Street; and Leverett Street.

Local skating areas were established at the Tilden, Washington-Franklin, Symonds and Wheelock Schools in addition to the Legion Hockey rink at Kingsbury Manufacturing Company grounds on Laurel Street.

Arrangement was made to use natural ice areas for the skating program this year, rather than expend funds making rinks. This plan is to save money, and still give the citizens better skating areas.

Arrangements were completed for the Keene Teachers College Outing Club to operate the Elm Tree Ski Tow, which was relocated and repaired. The Recreation Department assisted the American Legion Post with the Winter Carnival.

An indoor swimming program was carried on during the months of January through March. A complete program in water safety was offered both youngsters and adults. Through the generous cooperation of the Keene Teachers College, it was possible to offer this activity to the citizens of Keene.

Water safety instructor classes, both Junior and Senior Life Saving Classes, and all types of swimming classes were conducted.

The value of this program is seen in the added precaution shown during the normal outdoor swimming season, plus the fact that trained personnel are now available.

When it became time to reorganize this program for the fall, it was presented to the American Red Cross Chapter for their consideration, and they accepted the financial responsibilities of the program. Therefore, October through December, this activity has been financed by the Red Cross Chapter, with the Recreation De-

partment organizing the classes and assisting with the program.

THE RECREATIONAL BOWLING LEAGUE for 1948-49 season was very active as in bygone years. A total of forty-two men's teams, and twelve girls' teams comprised the league. Seasonal play started in October, 1948, and terminated in April, 1949 with a banquet at the completion of play.

The Recreational Bowling League for the 1949-50 season began play in October and will continue until after the first of the new year. This season thirty-six men's teams and twelve girls' teams are actively engaged in the league. Local bowling facilities made it impossible to enlarge the league, and many teams desiring to play were not able to do so this year.

SUMMER PLAYGROUNDS—

The supervised Summer playground program—June 27th-Sept. 2nd is the most expensive activity of the Recreation Department, with a total of five areas under qualified supervision. The areas and the instructors were as follows:

Fuller Park—Alfred Thomas, Dorothy Story, Irene DiMeco.

Robin Hood Park—Mayo Papile, Gertrude Upton.

Wheelock Park—James Durling, Jeanette Whitehouse.

Tilden School—Sumner Joyce, Jane Kirk.

Cleveland School—Clifford Perkins, Jr., Bernice O'Brien.

Music and Drama—Mrs. Sunny Seymour.

Marionettes—Miss Leora Houghton.

A wide variety of activities was offered to the children this year. The daily program offered many regular activities such as apparatus play, sports, crafts, games, etc. Each playground offered a local highlight each week. Many special highlights were enjoyed during the summer; motor trips, historical trips, nature trips, picnics, outings, jamboree, sports day, costume party, freckle contests, etc.

This was the third year of the playground jamboree. Many parents, local merchants, city officials, and others assisted in making this activity a success. Over 2,000 children and adults were present during the day. A carnival atmosphere prevailed with booths of "chance" active during the day. Special events were held for all ages, such as a Costume Parade, Baby "Diaper Contest", Freckle Contests,

Bubble Gum, Doughnut Relay, and many others. Free ice cream was given to all present. In the afternoon, "The Garden Ballet" was presented under the supervision of Mrs. Seymour. A total of 53 girls participated in the performance, with the "Golden Age Club" of Keene preparing all of the paper flowers used in the production. The stage was set in the Octagon Reservoir at Robin Hood Park. The ballet was presented to the parents again at a later date in the City Hall Auditorium because of popular demand.

The marionette program was very well received by the children. The instructor visited each playground one day a week and during the second half of the season conducted a concentrated program in Keene City Hall. Over 50 marionettes were constructed by the youngsters. This program offered the children an opportunity to construct the puppets, write their own stage shows, and perform in productions.

A baseball "twilight league" for the teen-age boys of the five wards of the city was organized. The recreation movement needs better facilities to properly develop this type of league play.

THE SUMMER SWIMMING PROGRAM was conducted at Richardson Park, Swanzev Lake. This type of swimming program is necessary until a municipal swimming area is developed within the city. However, the regimentation necessary for safety, transportation, all-day programs, and many other factors affected the total attendance and public support of the program. Each playground was allowed two days per week at the waterfront. The transportation costs prevented the department from bringing children from all playgrounds every day, or running a "shuttle service" to and from Swanzev Lake.

Five well trained water safety instructors, were on duty daily. A total of 2,115 children participated during the season. The Recreation Department appreciates the assistance of The Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Selectmen of Swanzev in this program.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

THE THIRD ANNUAL ARTS, CRAFTS, AND HOBBY SHOW included over fifty individual art and craft exhibits. A total of 3,190 people attended the show which was held in Keene City Hall for one week.

THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB is a social organization for the elderly citizens of

Keene. It has grown until the membership has reached over 180 people. The very excellent response has proven the importance it holds for the members. This group meets for social activities on a monthly basis except during the summer months when picnics and outings are held. They have a sewing circle and a card club. The members have assisted generously in many worthwhile community functions such as sewing for the hospital and the childrens' theatre.

During the early part of 1949 a YOUTH CLUB was carried on in Keene City Hall on Fridays and Saturdays. The activities of the Club included such sports as badminton, shuffle-board, ping-pong, checkers, plus dances, socials, and other programs.

During the Fall, four BLOCK DANCES were held in the center of Keene. Two on the Square, and two in the City Hall. These dances were offered by the American Federation of Musicians Union Recording and Transcription Fund.

SOAP BOX DERBY. This was the second year that the Lions Club accepted the responsibility of this activity. Working with the Recreation Department, ten boys participated in the State meet at Manchester. The boys made a very fine showing at the State meet, and after that date, a local race was held on the Water Street hill when local boys were given prizes by merchants.

THE KEENE CHILDREN'S THEATRE, under the direction of Miss Leora Houghton, and assisted by the Recreation Department, is one of the many new activities offered to the children of Keene this year. It gives the children an opportunity to develop interests and creative abilities in play acting, production, marionette and puppet work, which will enrich their lives and establish a basis for continued growth and development throughout their childhood. This activity was introduced to this city the first of the year by Miss Houghton and a group of youngsters from Brattleboro, Vt., who presented a marionette performance on January 8th. After this performance, keen interest was shown when 35 local children applied for membership. The organization of the Keene Children's Theatre took form almost immediately and the children decided on the plays they wanted to produce.

"Snowwhite and the Seven Dwarfs" was presented at the Keene City Hall, on

April 8th and 9th. This production was well received by a large attendance of both adults and children. The second production by the Keene Children's Theatre was "Treasure Island".

In the fall, approximately 90 children were registered and produced J. M. Barrie's "Peter Pan" in December. Interest had grown to such an extent that there were 62 volunteer helpers, both adults, and children; 185 sponsor memberships; and many extra contributions from industrial and fraternal organizations. The total attendance at the three performances of "Peter Pan" was 1,524.

The theatre is now organized with a president and board of directors. By-laws and a constitution were drawn up and finally, acts of incorporation were adopted. At the present time this organization has grown until it is financially independent and is becoming an excellent example of community enterprise for the benefit of children.

It is of the utmost importance that the people of this city support and encourage these activities by attending performances, donating their services, or giving financial aid.

THE SOFTBALL LEAGUE PROGRAM started in May and extended into September. A total of eighteen teams participated during the season. Play was carried on at the three new fields at Wheelock Park, and at a new site developed by Mr. Wheeler on Appleton Street. After league play, a city championship was conducted, with the winning teams going to Dover for the State Championships. In line with the softball program, an umpire's group was organized to insure good officiating at league games. This entire program was self-supporting, and no expenses were incurred by the city from this activity, other than the maintenance of field.

A RECREATIONAL INSTITUTE was conducted jointly by the University of New Hampshire Extension Service, Cheshire County 4H, and this department to develop recreation personnel in this area.

This department through its association with the N. H. Recreation Society was the host for the New England Recreation Conference, at Goffs Falls, New Hampshire, last spring. Assistance was rendered by this department to the Annual National Art Week exhibit, Christmas Decoration Committee, N. H. Citizen's Council, P. T. A.'s Church groups, and others.

Park Department

Expenditure	\$4,913
Monthly Cost Per Person	3c

In 1949 all the parks in Keene received the usual general maintenance of cutting grass, edging walks, cleaning up rubbish, etc. There are about 18 acres of grass to keep cut and trimmed on the various parks and playgrounds. The five playground areas were checked daily for unsafe apparatus. Sand boxes were checked for glass, nails and etc. Tennis courts were kept in good playing condition in spite of a great deal of misuse. The ball fields were mowed and lined with regularity.

Two new soft ball fields were constructed at Wheelock Park, so that six teams are able to play at one time without interfering with each other. The young pines were all pruned and the roads graded in Wheelock Park.

The maintenance of the common in Central Square was assumed by the Park Department. Previously it was cared for by the Highway Department. A new waste receptacle was placed in the common, and the citizens obligingly made very good use of it.

At Robin Hood Park trails were cleared, and in some places hand rails erected; also, underbrush was cleared from some areas. The pines in the picnic area were pruned. The picnic area was used by many individual family groups as well as by several organizations. Wood for the fireplaces was always available, the area well policed, equipped with running water, toilet facilities and rubbish cans. On two Sunday afternoons band concerts were held and were received with enthusiasm. On three Sunday afternoons recorded music was furnished for the benefit of those using the area.

A great deal of vandalism prevailed during the past year. Some of the most noticeable damage was to the bandstand at Fuller Park, the cutting off of the upper half of forty or fifty young pines at both Robin Hood and Wheelock Parks, and the breaking of all twenty-eight panes of window glass at Wheelock Park pavilion. This, plus other unnecessary damage, will cost nearly a thousand dollars. Aid to the park and police departments in reducing vandalism is solicited of everyone.

Airport in 1949

Taxes to Swanzey	\$1,462
General Maintenance	500
Snow Removal	2,000
Runways resealed	5,454
Debt Maturities	6,450

Total Cost of Airport	\$15,866
Monthly Cost per person	9c
Length of 2 Runways, each	4,000 feet



The installation of runway markers, beacons, obstruction and hazard lights began in 1949 and completion is anticipated in 1950. This is a project in which the Federal Government pays 50% and the State of New Hampshire 25% of most costs.

Both runways were resealed with asphalt at a cost of \$5,454. It is necessary to do this about every five or six years to preserve the asphalt pavement.

Airport Statistics

Number of Landings—	
Northeast Airlines	628
Other over 10,000 lbs. gross weight	63
Other transient	1,403
Local	2,352
Total	4,446
Northeast Airline Passengers	
Northbound	On 81
"	Off 1,356
Southbound	On 1,605
"	Off 117
Total	3,159
Lbs. Air Mail	4,258
Lbs. Air Freight	6,513
Lbs. Air Express	3,547
Gallons gasoline sold	17,350
Quarts oil sold	759
Number of flyable days	309

In Memoriam

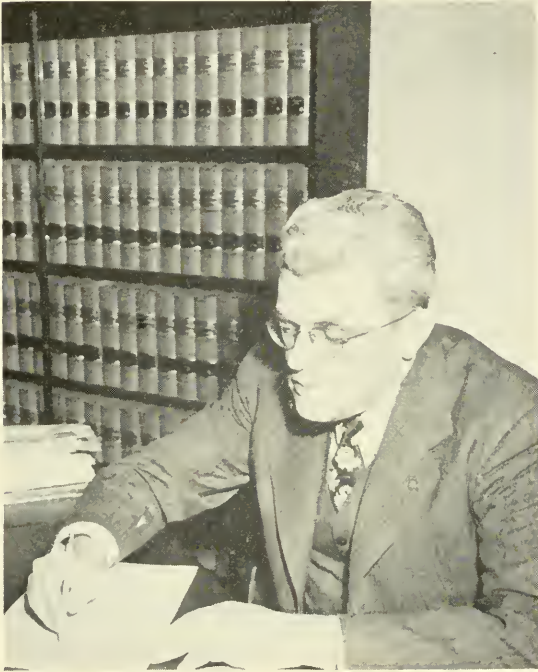


JAMES COWLING HILTON

Assessor

Died December 29, 1949

In Memoriam



EDWARD CHARLES SULLIVAN

City Solicitor

Died August 15, 1949

Tax Collector

The Main Duties of a Tax Collector as provided in P. L. Chapter 47, section 30, are to keep suitable records of Poll and Property taxes due, collected and abated and of all property sold for non-payment of taxes. He also collects Water, Cemetery and Public Works bills. And in this city he has the added jobs of issuing all Motor Vehicle Permits and collecting weekly from Parking Meters.

To assist in this work, there are two assistants or deputies, one in the office to help collect taxes and keep records and the other on the road to collect delinquent Poll and Stock in Trade taxes as well as other past due City bills such as Water Assessments, Cemetery and Public Works.

Collecting taxes is not an easy or pleasant job as no one likes to pay taxes. Collecting Poll and Stock in Trade taxes is our most difficult job due to people constantly moving from one place to another and on Stock in Trades due to changes in ownership, bankruptcy, poor business and deaths. These keep the Tax Collector and his Deputies on constant watch.

Total Property Warrant for 1949 was \$1,018,197.57 against \$979,238.29 for 1948, being the first time Keene's real estate taxes have been over a million dollars. 91% of Total Warrant was collected during 1949 against 93% for 1948, reflecting less favorable business conditions and increased unemployment.

Poll Tax Warrant for 1949 was \$14,480 against \$14,500 for 1948. This tax is due from all residents between the ages of 21 and 70, with veterans of both World Wars being exempted.

Auto Permits show an increase of about \$6,500 over 1948, due to large number of new cars registered, as total permits issued were 5,817 against 6,647 for 1948.



Parking Meters show a slight increase over 1948 as a few more meters were installed during 1949.

Besides the above the Tax Collector received payments of Water, Cemetery, Public Works, jobs, Parking Meters and other City Departments amounting to \$270,685.02.

During 1949 a Tax Sale was held on unpaid 1948 Property taxes. There were 95 unpaid items during 1949 against only 48 in 1948 which brings out the fact that business conditions during 1949 were not of the best.

Two items of property were taken over by the City during 1949. One, land sold to a veteran under condition that he build on same which he failed to do, and another small item was given to City.

During 1949, two firms went into bankruptcy and we have several on which collection is proving very difficult due to lack of business.

The City has over \$6,000 due on two factories and one company that went in bankruptcy during 1948 and on which we hope for part settlement early in 1950 from the bankruptcy court.

SUMMARY OF TAX COLLECTIONS FOR 1949

	Total Collections 1949	Uncollected Taxes, Levy of 1949	Total Taxes 12/31/49 Uncollected
Property Taxes	\$988,836.26	\$88,760.36	\$91,294.11
Poll Taxes	14,272.60	1,549.20	2,282.94
Soldiers Bonuses	47.30		303.00
Tax Liens	5,173.86		8,609.16
Interest and Cost	3,280.15		
	\$1,011,597.17	\$90,309.56	\$102,489.21

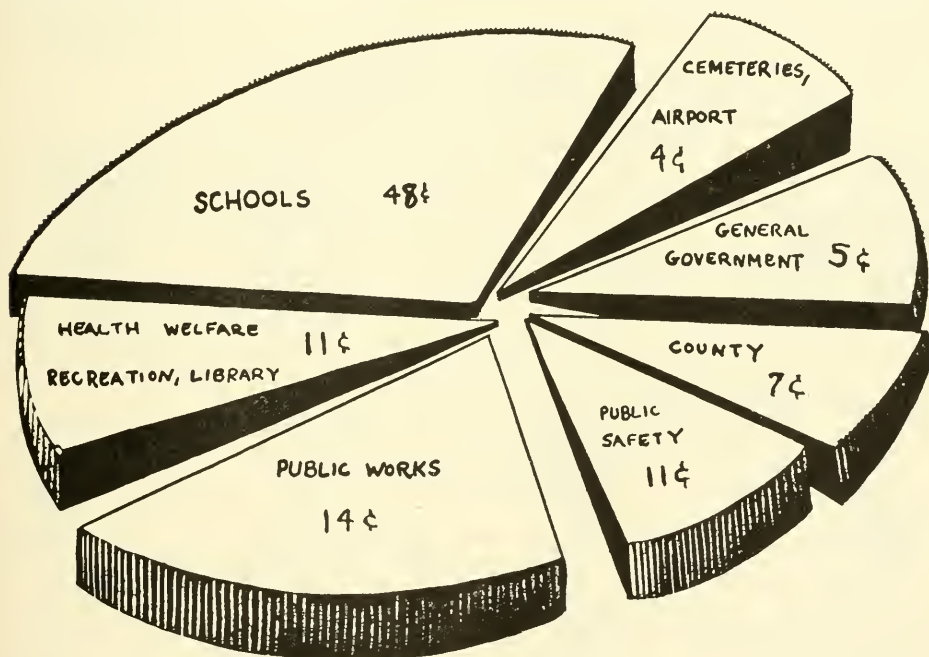
Board of Assessors, Report of Appraised Valuation for the Year 1949

Land and Buildings	\$16,705,919.00
Growing Wood and Timber	20,000.00
Electric Plants	725,797.00
Portable Mills	6,000.00
Live Stock	70,446.00
Wood, Lumber, etc.	10,000.00
Stock-in-Trade	3,768,542.00
Mills and Machinery	2,559,050.00
Gasoline Pumps and Tanks	52,315.00

Total Valuation	\$23,918,069.00
Exemptions to Soldiers	479,530.00
Exemptions to Blind	1,000.00

Total Valuations	\$23,437,539.00
National Bank Stock Taxes	4,969.27
Total Taxes given to Tax Collector	1,031,950.95
Tax Rate for 1949 \$100 of valuation	4.32
No. of Veterans received Exemptions	514
No. of Veterans received Poll Tax Exemptions	1,828
Increase in Soldiers Exemptions over 1948	85,805.00

The board of assessors has unanimously recommended that a reappraisal of all taxable real property in Keene be undertaken as soon as possible.



YOUR PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR

FINANCE

Persons interested in detailed financial data are referred to the 1949 audit of the city's accounts on file in the City Clerk's office.

Your Tax Dollars

Where Each \$100 Came From		Where Each \$100 Went	
Property Tax	\$85.16	Schools	\$43.13
State Collected Taxes	4.07	Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage	12.72
Motor Vehicle Taxes	3.49	General Government	6.34
Parking Meters	2.10	County	6.03
Dept. Income	1.76	Police	4.62
Other Revenue	1.76	Fire	4.28
Other Local Taxes	1.66	Welfare and Old Age Assist.	4.28
	\$100.00	Sewerage System	3.01
		Airport	2.50
		Street Lighting	2.22
		Health and Garbage Collection and Disposal	2.00
		Recreation, Parks, Patriotic	1.92
		Elliot Comm. Hospital and Visitation	1.80
		Nurses	1.77
		Library	1.59
		Cemeteries	1.05
		Engineering and Inspection Services	.74
		Other	.74
			\$100.00

Your Bonded Indebtedness

SCHEDULE OF BONDS OUTSTANDING

Purpose & Rate	Year Issued	Term (Years)	Orig. Amt.	Outstanding 12/31/49
Water (4 1/4%)	1931	24	\$50,000	\$5,000
Water (4%)	1934	18	22,000	3,000
Sewer (4%)	1934	20	140,000	35,000
Airport (1 1/4%)	1942	15	75,000	33,000
				\$76,000

ANNUAL MATURITIES

SEWER AND AIRPORT BONDS

	Principal	Interest	Total
1950	\$13,000	\$1,635	\$14,635
1951	13,000	1,280	14,280
1952	13,000	925	13,925
1953	13,000	570	13,570
1954	13,000	215	13,215
1955	3,000	19	3,019
	\$68,000	\$4,644	\$72,644

WATER BONDS

1950	\$3,500	\$259	\$3,759
1951	3,500	113	3,613
1952	1,000	20	1,020
	\$8,000.00	\$392	\$8,392

Water Utility Accounting

System Changed in 1949

In 1949, for the first time, the accounts of the water utility were separated from those of the General Fund. The water utility had to stand on its own. In the past any losses were made up from property tax revenues. Any "profit" in the water utility was absorbed by the General Fund and, in effect, reduced the tax rate.

The financial statements for the water utility may be summarized fairly simply: It took \$50,749 to operate and maintain the utility:

Water shed and taxes	\$4,965
Mains	5,240
Filters	4,810
Hydrants	3,230
Meters	9,040
Services	11,467
Pumping Station	1,615
Billing and Admin.	10,382
	\$50,749

Capital improvements, excluding the Roxbury line, came to \$28,362. The Roxbury main line installation (described in the Public Works section of this report) cost \$104,231.

The remaining expenditure was for paying the principal and interest on the bonded debt. This totalled \$3,906.

Thus the total expenditure was \$187,248.

The revenues were:

Water Sales, etc.	\$80,651
Transferred from Capital Reserve	81,726
	\$162,377

A cash balance was maintained in the Water Utility by loans from the General Fund. On December 31, the Water Fund owed the General Fund \$25,538.59. The cash balance was \$2,617.52.

Water Utility Fund Balance Sheet As At December 31, 1949

ASSETS	
<i>Current Assets</i>	
Cash in Bank	\$2,617.52
Accounts Receivable	12,762.22
Inventories	23,476.32
	\$38,856.06
<i>Fixed Assets</i>	
Structures and Improvements	\$588,804.85
Equipment	3,739.67
Land	\$77,800.00
	\$670,344.52
TOTAL ASSETS	\$709,200.58
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable—	
General Fund	\$25,538.59
Municipal Investment	708,538.30
	\$734,076.89
Deficit	—24,876.31
	\$709,200.58
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$709,200.58
Analysis of Deficit Water Utility Fund	
<i>Charges</i>	
Capital Outlay deficit	\$23,712.47
Roxbury Pipe Line (over and above amount available from Capital Reserve Fund)	22,504.25
Adjustments	11.06
	\$46,227.78
<i>Credits</i>	
Revenue in excess of estimates	\$8,050.87
Unexpended balance in appropriation	13,300.60
	\$21,351.47
Deficit December 31, 1949	\$24,876.31

Comparative Balance Sheet

<i>ASSETS</i>	<i>December 31, 1949</i>	<i>December 31, 1948</i>
<i>CASH ON HAND:</i>		
Treasury Cash	\$171,494.58	\$137,005.57
Petty Cash	460.00	435.00
 <i>UNCOLLECTED TAXES:</i>		
Poll Taxes	2,282.94	2,330.79
Property Taxes	91,294.11	69,730.21
Tax Titles Unredeemed	8,609.16	3,375.95
Special Poll Taxes 1944-45	303.00	409.30
 <i>ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:</i>		
Water Utility	25,538.59	11,484.04
Department Accounts	3,858.61	5,198.40
Other	3,306.55	437.38
 <i>INVENTORIES:</i>		
Material, Supplies, Gasoline	14,762.68	37,965.15
 <i>DUE FROM OTHER FUNDS:</i>		
Sumner Knight Chapel	59.94	234.82
Bond Fund		35,598.76
	\$321,970.16	\$304,205.37
 <i>LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND SURPLUS</i>		
<i>ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:</i>		
Withholding Taxes	\$1,240.38	\$1,142.80
Retirement Assessments	700.87	554.66
State of N. H. Special Poll Tax	303.00	409.30
Monadnock View Cemetery Fund	180.00	180.00
Union School District	207,899.77	194,840.33
Dog tax (To Schools)		2,530.25
 <i>UNEXPENDED BALANCES:</i>		
Capital	35,030.98	37,366.07
Trust Fund Income	6.42	9.42
 <i>RESERVES:</i>		
Municipal Car		771.36
Cancelled Bonds & Checks	1,490.12	1,490.12
Parking Meter Fund	19,187.65	14,945.87
Due Bond Fund	385.90	
Equipment	11,509.31	
 <i>SURPLUS:</i>		
Current Surplus	44,035.76	49,965.19
	\$321,970.16	\$304,205.37

Comparative Revenue Statement

LOCAL TAXES:

	1949	1948
Poll Taxes	\$14,272.60	\$14,821.70
Property Taxes	988,823.26	948,769.20
National Bank Stock Tax	4,969.27	4,954.27
	\$1,008,065.13	\$968,545.17

STATE COLLECTED TAXES:

Interest & Dividend Tax	\$38,632.30	\$37,789.31
Savings Bank Tax	4,841.17	6,132.99
Railroad Tax	3,749.38	3,575.20
Public Forest Land Tax	4.32	4.25
Athletic Fund		69.20
	\$47,227.17	\$47,570.95

OTHER LOCAL REVENUE:

Interest on Taxes	\$3,280.15	\$2,541.17
Parking Meters	24,414.13	23,625.78
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	40,536.84	33,715.81
Water Utility Sales		76,777.12
Municipal Court	5,200.98	8,818.27
Rent of Property	200.00	500.00
Rent of City Hall		255.00
Sale of Property	659.19	975.90
Parking Meter Fines & Revenue		1,704.18
License & Permits	1,903.00	2,155.50
City Clerk's Fees	1,846.01	1,699.11
	\$78,040.30	\$152,767.84

DEPARTMENTAL INCOME:

Police Department	\$1,796.26	\$54.61
Fire Department	2,056.57	422.00
Public Works Department	2,294.53	11,080.14
Municipal Airport	1,872.00	1,677.66
Public Library	2,132.86	2,007.34
Park Department	361.86	339.55
Cemeteries	9,417.96	7,748.79
Rent of City Hall and other	462.00	
Welfare Department	1,049.49	
Old Age Assistance	774.95	
Misc. Income	204.55	
	\$22,423.03	\$23,330.09

Total	\$1,555,755.63	\$1,192,214.05
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Comparative Statement—Operating Expenditures

	1949	1948
General Government	\$24,567.43	\$21,458.19
City Clerk	3,709.32	3,479.73
Elections	1,908.35	4,200.04
Municipal Court	5,287.20	5,082.64
Planning Board	886.10	442.59
Municipal Building	10,945.47	11,729.79
Accounting	5,966.66	7,785.32
Assessors	6,313.16	6,004.52
Collector	9,149.66	8,546.02
Police	50,846.04	48,277.23
Fire	46,820.24	44,458.49
Inspection Services	11,672.79	10,814.79
Public Works		
Administration	14,937.09	34,003.21
Highway Maintenance	82,694.85	86,354.38
Water Utility*		36,984.55
Sewerage System	17,952.40	14,319.14
Equipment**		30,039.97
Incineration	5,959.96	
Municipal Airport	3,961.93	3,635.86
Health	5,523.08	5,219.32
Elliot Community Hospital	15,000.00	6,000.00
Keene Visiting Nurses Association	5,000.00	5,000.00
Garbage Collection	12,000.00	12,000.00
Welfare Department	27,329.47	21,096.82
Old Age Assistance	20,064.94	19,066.24
Public Library	19,589.00	22,215.79
Recreation	14,636.35	14,213.69
Park	4,912.81	3,486.76
Cemeteries	17,594.45	24,054.91
Street Lighting	24,580.56	22,891.93
Patriotic Purposes	1,300.00	1,872.50
Unclassified Items	3,772.11	8,741.89
	\$474,881.42	\$543,476.31

**The Water Utility Accounts were separated from the General Fund so that the real cost of the water utility can be clearly shown.*

***The City Garage was set up as a separate account. Equipment rental charges are made against each project. The revenue from such charges pays for the operation and maintenance of the equipment and provides a fund for its replacement.*

Comparative Statement—Capital Outlay Appropriation Accounts

	1949	1948
EQUIPMENT:		
City Hall	\$1,564.14	
Addressograph		\$1,942.20
Collector	51.99	1,010.66
Fire Department	550.00	2,105.00
Public Works Department	2,906.88	53,408.68
Recreation Department	403.56	125.80
Cemetery Department		3,500.16
Police Department	400.00	
	\$5,876.57	\$62,092.50
CONSTRUCTION:		
Pine Bank Project	\$2,321.47	\$6,422.83
Street Improvements	12,066.91	6,618.23
Sidewalks	6,612.54	4,465.65
Beaver Brook	431.45	695.85
Incinerator		150.60
Water Extensions		4,648.76
Sewer & Drains	1,913.39	1,326.24
Police Garage Doors		475.00
Robin Hood Pool	6.47	2,000.00
Spruce St. Drains	12,867.09	
Sanitary Sewers	6,841.39	
Airport Lights	11,787.20	
Airport Runways	5,454.05	
Traffic Lights	2,868.78	
Traffic Contingencies	1,414.75	
	\$64,585.49	\$26,803.16
Total	\$70,462.06	\$88,895.66

City Officials

—CITY GOVERNMENT—

(Elected at the Municipal Election November 4, 1947)
Two Year Term
1948-1949

Mayor

FREDERICK D. MITCHELL

Board of Aldermen

Ward 1 Waldo Giovannangeli
Ward 2 Harold K. Hall
Ward 3 James M. Erwin
Ward 4 Olande C. Putney
Ward 5 Vena DiLuzio

Board of Common Council

Franklin A. Carey, Joseph T. Cristiano, Gordon S. Proulx
Robert G. Calef, C. Harold Warner, Henry J. Claywood
Alton B. Collier, Burleigh R. Darling, Clarence B. Ewins
Arthur A. Kingsbury, Clair E. Wyman, Robert M. Sayers, Sr.
Harold B. Nims, Angelo DeBernardo, John J. McGrath, Jr.

Elected By City Councils

City Manager Henry F. Goodnow
Elected March 22, 1948
City Clerk Lena F. Warren
Elected annually first meeting in January
Tax Collector Elliot A. Wright
Elected annually in March
City Solicitor Edward C. Sullivan*
Elected annually first meeting in January
City Solicitor Kenneth J. Arwe**
City Treasurer Stafford M. Boardman
Elected annually first meeting in January
Assistant City Treasurer Russell G. Putney
Elected annually first meeting in January
Fire Chief Emeritus Eugene B. Riley
Elected February 7, 1946
* Deceased 8-15-49
** Elected 9-1-49

Appointed By City Manager

City Engineer Chester F. Langtry
Building Inspector Chester F. Langtry
City Messenger Frank W. Niles
Overseer of Poor Paul B. Hayward
Recreation Director Charles S. Farrar
Cemetery Superintendent Elmer S. Britton
Public Works Superintendent Robert G. Shaw
Chief Engineer Fire Department Walter R. Messer
Health Officer Evan C. White
City Physician John D. MacAllister
Inspector Weights & Measures Walter L. Green
Plumbing Inspector John H. Simpson
Park Commissioner Wright V. Carter

Police Chief Joseph L. Regan
(Appointed by Police Commission)
Acting Librarian Charlotte Haskins
(Appointed by Trustees Keene Public Library)

Board of Assessors

(One member elected Annually in January by
City Councils)
3-Year Term

Verne C. Swan Term Expires January 1950
Frank J. Bennett Term Expires January 1951
* James C. Hilton Term Expires January 1952
* Deceased 12-29-49

Zoning-Board of Adjustment

UNDER ZONING BOARD ORDINANCE
(One member elected Annually in January by
City Councils)
5-Year Term

Philip H. Faulkner, Term Expires January 1952
Chairman
Howard W. Kirk Term Expires January 1950
Theodore H. Bergeron Term Expires January 1951
Don W. Cook Term Expires January 1953
Clifford E. Emery Term Expires January 1954

Planning Board

UNDER PLANNING BOARD ORDINANCE

Members Ex-Officio

Frederick D. Mitchell, Mayor

Chester F. Langtry

(Administrative Head App. by Mayor)

Alton B. Collier

(City Council Member Elected by City Council)

One Member Appointed by Mayor Annually—

6 Year Term

Arthur Whitcomb, Term Expires January 1952
Chairman
Eliot Priest Term Expires January 1950
John R. Holbrook Term Expires January 1951
Ralph W. Newell Term Expires January 1953
Lloyd W. Hewitt Term Expires January 1954
L. Roland Taylor Term Expires January 1955

Board of Health

(Appointed by City Manager)

Ernest L. Bell, Jr.
Walter F. Taylor, M. D.
John H. Simpson

Board of Fire Engineers

Walter R. Messer
Thomas B. Wallbank
Elwin H. Applin
John H. Simpson

Board of Examiners of Plumbers

John H. Simpson
George E. Fish
Chester F. Langtry

Recreation Committee

Mrs. Laverne Bushnell
John O. Talbot
Joseph T. Cristiano
Dr. Leroy Ford
Wellington Clark

Keene Public Library Trustees

Robert T. Kingsbury
John J. Colony
Lucy J. Dickinson
Elizabeth F. Lacey
Winfield M. Chaplin
John P. Wright
(Thayer Trustees)
Ruth P. Huntress Term Expires January 1950
Dorothy D. Robertson Term Expires January 1950
Philip H. Faulkner, Term Expires January 1951
President
Beatrice W. Clark Term Expires January 1951
Julia F. Chapman Term Expires January 1952
Kate L. Tilden Term Expires January 1952
(2 members elected annually by City Councils)

Trustees of Trust Funds

(One member Elected Annually by City Councils)
Term 3 Years

Stafford M. Boardman Term Expires January 1950
John L. Saunders Term Expires January 1951
Allen L. Martin Term Expires January 1952

Trustees of Veterans Service Fund

(Elected by City Councils 1-4-45)

Arthur Olson
Paul E. Whitcomb
Percy A. Hudson

Ladies Park

(1 Aldermen and 1 Lady Doner appointed by
Mayor annually)

Frederick D. Mitchell, Mayor, Alderman Vena
DiLuzio, Mrs. Edith K. Watson

Police Commissioners

(1 Elected at Municipal Election for a Six-Year Term)
 Arthur B. Nims Term Expires January 1950
 Rupert E. Robinson Term Expires January 1952
 Richard L. Holbrook Term Expires January 1954

Surveyors of Wood and Lumber

(Elected Annually by City Councils)

James F. Cady	Ruel B. Travis
Walter G. Perry	Lewis T. Travis
Silas M. Spring	Clarence Larro
Donald Davis	Lynn Parker
Harold Barton	Victor Wayne Newell
Samuel V. Thompson	Raymond Nye
	Walter M. Barnard

Weighers

(Elected Annually by City Councils)

John W. Morrissey	Richard Rule
Harold L. Niles	Paul F. Rule
Clovis L. Dupre	George A. DeVoid
Gordon L. Phillips	Guy B. Merry
Norbert J. Klaiber	J. Willy DeRosier
Frank H. Arnott	Horace W. Sawyer
John H. Rule	Walter M. Barnard

Fence Viewers

(Elected Annually by City Councils)

Chester F. Langtry
Emlen P. Pitfield

WARD OFFICERS

(Elected at the Biennial Election November 2, 1948, for a Two-Year Term)
1949-1950

Moderators

Ward 1	George H. Caron
Ward 2	Kenneth P. Colby
Ward 3	Clarence B. Ewins
Ward 4	Leroy E. Coddling
Ward 5	Harold T. Packard

Clerks

Ward 1	Charles K. Whitcomb
Ward 2	Robert G. Calef
Ward 3	Frank J. Bennett
Ward 4	Minnie H. Smith
Ward 5	Harold B. Nims

Supervisors of Check Lists

Ward 1	Paul H. Joy
Ward 2	Kirke W. Wheeler
Ward 3	Roger A. Witham
Ward 4	Chandler B. MacAllister
Ward 5	Thomas F. Guinane

Selectmen

(Elected at the Municipal Election November 4, 1947)
Two-Year Term, 1948-1949

Ward 1	Jesse O. Little
Ward 2	Nathaniel H. Batchelder
Ward 3	George R. Miller
Ward 4	Erwin S. Wilber
Ward 5	Thomas H. Kepple

John H. Whitcomb
William C. Chapman
Morgan L. Barrett
Robert A. Smith
Robert W. Faubert

Lynn M. Parker
Guy F. Fairfield
Edith L. Gale
Clarence F. Caldwell
William E. Sylvester

Ballot Inspectors

(Nominated by Chairman Republican and Democratic Committees)
(Elected by Board of Mayor and Aldermen)
October 1948—to October 1950

Ward 1
 Alice D. Matthews—R
 Ruth S. Bergeron—R
 Margaret T. Webster—D
 Marie L. Beliveau—D

Ward 2
 Walter J. Hansson—R
 Richard J. Wellman—R
 Maurice G. Waling—D
 Hugh F. Waling—D

Ward 3
 Allen L. Martin—R
 Cleon E. Heald—R
 Esther W. Winn—D
 Arthur W. Cummings—D

Ward 4
 Mary Wyman—R
 Marion Wyman—R
 Dorothy W. Metivier—D
 Mabel H. Daggett—D

Ward 5
 Viola L. Adams—R
 Sprague W. Drennan—R
 Kathryn DeBussy—D
 Albert R. Hebert—D

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More detailed information about individual departments may be obtained directly from the department heads or City Manager.

If you want information on—

	<i>Call</i>	<i>At</i>
Ambulance	Elliot Community Hospital.....	211
Assessments	Assessor	1349
Auditorium (City Hall)	Recreation Department	1671-M
Bicycle Licenses	Police	46
Bills and Accounts	Accounting Office	415-M
Birth Certificates	City Clerk	50
Building Permits	City Engineer	1349
Burial Permits	City Clerk	50
Burials	Cemetery Superintendent	1022-W
Cemetery Lots	Cemetery Superintendent	1022-W
Death Certificates	City Clerk	50
Dog Licenses	City Clerk	50
Drains	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Driver's Permits	Tax Collector	415-W
Elections	City Clerk	50
Fire	Fire Department	23
Fuel Oil Storage	Fire Department	23
Garbage Collection	Health Department	1328-M
Health	Health Department	1328-M
Hospital	Elliot Community Hospital.....	211
Library	Keene Public Library.....	355-W
Maps	City Engineer	1349
Marriage Licenses	City Clerk	50
Milk Inspection	Health Department	1328-M
Ordinances	City Clerk	50
Petitions (Construction)	City Engineer	1349
Plumbing Permits	Plumbing Inspector	765-M
Police	Police Department	46
Recreation	Recreation Department	1671-M
Schools	Superintendent of Schools.....	1020
Septic Tanks	Health Department	1328-M
Signs	City Engineer	1349
Sidewalks	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Streets	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Street Lights	Public Service Company.....	810
Sewers	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Snow Removal	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Tax Assessments	Assessor	1349
Tax Collections	Tax Collector	415-W
Trees	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Voting	City Clerk	50
Water Bills	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Water Repairs	Public Works Department.....	1053-M
Weights & Measures	Sealer of Weights & Measures.....	257
Zoning	City Engineer	1349

If you do not know where to call, or if your request for information or action from the City department is not answered satisfactorily—call the Manager's office - - - 30.