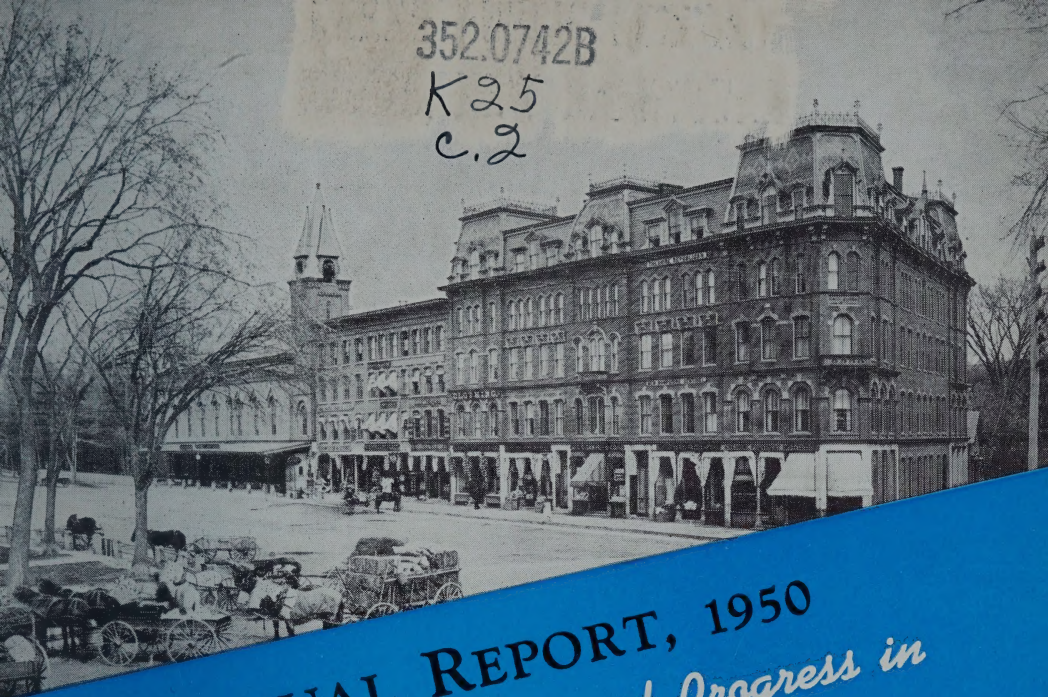


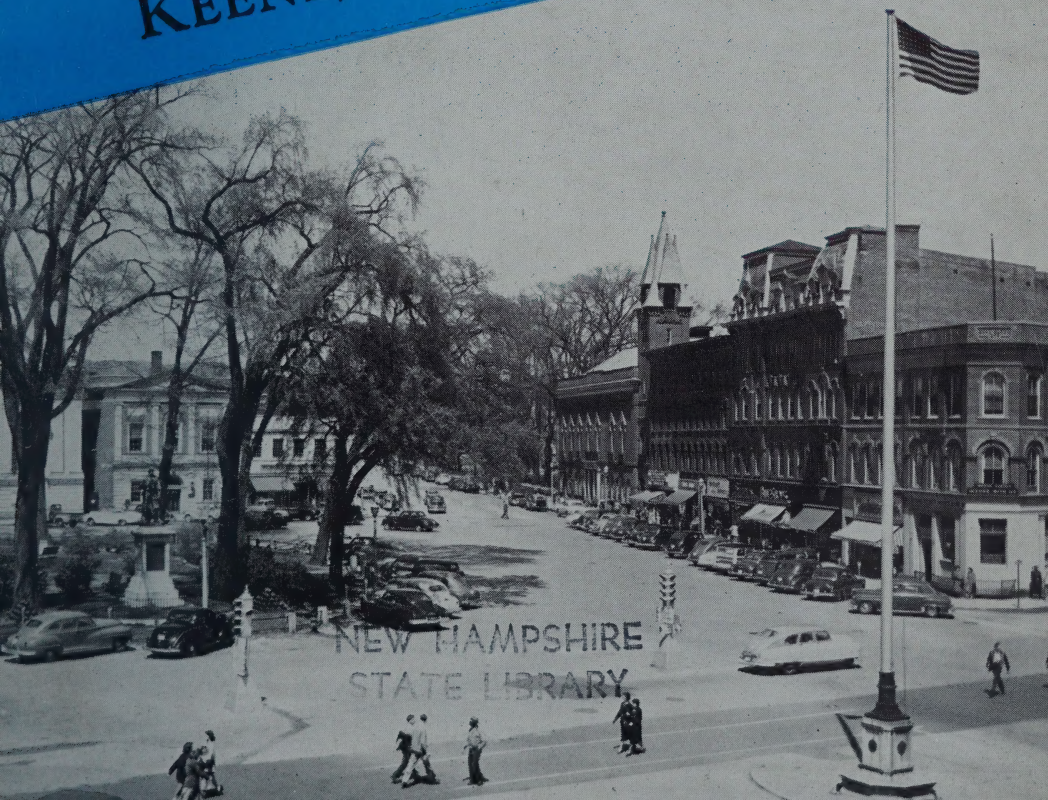
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ANNUAL REPORT, 1950
Ending a Half-Century of Progress in
KEENE, NEW HAMPSHIRE



NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

77th
ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE CITIZENS OF

KEENE
NEW HAMPSHIRE
POPULATION 15,638

1950

ENDING A HALF-CENTURY OF PROGRESS

1900

1950

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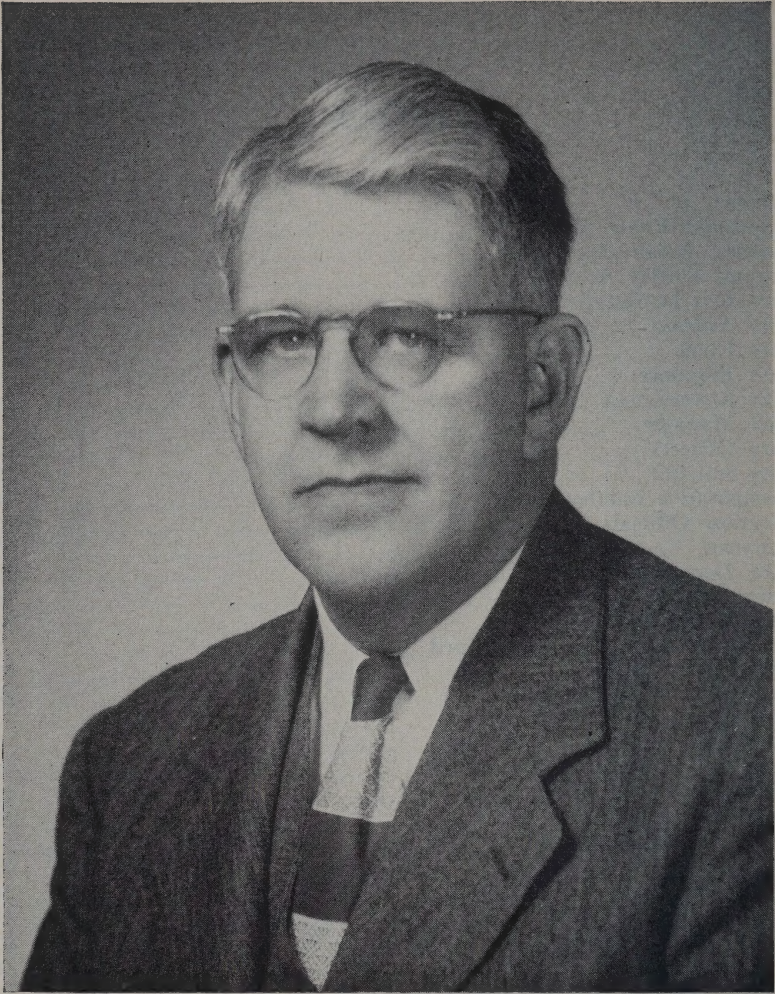
CREDITS

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LERROY S. FORD, M. D.

*Mayor of
Keene, New Hampshire
1950*

MAYOR FORD'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

January 2, 1950

I am looking forward to the next two years of city government with a great deal of anticipation, and I am certain it will be a most interesting and educational experience for me and, I hope, for you.

It is my sincere hope that during my term of office I shall make new acquaintances, new friendships, and from these and people that I now know receive many useful and practical suggestions that should be brought to our attention. I am definitely under the impression that a good many matters that disturb the people of Keene are due in large part to misunderstandings as to why certain decisions were made that seemed to affect them adversely. We all know that languages create barriers of misunderstanding and distrust, and that the only possibility of removing these barriers is knowledge, either of a mutual language in which to converse, or an extremely capable interpreter. With these facts in mind I hope to see plans formulated whereby the paper can give you more news on all matters controversial or otherwise. Consideration is also being given to the possibility of having occasional or regular broadcasts, at which, certain of the city officials and department heads will be interviewed to explain what each department is doing as its share in the over all plan.

I had hoped to be able to meet with each of you individually before this, but was unfortunately unable to do this except in a few instances. However, on the evening that most of you were at my home I was much interested in the way you opened up various subjects for discussion, and was certainly pleased to see the interest shown.

As our term begins I would like to restate what I said the night before election, and that is, I do not wish you to say yes to all of my proposals or others, but to consider these proposals from as many angles as you can individually and then come to meeting prepared to iron them out. At times certain issues will arise at which there will be quick words spoken; this is only natural, but I trust that there will be cool heads to carry on, and that per-

sonal animosities will in no way influence your decisions as long as any person is doing his work to the best of his ability. None of us is perfect.

I would like to consider us as a football team where we work cooperatively. We were elected into office by the citizens of Keene who had faith in us. In any team someone calls the signals while the team attempts to interpret these signals and carry them out to the best of their ability. In a football game points are scored. In our game points scored will consist of improvements in living conditions, working conditions, and in opportunities for our citizens. I hope through our combined activities we can interest other people to set up manufacturing plants here to add to our local security. The citizens in electing us, gave us the opportunity to work for the good and welfare of the city which will be for the good and welfare of everyone living here.

The future growth of our city depends in large part on us and the enthusiasm we can develop to interest other people in our locality. The more people we can interest, the more chance we have that our children will have opportunities for work and growth, while the reverse is also true. In order for us to interest people we've got to sell Keene wherever we go and invite them to come and see the things that we have to offer. It is impossible for a person to stand still. He either goes forward or backward, and the same thing applies to our city.

Let us attempt to keep our ears open to various suggestions. The people in the shops have just as much brain power I am sure, as the people in the professions, and I want and urge them to be heard on matters pertaining to them. I very well recall that as a green interne in a small general hospital I learned a tremendous amount of useful and practical medical care from the nurse in charge of a floor. She had no medical degree but she had taken care of patients in a hospital; she had observed what seemed to help them, and had noted how my predecessors controlled matters. I had the didactic knowledge, but not the practical, and I feel sure

that this situation must be handled in a similar manner.

We are beginning this year with an innovation in our local government, the unicameral type of operation. We are also enjoying the first complete term with the city manager. It is a beginning in several senses of the word. It is the year 1950, we are entering the second half of the 20th century, and we ourselves are entering into a period when for two years the reins of empire so to speak are in our hands.

Let us hope with all these new things happening that a sense of responsibility touches all of us. With the unicameral type of government it was felt that city plans could be carried on more rapidly and more efficiently than with the bicameral form of government; however, this has its disadvantages in that having less checks we may have a tendency to run ahead faster than is advisable. I am assuming, however, that this will not occur here as we have men who have been in previous councils who have the knowledge and ability to help us avoid these pitfalls.

Since election I have concerned myself with some of the plans that I believe should be taken care of in our term of office. Doubtless what seems important to me in many cases may seem rather less a necessity, or even unimportant to others. There are always several things to be considered before we make a final decision and proceed.

One of the objects of major interest to me is our traffic system. We have unfortunately one Main Street north and south, with no secondary route, and practically our only exit to the West is West Street itself. This street, according to a traffic survey, is the most heavily travelled of our main arteries. Consideration must be given as to whether it be wiser to construct by-passes or whether West Street should be widened, or both. It is true that under certain conditions federal funds would be made available to us, while in other circumstances the full expense of construction must be borne by the city. While we could certainly use federal monies to augment our own funds, it might be that we were buying a product because it was cheaper rather than actually satisfying the needs of the city properly.

One of the most important matters to me is taxation because everyone here is concerned with this problem. I want to bring to your attention now, and shall attempt to bring it out from time to time, that of our taxes collected here for running the city, practically two-thirds is slated for salaries and maintenance of existing equipment and facilities, so if we allot \$600,000 for the city budget only \$200,000 roughly can be used for capital improvements such as sidewalks, sewers, lights, and other necessities.

A third important item that concerns nearly all of us at one time or another is our schools. The city collects the taxes for the carrying on of our school program, but this body has no voice in the dispersal of these funds. A new school is contemplated at present, either a Junior High or High School, and it is my belief that there should be at least one qualified member from the council or the City Manager present at school board meetings. Even though this member would have no vote he should be able to make suggestions and recommendations for consideration to the school board, especially if he is requested to do so. In other words, he would act in a liaison capacity. The superintendent of schools has already been approached on this matter and has gladly signified his willingness to this plan.

A fourth interest of mine is one that I do not believe has been considered by the city government as a whole at any time, and this is smog control. To some of us this may seem radical, but I believe it is still something that should be considered and a solution attempted before the probability becomes an annoying fact here. We have conditions of heavy fog at certain times of the year, and with the increase in manufacturing that we hope to see here, this smog control should be considered.

In closing I would like to remind all of you that there are many problems facing us in the next two years which we must give our faithful attention. Let us with God's help and sincere, well directed efforts on our part, bring these matters to the best solution for the most people concerned.



CITY OF KEENE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER

To the Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council.

People sometimes ask "Why are our property taxes so high?" In presenting the 1950 Annual Report I would like to point out 7 reasons why property taxes have gone up in recent years and why they are higher in New Hampshire than in some other states.

1. *Lack of State Aid.* Cities in New Hampshire get less financial aid from the State than in any other State in the country. As a result the local property tax pays over 85% of the cost of local government, including schools and county expense. Other states can afford to make a major contribution to the cost of local government because they have either a sales or general income tax. New Hampshire has neither.

2. *Inflation.* Prior to about 1941 the assessed valuation of property was not far below the actual value of the property. In the last 10 years the cost of building materials has tripled and other costs have doubled, yet assessed valuations have increased only 25% and much of this increase is from new buildings. Since the valuations increased but slightly, the tax rate was forced up by rising costs.

3. *Lack of special charges.* Many communities make a special charge for such things as sewage disposal, garbage collection, and building permits. Keene has none of these.

4. *Scattered development.* Keene has a very large area (37 sq. miles) for its population. It has about 67 miles of water mains, over 50 miles of sewer mains and over 86 miles of improved roads. A dispersed community is more costly to construct and maintain than a concentrated one.

5. *Street maintenance.* Most of the streets in Keene (and there are some outstanding exceptions) were built at minimum cost. Tar was placed on top of unstable soils and inadequate drainage was

provided prior to construction. This means low *initial* costs but never-ending maintenance problems and continuing expense.

6. *Subdivision requirements.* To insure low maintenance costs and to relieve the City of the high cost of providing the initial street, drainage, sewer, and water installations, many cities require the subdivider to put these in at his expense. Some cities require the construction of curbs and sidewalks as well. In Keene most of these costs are paid by the City.

7. *New construction.* Certain expensive items are required now and in the immediate future. The most expensive, of course, is the new high school. All four of the bridges in Keene that cross the Ashuelot River are in poor condition. A new Court Street bridge is under construction and the reconstruction of the West Street bridge will get under way in 1951. The State has advised us that the Winchester Street bridge should be rebuilt in the near future and that a new Island Street bridge will be required about 5 years after that. A new City Public Works garage is badly needed, Marlboro Street may soon be improved, etc. These are all high cost items and the City has followed a pay-as-you-go policy in the construction of the West Street and Court Street bridges.

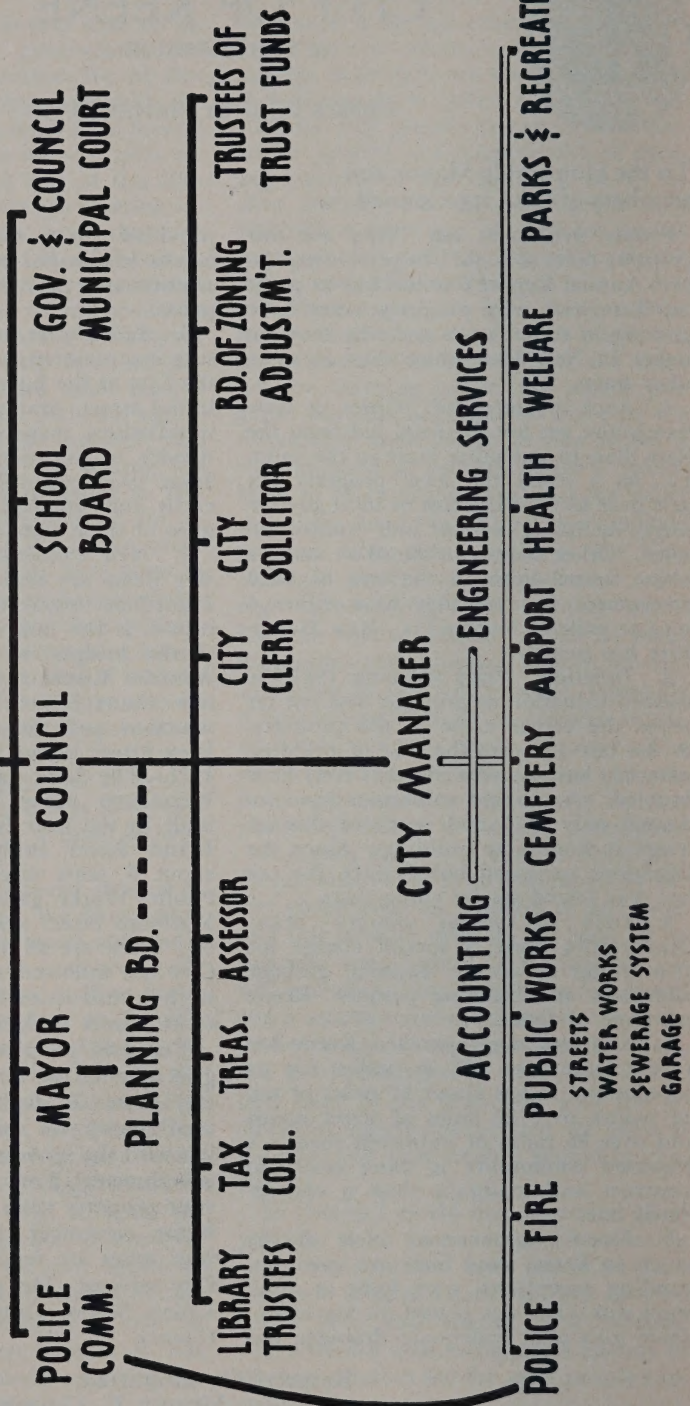
The sole purpose of this letter is to give some of the reasons for higher property taxes. In looking through this annual report you can become more familiar with the services provided by the City government. Even though you pay all your property taxes to the City Tax Collector, remember that less than half of your taxes are retained to provide these City services. The remainder goes to the Union School District and to Cheshire County.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. GOODNOW, *City Manager.*

ORGANIZATION KEENE CITY GOVERNMENT 1950

VOTERS



ORGANIZATION CHART

You may understand the organization chart on the opposite page, but do you know how to use this organization in your daily life as a citizen of Keene?

The "voters" are at the top of the chart because, they, as a group, have the final authority. They elect the Mayor and 15-member Council. They elect the 3 member Police Commission. By attending the annual meeting of the Union School District they can participate in the election of the School Board.

Your nearest representatives are the three councilmen in your ward. They are listed in the directory in this report.

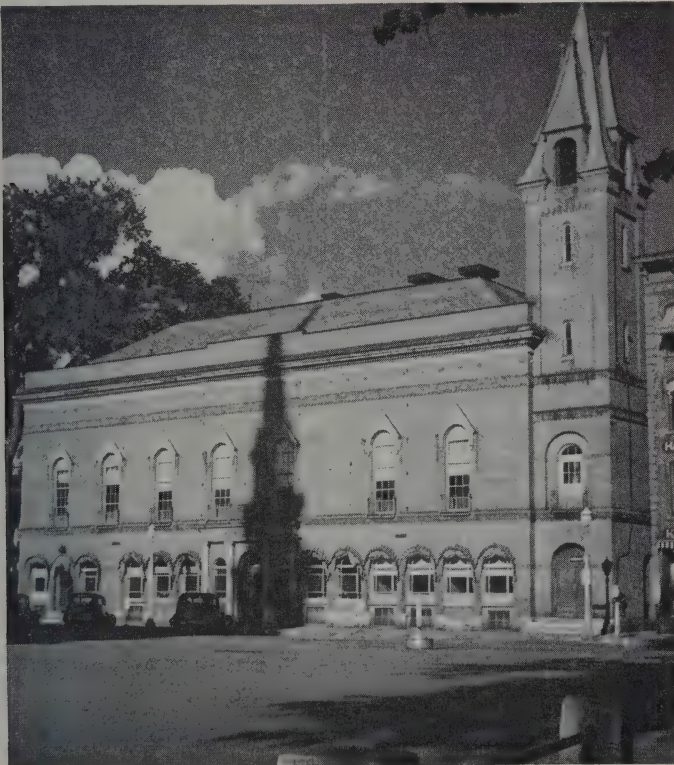
The State gives the Keene City Council legal power to pass certain laws dealing with the city. Every year the Council adopts a budget which shows the amount of money that can be spent for city needs. In adopting the budget the Council directs the City Manager to carry out the budget program. The Council has no control over the School Board. The School budget is passed at the annual Union

School District Meeting.

The Council elects the City Manager. The City Manager reports directly to the Council. He is held accountable by the Council for the operation and coordination of the departments shown under his control on the chart.

If you have complaints or suggestions, go directly to the man who can help satisfy you. The Manager wants to know these things. He gets the policies and it's his job to satisfactorily put them in operation. He's trained in government, but he doesn't pretend to know all the answers. If you have a hole in the street let him know. It helps you --- it helps him to do a better job.

Under the Council-Manager form of government, the Council is responsible to the citizens, and the City Manager and other administrative officers carry out policies established by the Council. In this way, a cooperative team of Council, management and citizens is being developed to achieve the best results for the city.



CITY CLERK

Lena F. Warren

Personnel	1
Expenditures	\$4,187.27
Receipts	\$11,564.01
Revenue from Fees	\$1,955.93
Number of City Government Meetings	32
Number of Ordinances	12
Number of Resolutions	90

Newly elected members of the first Mayor-Councilmen Form of government for the City of Keene met on January 2, 1950, at ten o'clock in the forenoon in accordance with the provisions of the City Charter "An Act to provide for mayor-councilmen form of charter for the City of Keene, Approved July 28, 1949, Adopted by City of Keene September 13, 1949". The meeting was held in High School Auditorium. Leroy S. Ford having been notified of his election to the office of Mayor for the term of two years was present and the oath of office was administered by City Solicitor Kenneth J. Arwe. The oath of office was administered by the Mayor to the fifteen newly elected Councilmen, five for a term of four years, ten for a term of two years. John P. Wright was sworn into office by the Mayor as Police Commissioner for a term of six years. Reverend A. Norman Janes was invited by the Mayor to offer prayer after which the mayor read his Inaugural address. Mrs. Lena F. Warren was elected City Clerk.

Members of the City Government met on Thursday Evening, January 5, 1950 for the election of City Officers. There were 22 Regular meetings held during the year, also 9 Public Hearings, and 1 Special Meeting. 12 Ordinances were adopted and 90 Resolutions passed.

For the first time in the History of Keene members of the City Council received \$10.05 for their attendance at each regular meeting, not exceeding \$200.00 for each member for the year. A total of \$2,990.00 was paid to Councilmen for the year. Six of the Councilmen attended all regular meetings.

During 1950 the City Clerk recorded 625 Births. Parents of 335 were residents of Keene and parents of 290 were non-residents. 219 Marriage intentions were

filed and 214 Marriage records recorded, 83 for residents and 82 for non-residents, 49 for one applicant a resident of Keene. There were 205 deaths recorded during the year. A total of \$260.50 was paid to Physicians, Clergymen and Justices of the Peace for making returns of records to the office of City Clerk as required by law.

\$11,564.01 was received by City Clerk during the year which included \$438.00 received for Marriage Licenses, \$1,517.93 for Recording Mortgages, Conditional Sales, Discharges, Certified copies of Vital Statistics and certificates of Registered voters. Receipt of Cemetery Trust Funds amounted to \$4,450.00, Sale of Maps and Histories of Keene \$16.50. \$45.00 received for filing fees for filings for declarations of Candidacy required to be filed with the City Clerk for the Biennial State Primary held September 12, 1950, \$1,280.00 for Business Licenses, including taxi, theatre, Peddler's, Bowling Alley, Pool table, Circus and Carnival Licenses. \$3,066.58 received for 1,267 Dogs license in 1950 and \$750.00 was received in accordance with Resolutions passed September 7, 1950 and credited to Capital Improvement Account "Drains".

\$53.00 was paid from City Treasury for 212 Hedgehog heads produced to City Clerk during the year 1950 the City of Keene being reimbursed by State Treasurer to that amount, in accordance with Chapter 180, Section 5, Revised Laws of New Hampshire 1942, Amended February 23, 1949.

A Direct Primary was held on September 12, 1950 for State, County and City nominations. Total number of votes cast 2,573, Republican votes cast 2,325, Democrat votes cast 248.

A Biennial State Election was held November 7, 1950. Number of Registered Voters 8,116. There were 107 requests for Absentee Ballots. 5,155 votes were cast, including 89 by absent voters.

Total cost of Elections \$3,796.71, of this amount \$3,331.80 included salaries of election officers for the year. Balance of \$464.91 was for printing of check lists, rental of voting places and furniture.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS



	Births	Marriages	Deaths
1940	400	213	285
1941	393	231	336
1942	486	235	222
1943	485	170	339
1944	463	152	206
1945	404	205	207
1946	627	380	220
1947	770	306	224
1948	679	260	233
1949	635	251	229
1950	625	219	205

RESOLUTIONS

Relocation Water Main North End of Laurel Street	Construction of Greenwood Avenue Easement—Joseph H. Johnson
Relating to Regular Meetings	Airport Lighting Easements
Relating to Annual Audit	Drainage of Fox Circle
Rules of Order of the City Council	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Fire Department
Claim of Mrs. Walter J. Nichols	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Police Benevolent Assoc.
Workmen's Compensation	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Children's Theatre
Traffic Light—West Street	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Light Opera Company
Julia Fay Chapman	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Children's Theatre
Sale of Lot #18 Princess Park	Airport Lighting Easements
Sale of Land Platts Box Company	Hours of Voting
Free Use of City Hall	Transfer of Funds
Installation Parking Meters—Washington Street	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—American Artists Professional League
Lease of Drummer Hill Ski-tow	Civilian Defense
Relating to Temporary Loan	Cypress Court
Relating to Wheelock Park	Street Improvements
Parallel Parking and Installation of Parking Meters in Center of Main Street	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—The Keene High School
1950 Annual Budget	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Gordon Bissell Post
Aerial Photographs	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Woman's Club
Discontinuance of Congress Street	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Light Opera Company
Equalization of Assessments	Recreation and Parks Department
Parallel Parking and Installation of Parking Meters in Center of Main Street	Federal Aid Urban Project U 222 (10) West Street
Lease of City-Owned Land—Grazing purposes	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Light Opera Company
Airport Parking Area	Snow Clearance at the Airport
Purchase of Burroughs Receipt and Validating Machine—Tax Collector's office	Signal at Pearl Street Railroad Crossing
Airport Lighting Easements	Free Use of City Hall Auditorium—Keene Light Opera Company
Agent for Tax Sale	Distribution of Interest of Certain Trust Funds
Collection of Poll Taxes	Fire Alarm Box for Elliot Community Hospital
1950 Sidewalk Program	Salary Increase City Assessor-Engineer
Relating to Meetings—July and August	
Attorney and Mrs. William T. Sellers	
Roxbury Street Water Main	
Funds for Experimental Sanitary Fill	
Widening of Marlboro Street	
Generator for Emergency Lighting—Airport Cypress Court	
Hours of Voting	
Expenditure for local Civilian Defense Unit	
Use of TRA Funds	
Sewer Service Contracts	
Water Service—Greenwood Avenue Residences in North Swanzy	

ORDINANCES

Assessor of Taxes
Amending Building Ordinance
Traffic Regulations
Salaries of City Officers
Water Rates
Amending Section 2, Chapter 13 of City Ordinances
Extension of Sewer Mains
Stop Signs at Elm and Spruce Streets
Stop Signs Harrison and Church Streets
Parking on Spring Street
City Hall Auditorium
Traffic Signal—Pearl Street

CEMETERY RESOLUTIONS for Trust Funds

\$300.00	Jessie E. Harris
300.00	Alfred S. Henderson
200.00	Mrs. E. Adelia Nash
300.00	Afbeda J. Aldrich
300.00	Jennie A. Tuttle (Flower Fund)
150.00	John H. Smith
150.00	Forest E. Bates
100.00	Christian and Clovis N. Brudsig
300.00	James E. Stewart
200.00	Warren R. Ellis
100.00	Hazel R. Nourse
150.00	LaVera J. Garfield
150.00	Albert E. Fish
300.00	Elbridge H. & Milton H. Taft
150.00	Starkey-Plourde
100.00	Austin A. Ellis
300.00	Rice-Perry
300.00	Edward D. Avery
300.00	Waldo J. Wheeler
150.00	Leon E. Beal
150.00	Pananides

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Laying Out of Barcomb Street
Ordinance Relating to Assessor of Taxes
Change in Zoning—Church Street
Relating to Annual Budget
Discontinuance of Congress Street
Change in Zoning Relating to Trailers
Discontinuance Sunset Terrace from Highland Avenue to Water Street
Laying out Highway known as Cypress Court
Laying out of New Highway south end Kirk Court

SPECIAL MEETING

1950 Annual Budget

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Robert Shaw, Superintendent

The year 1950 has been a very active one for all divisions of the Public Works Department. A balanced schedule of maintenance and construction was planned early in the Spring, which had to be expanded to take care of the unprecedented housing boom, consequently maintenance work had to be reduced to a minimum. Even with this cut in maintenance there remains some unfinished construction work. Nearly half of the sidewalk construction program had to be delayed, until 1951, because of a shortage of cement, and a number of requests for replacement of water services could not be taken care of in 1950. However, sewer and water connections have been made to all new buildings which may be occupied before the opening of the 1951 season.

The highway division carried out the annual tar and asphalt surface treatment program in May. 47,256 gallons of tar were applied to 20.5 miles of streets and 7,600 gallons of asphalt were used to "retread" 2.1 miles of streets with a pea stone and RC-2 asphalt wearing coat. This type of treatment cost about \$1,500 per mile as compared with \$500 for the usual tar treatment, but the asphalt-stone has much longer life. The tar must be retreated every other year while the life of an asphalt treatment is from five to seven years. The department plans to do increasingly more of this type of road treatment.

MAINTENANCE

The 1950 snow season turned out to be about normal. The total snow fall amounted to 55.1 inches which is only 4.4 inches less than the sixty year average of 59.5 inches. Most of the storms of 1949-50 season came in 1950 and were accompanied by considerable rain and sleet which required more sand and salt than in the past. Two-hundred tons of salt and approximately 1,500 tons of sand were used. Some horse drawn sidewalk plows were again used this year, but each passing year makes it more difficult to find horses and teamsters, and in the near future these animals will have to be replaced with motorized equipment.

While this work was held to a minimum, the necessary work to keep our streets up was done. An extensive patch-

SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION IN 1950

			Width
Eastern Ave.	Asphalt	714 feet	4 feet
Marlboro St.	Concrete	464 "	5½ "
Madison St.	"	475 "	4 "
Blake St.	"	1,078 "	4 "
Hyde St.	"	806 "	4 "
Church St.	"	531 "	4 "
Vernon St.	"	350 "	5-5½ "

The cost of a concrete sidewalk 4½ feet wide and 4 inches thick averages about \$2.40 per running foot. The City pays two-thirds of this cost and the remaining third is charged to the adjacent property owner.

STREET CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION

Vernon Street	Reconst.	200 ft. long	24 ft. wide
Lynwood Ave.	New Const.	1,525 "	20 " "
Green Acres Rd.	" "	1,200 "	20 " "
Billings Ave.	" "	267 "	20 " "
Barrett & Marshall Sts.	" "	380 "	20 " "
Bridge Court	Reconst.	440 "	20 " "
Spruce St.	"	1,180 "	22 " "
Charles St.	"	387 "	20 " "
Main Street, resurfacing at the B. & M. R. R. crossing			
Fox Circle	New Const.	870 "	22 " "

All of the above streets were completed with a tar surface treatment, with the exception of the Fox Circle Development, which was left as a graded gravel road.

ing program has been carried on, and the drainage system given the required attention. Brush has been cut on the outside roads, and these roads have been graded and graveled. Three heavy storms, one on August 31, and another September 1, and the near hurricane storm of November 24 caused considerable damage to our streets and roads. The August storm was primarily a wind storm and the damage was to a few shade trees. The September storm was a rain which brought the brooks and river up rapidly, and caused some washouts and damage to shoulders. Three and a half inches of rain fell in 24 hours. The November storm was a small hurricane. Over four inches of rain fell in about six hours, and the wind velocity reached 80 miles per hour. The department was on duty from noon Saturday, November 24 until 10:00 P. M. Sunday, a total of thirty-four hours. Heavy damage was suffered in a few places, but considering the severity of the storm the City escaped fairly well.

Most of the flooding occurred along Beaver Brook. At one time the brook was over every street that it crosses, except Beaver and Marlboro Streets. Spring,

Brook, Water, Church, and Baker Streets were covered to a depth that stopped all but truck traffic. The heaviest damage from washouts occurred on Sullivan and Rule Streets and the Belvedere Road. About half of the winter snow fence which had been erected was blown down. The repair of the damage was a race against the winter, but the work was completed by December 15. The cost of the repairs was \$3,200.00. Very little damage was suffered to our shade trees, and this can be partially attributed to the increased trimming and maintenance work which had been completed during the year.

This year's TRA (Town Road Aid) fund was spent to rebuild the Roxbury South Road. New drainage was installed and the road widened and straightened. The grade was improved, and a 12" gravel base constructed. The surface was given two tar surface treatments.

BEAVER BROOK WALLS: Three sections of the Beaver Brook retaining walls were rebuilt at a cost of \$3,269.00. Sections where the stone walls had collapsed were selected for this work. These sections are located as follows: North of the



Left to right, Front row: J. Paire, Ware, P. Paire, Barcomb, Bruce, Shaw, Amadon, Dodge, Gemmill. Second row: Cotter, Ward, Skeery, Vigneault, Pelletier, Nichols. Third row: Bradbury, Avery, Wilson, Amer, Lovely, Lougee. Fourth row: A. Saari, B. Carey, Warren, C. Carey, J. Saari, Loranger, Russell. Fifth row: Hamelin, Mott, Punt, Spoon, Beaudion, Rondow, Soucise, Wager. Sixth Row: Giard, Caldwell, Dinkel, Newman, Trombley, Seventh Row: R. Driscoll, Bonner, Sherwood, Beliveau.

Church Street Bridge, about 140' long, Upstream from the Spring Street bridge 150' long and above the Beaver Street bridge about the same length. The new stone necessary for this work was salvaged from discarded granite curbing and from an old cellar hole on City owned property at the airport.

The Water and Sewer divisions have been almost entirely concerned with main line extensions and the installation of sewer and water service connections to new homes and industrial buildings.

One hundred and ten water services were installed, for a total of 6,454 feet. One hundred and nine new sewer services were also installed, and one hundred and sixteen old water service pipes, 6,034 feet, were replaced by new copper pipe. The cost to the consumer for water and sewer services was approximately 1/3 of the total.

The City installed during 1950 a total of 12,488 feet of copper pipe.

The increased building and the opening of several new developments necessitated the extension of several water and sewer mains:—

MAIN LINE WATER EXTENSIONS:

	Feet	Inch
Billings Ave.	498	6
Greenwood Ave.	270	6
Billings Ave.	306	6
Green Acres Rd.	973	6
Thompson Rd.	654	6
Lower Marlboro St.	810	6
Fox Circle	1,026	6
Boston Place	54	6
Highland Ave.	156	6
Sunset Terrace	84	6
Kingsbury St.	288	6
Barcomb St.	234	6
Blossom St.	204	6
Greenwood Ave.	276	6
These extensions total		5,832 feet.

MAIN LINE SEWER EXTENSIONS:

	Feet	Inch
Greenwood Ave.	276	8
Lynwood Ave.	159	6
Wagnar St.	232	6
Green Acres Rd.	984	6
Fox Circle	986	6
Park Ave.	300	6
Eastern Ave.	88	6
Barcomb St.	234	6
Greenwood Ave.	248	8
Rule St.	2,067	6

These extensions total (excluding Rule Street) 3,506 feet.

The Rule Street sewer project, which was a very difficult and expensive job, costing over \$1,800 for 2,067 feet of six inch pipe. This job was started May 23 and took six months to complete. It was necessary in some places to excavate the trench to a depth of fifteen feet to obtain sufficient grade. Nearly twelve hundred feet of the total two thousand was through solid ledge, including the fifteen foot depth. The water main was located only six to eight feet from the new sewer and the houses along the job were close to the road so that extreme care had to be used in blasting. Very light charges were used and each blast had to be covered with mats to keep the broken rock from flying and damaging property. These conditions slowed the job to a snail's pace, some days as little as 25 feet of pipe were laid. It was a discouraging job for the men doing it and for those responsible for its completion. However, by "pecking away at it", the job was finally completed, and brought sanitary sewage disposal to a section of the City that has long needed it.

In connection with the construction of new streets several new drains were built. This work was done by the Sewer and Water division. The Spruce Street drainage project which was started in 1949 was completed. Following is a list of the drains installed this year:

Knoll Street	340 ft. of 10" pipe
Green Acres	200 12"
Rule Street	200 12"
Fox Circle	850 12"
Spruce Street	826 24"
Billings Ave	267 12"

The water filters on Beech Hill and the Stone Dam filters in Roxbury were cleaned and recharged with new sand. As in the past the special sand was prepared by a local commercial plant and trucked by our equipment to the filters. It being



The Rule Street sewer project was like this for a distance of 600 feet, requiring a 12-foot depth of blasting into solid ledge.

necessary to maintain three of the four filters in operation, the cleaning and re-sanding operation took four weeks, from September 16 to November 10. 1917 tons of sand were used.

The 12" water main which runs 14,630 ft. from Stone Dam in Roxbury to the corner of Eastern Avenue and Marlboro Street was cleaned. This cleaning is required every four years to maintain the pipe at full capacity. In the past this work has been done by a contractor who furnished the tools and the supervision for a fee of seven cents per foot and the City furnished the labor which brought the total cost of the work to about thirteen cents per foot. This year we purchased the necessary tools for \$489.00 and spent \$816.00 for labor which makes a total of \$1,305.00 or 11.3 cents per foot, nearly two cents per foot less than the contractor's price. We now have the tools and with the experience which we gained from this job we can greatly reduce the cost of future work of this kind.

EQUIPMENT Three new trucks, one 2¾ ton dump truck and two ½ ton pickups have been purchased. Three old trucks, purchased in 1936-1940, were traded in.



Cleaning the main at Marlboro Street just before "the rabbit" came out.



Now the main is clear again and won't need attention for four more years.

The International TD-14 Bulldozer was traded in for a small TD-9 machine which is better suited for our work, in that it is lighter and has flat street pads which do not damage pavements. The exchange was made at a cost of \$1,625.50.

The Nelson Snow loader purchased in 1945 for \$4,821.60 was traded for a New Larger Model which lists for \$7,650, we were allowed \$4,270 which makes a net cost to the City for the new machine of \$3,380.

A Minneapolis-Moline tractor with a front end loader was purchased to load light material and for jobs too small for the shovel. This machine was purchased for \$3,450.

A new sidewalk tractor snow plow unit was purchased at a cost of \$1,661.10.

SUMMARY OF WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

With the new pipeline in operation we are now drawing all of our water from the Babbidge Dam Reservoir and have abandoned the old intake at Quarry Dam, this means that we do not have to maintain a continuous flow in Roaring Brook and can let down just enough water to maintain a working level in Babbidge Reservoir. We have set this level at two feet below the crest of the dam. This procedure allows us to keep more water in storage at Woodward and also to have capacity in Babbidge to collect any run off between the Woodward and Babbidge Ponds.

The sanitary fill experiment authorized by the City Council was successfully carried out. The work was started on Sep-

tember 5 and continued until the fund was exhausted on October 14.

Labor	\$84.54
Rat Extermination	30.06
Our Equipment	272.00
Hired Equipment	2,220.35

\$2,606.95

for 44 days or approximately
\$1,780 per month.

The preliminary work of getting the site ready is included in the above cost, and with a continuing operation we could reduce the expense to about \$1,500 per month.

WATER CONSUMPTION DATA

1949 and 1950

	1949—Gals.	1950—Gals.
Total consumption	667,794,400	654,021,550
Daily average	1,828,703	1,792,770

The drop in the average daily consumption occurred in the period, January to June. After June the average started to rise and continued until the end of the year. The November-December average was in excess of 1,900,000 gallons. The slump in the spring may be accounted for by reduced industrial use, and is not a general trend. We expect the 1951 average to be close to 1,900,000 gallons per day.

COMPARISON OF OLD AND NEW WATER RATES

OLD QUARTERLY RATES (Established 1925)		NEW QUARTERLY RATES (Established May 1950)	
1st 500 cu. ft.	\$1.50	1st 500 cu. ft.	\$2.25
Next 9,000 cu. ft.	.17 Per 100 Cu. Ft.	Next 20,000 cu. ft.	.17 Per 100 Cu. Ft.
Next 9,000 cu. ft.	.12 " " " "	Next 80,000 cu. ft.	.12 " " " "
Next 9,000 cu. ft.	.10 " " " "	All Over 100,500 cu. ft.	.05 " " " "
Next 9,000 cu. ft.	.07 " " " "		
Next 9,000 cu. ft.	.05 " " " "		
All Over 45,500 cu. ft.	.03 " " " "		

TREE SERVICE

Outline of work completed on the trees along the streets and in the cemeteries and parks in the City of Keene in 1950.

Trees were sprayed, planted, pruned, removed and fertilized in different sections of the city.

FIRST CASE OF

DUTCH ELM DISEASE REPORTED

Keene had its first known case of Dutch Elm disease in 1950. This disease is spread by beetles which thrive inside the bark of dying Elm trees. It has slowly spread northward from the southern New England states, where it has caused great damage. If the spread of this disease is to be retarded, every citizen must cooperate to see that any elm wood that is cut is burned or buried promptly. As a preventative measure 1950 City trees were sprayed during the year.

Twenty-seven new City trees were planted in 1950. It is extremely difficult to plant many trees along the City streets. Most of Keene's streets are 40 ft. or less in width and as a result the space between gutter and sidewalk is only a few feet wide. This is too narrow for most trees; their growth it stunted and cars and snow plows damage them. Trees should not be planted directly under power or telephone lines, yet such lines are on almost every street.

If Keene is to retain its reputation for tree-lined streets, private property owners will have to cooperate with the City by planting suitable trees on private property in such locations as will add to the general appearance of the street.

Newly planted trees require frequent watering during the first year after transplanting. This is an easy procedure for the home owner with his garden hose, but a time consuming one for the City with hydrant connections and long hose lines or with the old water wagon.

More pruning is needed throughout the

city and more new trees are needed to replace those removed.

SPRAYING. 135 of the smaller trees were sprayed for scale control. 1,550 trees were sprayed against injury by the elm leaf beetle and other leaf eating insects in the early summer. 375 trees were sprayed in the late summer to control the fall web worm. Only those trees showing evidence of the presence of this insect, were sprayed.

PLANTING. A total of 9 elm trees were planted in the city. On Main, Court and Washington Streets. 17 sugar (rock) maple and 1 white birch were planted along the entrance drive at the Mountain View Development in West Keene.

PRUNING. Dead, dying and dangerous limbs were removed from some of the larger trees. Many of the smaller trees were pruned for better pedestrian and vehicle traffic clearance by removing low hanging branches.

HEDGES. Two hedges, one on Vernon St. and the other on Pearl St., were moved back from the sidewalks to allow for street and sidewalk improvements.

REMOVALS. 43 dead, dying and hazardous trees along the streets were removed. 29 elms, 8 maples and 6 of other species.

FERTILIZED. All of the trees in the Common at Central Square, were fertilized. The only other tree receiving this treatment this year, were the small trees on Main, Washington and Court Streets.

PARKS. Trees in the Hickey-Desilets Park were pruned and some were removed.

CEMETERIES. Woodland Cemetery trees were sprayed for control of leaf eating insects. Five trees were removed.

GENERAL. Scars were treated, girdling roots removed and cables installed where such treatment was indicated.

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT

Elmer S. Britton, Superintendent

Expenditures	\$18,149.56
Receipts	8,818.01
Lots on Perpetual care	915
Lots on Annual Care	264

The work of the Cemetery Department consists of caring for the nine Cemeteries located in several different sections of the city. Woodland Cemetery borders on Beaver Street and the North East Division of Woodland borders on North Lincoln Street. Greenlawn Cemetery has its main entrance at the east end of Greenlawn Street and borders on Page Street. The North or Chase Cemetery is at the junction of Court Street and the East Surry Road. The West or Bradford Street Cemetery borders on Bradford Street. The Ash Swamp Cemetery is in a little corner of the land owned by the Keene Country Club. It is the oldest cemetery in Keene.

The Hurricane Cemetery is just off the Hurricane Road. There can be no more burials there or in the Ash Swamp Cemetery as they are both full and have not

been used for many years. The Cemetery on Washington Street just above Taylor Street is an old one. Some of the men who helped in the building of the city are buried here.

Monadnock View Cemetery is the latest cemetery to be made. It is in West Keene just off Park Avenue. This is a Park type cemetery and not many lots have been sold here as yet.

The Cemetery Department takes care of the lots in the various cemeteries where care is paid. Some of these are paid for with the interest from trust funds set aside for this purpose; the others are paid for on a yearly basis by the owners. A few people care for their own lots and keep them mowed and trimmed. The balance of the lots receive no regular care.

Previous to this year the lots not on care were mowed twice a year with a scythe. This year the city purchased a tractor mower which will do the work of five men. It is hoped with the use of this machine to give more care to these lots which have received so little care in the past.

Brush was cut and burned on the west and north side of the West Cemetery and in the low land between Greenlawn and the North East Division Cemeteries.

About 75 yards of gravel was used to repair cemetery roads washed out by heavy rains during the year. Sixteen walkways were filled and seeded in Woodland Cemetery. In the various cemeteries there were 150 stones straightened.

The Sumner Knight and Family Memorial Chapel was used more in 1950 than in any previous year since it was built. Twelve funerals were conducted there during the year.

There were 121 burials in our cemeteries in 1950. Twelve of these were infants. Thirty-two bodies were brought here from out of town for burial.

Seventeen bodies were stored in the tomb last winter. Ten of these were taken elsewhere for burial.

There were 10 four-grave lots sold during the year and 10 single grave lots. There were 2 two-grave lots sold. One-half a four grave lot was sold in Monadnock View Cemetery.



SUMNER KNIGHT MEMORIAL CHAPEL

CITY ENGINEER

Chester F. Langtry

The functions of this department are, as always, of a great many types, generally as follows:

1. Building Inspection. This is a process that starts when the applicant comes to the office and requests a permit to remodel or to build a new structure. At this time the zone in which the property is located is checked to be sure that there is no conflict. If there is a question of any conflict to the zoning the ordinance is searched as to whether or not the situation is allowable under a nonconforming use or allowable by approval of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. If no conflict exists then the applicant fills out an application. If there is any question in the matter of exits, structural changes, location of the structure on the property, fire hazards, the permit is not issued at this time, but a preliminary spot inspection is made. If the structure has any magnitude the applicant submits plans, if it is of small size a sketch is made in the office. When all conditions have been met, then the permit is issued. Several field inspections are made depending on the size and local conditions. On residential construction, inspection is made (A) after excavation of the cellar to check the size of the footing, (B) during the time when the foundation is completed and before framing commences, to check the sill sizes. This is a simple procedure merely by driving by the property and observing. (C) A check is made by driving by after the structure is framed primarily to be sure that the builder places his rafters not farther apart than 16" on center. (D) The fourth check involves an actual interior inspection before the interior laths and wall board is applied. At this time note is taken on the size and spacing of overlays, the use of double studs around door and window openings, the installation of bridging, proper clearances of chimney and masonry from wood, the installation of flue tiles and on the rough wiring. In many cases this is the final inspection, although in a few instances a return is necessary as it is possible that the wiring or the chimney may not have been installed at the time of the fourth visit.

2. This has been the largest year for new home construction that undoubtedly

the city has ever known. Permits were issued for 98 houses, which brings the construction of houses in the post war period to 329. The total valuation in 1950, and the word valuation is used with considerable reservation, as it is placed on the permit by the applicant and in all cases is extremely low. This valuation is \$2,131,330.00. This figure is probably again the highest in the history of Keene, due primarily to the construction of the Home Office Building on West Street, the new plant of Markem Machine and the Fishman's Block.

Construction of larger projects such as the Home Office Building are considerably more involved than the general run of our work. It might be of interest to note at this time that in this building the structural steel was fastened together with a new type high strength steel bolts instead of the conventional rivet construction. As far as known, this is the first instance in the country where a building has been constructed with these bolts. Considerable tests were made on the action of these bolts by the manufacturer at the fabricating plant in Manchester under the supervision of the architect and contractors of the building.

3. The interpretation and application of the zoning ordinance is always with us. This year due to the fact that rent control was discontinued in this area, several of our citizens deemed it an expedient time to remodel their property so as to get an additional revenue, by renting of apartments which in many cases involved zoning questions. Doubtful cases were referred to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. As in the past all hearings were attended. At the conclusion of the meetings, the subjects were discussed with the engineer before definite action was taken.

4. We have continued our collaboration with the Fire Department during the course of the year. We have visited many fire locations with the Chief and we have called upon him in several instances for advice in the control of construction in such a manner as will meet his conditions. During the course of the year the Fire Alarm Circuit Plan has been revised in keeping with the policy of annual revision.

5. Some time has been spent in the preparation and revision of cemetery plans. Work was also started in the cataloging of the cemetery lots so that they can be coordinated with the plans. This work is partially completed and will be continued in the winter and spring of 1951.

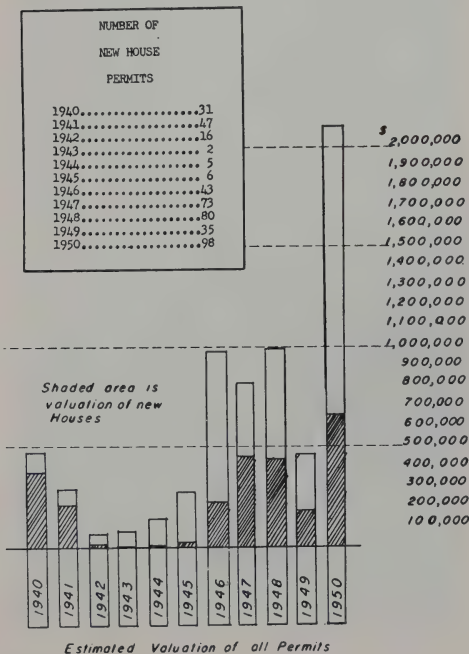
6. This department has worked with other City Departments such as, the Health Officer in inspection of Convalescent Homes. We supplied plans, lines and grades for the Public Works Department in connection with its sewer, water highway and sidewalk work. We have also inspected pole locations for the Public Service Company and for the New England Tel. & Tel. Company. The record of house numbers in book form has been continued and revised to date.

7. Probably the major project for the year was the preparation of Tax Maps. This is a project that was started in May of 1950 and will extend through into April of this year. We had considerable difficulty in finding adequate personnel for the project, although through the use of students and teachers from the Keene Teachers College and the Keene High School we were able to maintain a schedule in advance of the requirements of the

firm employed to do the assessment revaluation whose work was based upon the maps. In periods throughout the year we employed as many as 19 men on this project. The City was divided into 24 sections on a 1" --- 300' scale plans with the originals made on a water proof tracing cloth. These plans show the boundary lines of the various parcels of land, the acreage, the owner's name and the Cheshire County Registry of Deeds book and page number of each parcel. The urban areas of the City was divided into 129 sheets of a 1" --- 50' scale. These original plans were made on either a water proof tracing cloth or on film acetate. All of the plans are 24 x 36 in size and it is so divided that as the urban areas grow additional sheets can be readily prepared. This work was closely associated with the Assessors records and the plans were made from copying portions of existing plans, from enlargements of aerial photographs and from actual field measurements. The future assessing procedure of the City relative to land is based on this map system and each parcel of property in the City will be referred to a plan, block and parcel number. As might be expected we have found parcels of land that have escaped taxation. We have parcels of considerable difference in size than the Assessors records showed, and we have in several instances allowed the owners the opportunity to clear the title to parcels of land. All of the prints involved in this work have been made in the office by our machine. We have printed over a thousand linear feet of plans which was done at a very small cost.

Part of our program in the future will be that of revising these sheets as property is transferred or divided into different shaped parcels. These changes are made by erasures with the use of water so that the surface of the material is not destroyed and will give many years of service. Under the State Law the Registry of Deeds supplies a list of property transfers for the year to the Assessor. It is these changes that will be made on the plans.

8. During the course of the year bounds have been set on several new streets; Fox Circle, Green Acres Road and several others. Work has continued in establishing a system of elevations of benches in the City which are greatly needed for the establishment of sewer and water elevations.



CITY ASSESSOR

Chester F. Langtry

During 1950 the City Council passed a new ordinance which changed the organization of the Board of Assessors from a three man board to that of a single Assessor. This system was put in operation in the early part of May.

The New England Survey Company, Inc. was given a contract for a revaluation of the Real property in the City; the work to be completed by April 1951. At the same time the City Engineer was instructed to prepare tax maps for use in collaboration with the revaluation. At the end of the year both of these projects are progressing satisfactorily.

The work in the department has been of a nominal nature this year with the possible exception of a situation created by the passage in 1949, by the State Legislature, of the so-called Timber Tax Law which necessitates an entirely different method of valuation and assessing from our previous system.

Due to the unfortunate fact that in the past no distinction has been made in valuation of land, buildings, and timber, which is a requirement under the Timber Tax Law, we have been forced throughout the year to consider a large number

of revaluations and to issue a number of abatements. These abatements, incidentally, are not a total loss to the City as a certain amount is reimbursed by the State.

In October, an additional warrant is required under the Timber Tax Law. This increases the work of both the Tax Assessor and Collector.

Under the so-called single Assessor Ordinance there has been a Board of Arbitration, who have fortunately had only one case this year. The Board has been very cooperative whenever called upon, both in discussions and interpretations of matters that arise in our procedure.

The Tax rate for this year was set at \$4.68 per hundred dollars of valuation. This is a jump of a \$1.35 per hundred since 1946, when the rate was \$3.33 and while there were practically no changes in the assessed valuation of 1950. The increase of rate has reached the point where its effects are strongly felt by the taxpayer and this has resulting in a very considerable number of people protesting their tax bills. It is hoped that the revaluation, by putting all of their property on an equitable basis, will ease some of these burdens.

APPRAISED VALUATION FOR THE YEAR 1950

<i>Land and Buildings</i>	\$16,935,732.00
<i>Electric Plants</i>	818,889.00
<i>Portable Mills</i>	3,000.00
<i>Live Stock</i>	65,775.00
<i>Wood and Lumber</i>	10,000.00
<i>Stock-in-Trade</i>	3,592,868.00
<i>Mills and Machinery</i>	2,526,061.00
<i>Gasoline Pumps and Tanks</i>	48,895.00
<i>Total Valuation</i>	<hr/> \$24,001,211.00
<i>Exemption to Soldiers</i>	\$524,595.00
<i>Exemption to Blind</i>	1,000.00
<i>Total Valuation</i>	<hr/> \$23,475,616.00
<i>National Bank Stock Taxes</i>	4,922.60
<i>Total Taxes given to Tax Collector</i>	1,117,813.43
<i>Tax Rate for 1950 \$100 of valuation</i>	4.68
<i>No. of Veterans received Exemptions</i>	562
<i>No. of Veterans received Poll Tax Exemptions</i>	1,933
<i>Increase in Soldiers Exemptions over 1949</i>	45,065.00

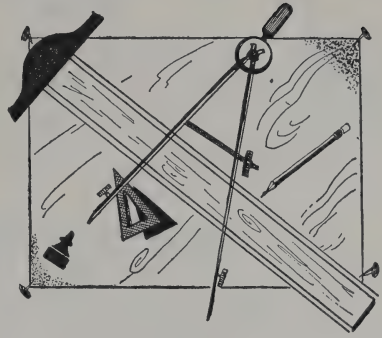
Polls, Valuation and Taxes Assessed from 1874 to 1950 Inclusive

Year	No. Polls	Valuation	Rate of taxation per \$100	Additional in U. S. D. per \$100	Additional in C. S. D. per \$100	Taxes
1874	1919	\$4,298,386.00	\$1.36	\$0.04		\$61,065.27
1875	1789	4,676,117.00	1.12	.28		67,354.78
1876	1813	5,737,350.00	1.00	.25		72,341.30
1877	1842	4,852,664.00	1.08	.30		75,961.25
1878	1815	5,366,918.00	1.10	.30		75,639.77
1879	1717	5,081,876.00	.83	.22		62,521.84
1880	1802	5,757,752.00	1.00	.02		60,758.18
1881	1842	5,671,628.00	1.09	.03		70,601.40
1882	1900	5,849,418.00	1.05	.04		67,430.85
1883	1908	5,936,182.00	1.15	.05		73,909.11
1884	1795	5,922,043.00	1.15	.03		72,281.96
1885	1869	5,849,292.00	1.10	.12		72,910.08
1886	1845	5,938,529.00	1.15	.13		77,764.66
1887	1961	5,959,922.00	1.15			70,894.03
1888	1999	6,089,996.00	1.20	.075	\$0.06	80,105.80
1889	2075	6,096,732.00	1.20	.10	.05	81,688.24
1890	2046	6,117,404.00	1.30	.16	.08	91,870.91
1891	2126	6,051,111.00	1.25	.095	.08	84,153.70
1892	2027	6,156,366.00	1.25	.125	.02	86,895.93
1893	2051	6,259,608.00	1.25	.14	.05	89,400.98
1894	2032	6,280,468.00	1.25	.085	.03	82,235.04
1895	2090	6,223,142.00	1.15	.15	.10	83,393.75
1896	2173	6,293,686.00	1.35	.175	.06	99,341.97
1897	2173	6,266,894.00	1.35	.145	.025	96,434.73
1898	2274	6,283,854.00	1.35	.145		96,699.49
1899	2276	6,285,466.00	1.35	.125	.05	95,775.89
1900	2297	6,305,182.00	1.40	.18		102,363.28
1901	2415	6,392,250.00	1.40	.17		103,314.97
1902	2505	6,537,616.00	1.45	.18	.01	109,777.23
1903	2471	6,604,180.00	1.45	.18		110,731.56
1904	2454	6,949,862.00	1.55			107,722.86
1905	2502	7,020,671.00	1.55			108,820.40
1906	2541	7,166,210.00	1.60			114,659.36
1907	2565	7,209,682.00	1.70			122,564.59
1908	2584	7,317,197.00	1.70			124,392.35
1909	2679	7,390,288.00	2.00			147,805.76
1910	2721	7,691,954.00	1.70			130,763.21
1911	2751	8,028,369.00	1.70			136,482.27
1912	2859	9,160,926.00	1.65			151,155.28
1913	2929	10,106,925.00	1.75			176,871.18
1914	2847	9,965,704.00	1.70	(Poll tax \$2.00)		175,014.17
1915	2802	10,017,694.00	1.80	" " "		185,922.49
1916	2776	10,337,630.00	1.90	" " "		201,967.60
1917	2912	11,000,150.00	1.80	" " "		204,417.65
1918	2963	11,286,824.00	2.05	" " "		238,078.33
1919	2772	11,495,050.00	2.40	" " \$3.00		285,633.60
1920	2997	12,262,025.00	2.60	" " 5.00		338,558.88
1921	6313	12,885,876.00	2.55	" " "		363,089.39
1922	6632	16,613,724.00	2.30	" " "		418,467.87
1923	6736	16,024,706.00	2.25	" " "		404,592.74
1924	6457	16,295,074.00	2.22	" " "		404,658.39
1925	6591	17,039,526.00	2.56	soldiers (Poll tax \$3.00)	3.00	464,788.98
1926	6728	18,224,840.00	2.50	" " 2.00		478,125.65
1927	7146	18,988,300.00	2.45	" " "		488,347.23
1928	7260	20,517,222.00	2.35	" " "		504,945.87
1929	7308	21,919,020.00	2.40	" " "		548,948.38
1930	7500	22,658,354.00	2.42	" " "		569,380.52
1931	7512	21,043,959.00	2.52	" " "		551,324.59
1932	7513	20,532,060.00	2.54	" " "		542,525.79
1933	7393	17,601,281.00	2.76	" " "		506,495.69
1934	7405	17,716,316.00	2.66	" " "		491,153.50
1935	7635	17,860,504.00	2.83	" " "		525,809.14
1936	7655	17,914,218.00	3.07	" " "		570,331.56
1937	7702	18,064,623.00	2.99	" " "		540,643.38
1938	7638	18,242,288.00	2.89	" " "		527,204.54
1939	7598	18,204,465.00	2.77	" " "		504,266.23
1940	7760	18,246,134.00	2.72	" " "		496,294.94
1941	8013	18,781,904.00	2.59	" " "		486,453.96
1942	7866	19,418,312.00	2.52	" " "		510,050.29
1943	7826	19,553,557.00	2.56	" " "		520,923.05
1944	7188	19,762,833.00	2.64	" " 5.00		564,199.19
1945	7275	19,781,085.00	2.94	" " "		623,674.39
1946	7400	21,175,590.00	3.33	" " 2.00		726,722.78
1947	7536	22,704,532.00	3.50	" " "		805,961.94
1948	7250	22,826,782.00	4.25	" " "		989,592.51
1949	7240	23,437,539.00	4.32	" " "		1,031,950.95
1950	7116	23,475,616.00	4.68	" " "		1,117,813.43

CITY PLANNING BOARD

The City Planning Board held ten meetings at which a variety of subjects were considered such as follows: The matter of off street parking, swimming pools, ice skating, West Street widening, underground utilities, extension of zoning, the extension of George Street, changes in the building ordinances, the approval of land in the West, Arch, Blossom Street area, changes in the routing of traffic, the acquisition of land for playgrounds, and the preparation of a Master Plan.

During the course of the year the following street layouts were approved: Green Acres Road, Fox Circle, Evergreen Avenue, and the northwest portion of Blossom, West, Arch Street area. Considerable discussion has been held in regard to a membership with other planning boards throughout the State, where joint meetings could be held and mutual prob-



lems discussed. It was recommended that certain land on the west side of Carpenter Street be acquired for a playground. This matter with an estimate was referred to the City Council. A report was submitted to the Council recommending one way traffic on Railroad, Wells, Church, Federal and Winter Street.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Chairman Philip H. Faulkner, Theodore H. Bergeron, Robert F. Babcock, re. Clifford E. Emery, resigned, J. Earl Davis, Don W. Cook, Clerk.

The Board of Adjustment, passing on construction and reconstruction problems of doubt, has had one of its busiest years in one of Keene's banner years of commercial and private construction.

Thirteen petitions presented and passed on at nine meetings, resulted in the granting of eight and the rejection of five requests. One petition rejected, that of Mary and John Tasoulas at the corner of Dover and Roxbury Sts., is now going before the Superior Court of New Hampshire in objection to the Board of Adjustment decision.

The petitions are as follows:

I Joseph E. LaFargue, 57 Congress St., remodeling of single house into three apartments. *Granted.*

II Robert V. Rice, 113 Cross St., the erection of a five car garage. *Refused.*

III Catherine F. and Napoleon G. Bergeron, the making of a two apartment house out of a single. *Granted.*

IV Agnes E. Robuck, 49 Roxbury St., the renting of a garage for the purpose of carrying on a commercial repair garage. *Refused.*

V Miniature Bearings Inc., Carpenter St. The addition of an addition to the present factory. *Granted.*

VI H. L. Holden Co. Inc. Addition on to present plant at 660 Main St. *Granted.*

VII James T. and Stella A. Wyman. Addition to present garage at 199 Marlboro St. *Refused.*

VIII Hanaford Marshall, the conducting of filling station and repair garage at 433 West St. *Granted.*

IX Harry Wilson, the erection of an apartment in a single house at 166 S. Lincoln St. *Granted.*

X Frank Avery, the erection of an apartment in a single house at 248 Washington St. *Granted.*

XI C. B. Neilson, the conversion of a garage into a house on Monadnock St. *Refused.*

XII Lynn Tire Co. Inc. (G. B. Holt, V. P.) The erection of an addition to present garage at 415 Marlboro St. *Granted.*

XIII John and Mary Tasoulas, the conversion of a two family house at the corner of Dover and Roxbury Sts. into a four family house. (Now before Superior Court). *Refused.*

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Walter R. Messer, Chief

Permanent Personnel	11
Expenditures	\$47,729.48
Fire Loss	\$29,028.00
Total alarms	314
Still alarms	302
False alarms	2
Box alarms	11

During the year 1950 there was a slight increase in the number of alarms compared to 1949. A total of 314 alarms were answered in 1950 while 281 alarms were answered during the previous year. Three people died during the year in Keene from the effect of fire. Mr. Wilbur Mayo was suffocated and burned at a cottage on upper Gilsum Street. Mrs. Oleson and Mrs. Bennett also died from the effects of burns resulting from a gas explosion in a tourist cabin in Keene.

The permanent men in the department started testing hydrants early in February with the aid of the power wagon which is equipped with radio. This service was carried on for about two months. During this period these men were called back to the station 5 times to cover for a still alarm. It took up to four minutes for the men to get back to the station. This service was called off the last of March.

The inspections of the business places in the fire district were carried out and very good conditions were found in practically all locations. The checking of locations and installation of containers for flammable fluids also installations of oil burners for safety conditions was carried out. There were 180 oil permits issued in 1950. Several classes from the different schools in the city visited the fire station and received instruction in fire prevention and protection by the chief and firemen. The equipment was taken to different schools for demonstrations of fighting special types of fires with special equipment. The 2½" fire hose was tested and 500' was taken out of service. On two different occasions we pumped water out

of cellars where we felt there was a distinct emergency. The parking meters were reconditioned with new parts supplied by the meter Company.

Several training meetings were held for the whole department for explanation and use of a smoke ejector and portable foam equipment and fire inspection day activities. Ten men attended the training sessions at Concord, N. H. sponsored by the N. H. Fire Chiefs Club. All of the schools in the city were visited during Fire Prevention week and fire drills were held for the benefit of the chief and fire prevention committee.

The Fire Mutual Aid System was put in operation March 15, 1950 throughout the Connecticut valley and we were called for assistance once for a fire at the Winchester Tannery.

New equipment put in service this year includes the radio in the power-wagon; a 1950 two-door chevrolet chiefs car; a device for hoisting hose in the hose tower; 1,000' of new underwriters grade of Fabric fire hose; and ten uniforms purchased for the call men. The civil defense trailer was painted and lettered. A new 80 gal. electric hot water heater was installed. All of the metal ceilings were painted by a local contractor. The permanent men washed all of the walls in the station and painted the steam and water pipes and all the main cement floors.

The fire alarm system received a few changes and also minor trouble developed during the year. Boxes No. 142 and No. 25 were replaced during the year. The lines were relocated on Vernon St., all the fire alarm boxes and pole markers were painted. Brush was cleared from the fire alarm wires over the whole system, also the different bells in the station were re-wired to have them all on different circuits. An air raid signal box was built into the system. Falling trees and limbs broke the system on two occasions.

FIRE LOSS STATISTICS, 1950

	Buildings	Contents	Totals
Value where fire occurred	\$187,750.00	\$60,550.00	\$248,300.00
Insurance on where fire occurred	129,250.00	48,650.00	177,900.00
Loss where fire occurred	26,270.33	2,757.17	29,027.50
Insurance paid where fire occurred	23,770.33	2,741.34	26,511.67

A survey by the N. H. Board of Underwriters was taken with the assistance of the several departments related to the work.

The civil defense organization was re-activated and the fire department was given its part to carry out. The chief was appointed chairman of the fire section, Capt. Britton vice-chairman, Capt Guyette in charge of the auxiliary firemen.

STATUS OF FIRE PROTECTION

The following conclusions refer to a detailed 1950 report on fire protection in the City. The detailed report is on file in the City Manager's Office and is available for inspection. If sufficient interest is shown, it can be duplicated for wider distribution.

"In 1918, a grading of Keene was established for the N. H. Board by the National Board of Underwriters, and comparison to the current survey in each respect proves to be interesting and revealing. The comparisons in brief are as follows:

WATER SUPPLY: Less adequate, but somewhat more reliable than formerly indicated. The net change in this phase is slightly negative.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Vast improvement, primarily due to the acquisition of ladder, and pumping apparatus, also minor and special equipment of many varied types.

FIRE ALARM: No net change, as improvements in box design and condition, Fire Alarm Headquarters, etc. have been offset by the even more limited extent of the system in general (due to growth of the city and its population). It is significant that where the city has expanded almost 50% during the interval, no additional circuits and only a handful of boxes have been installed.

BUILDING LAWS: Slight improvement in existing ordinances and their enforcement.

FIRE PREVENTION ORDINANCES: No change.

STRUCTURAL CONDITIONS: No change.

During the 32 year interval just completed, the net overall change in fire protection available to the citizens of Keene has been one of moderate improvement.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF UNDERWRITERS

Report No. 12, November 1950

F. H. KRAUSS, Engineer

CITY SOLICITOR

Kenneth J. Arwe, Solicitor

During the past year the City Solicitor has attended all regular and special meetings of the City Council advising that body on legal matters and drawing ordinances and resolutions on request. The Solicitor, when requested, has conferred with the various standing and special committees of the Council.

Conferences have been held with the City Manager and all department heads upon their request for legal advice or opinion. More particularly, the Solicitor has conferred with and advised the City Manager and the City Clerk on general government affairs and problems, the Engineer on zoning matters, the Assessor and Collector on tax problems, and the Chief of Police and Health Officer on criminal and public health matters respectively. Other department heads have also requested and received advice.

In connection with all of the above matters, various deeds, leases, contracts and complaints have been drawn and letters written. The Solicitor has drawn numerous permits and easements for signal and landing lights, part of the City's airport lighting program, and has, with the City Manager and the Council Committee, conferred with various property owners, explaining the legal problems involved and witnessing the execution of these documents.

Your Solicitor has investigated and reported on all claims against the City. The Tax Collector has been assisted in the collection of stock in trade and poll taxes, and delinquent water bills and assessments have also been collected.

The City is presently engaged in several law suits. Two of these are in the New Hampshire Supreme Court: one, a petition by the City against the Town of Roxbury for an abatement of taxes; the other, a petition by the City against the Trustees of Trust Funds requesting instructions as to whether part of the John Symonds Fund can be used for the purchase of carillon bells. Also pending are the City's petition for an injunction against John E. Tasoulas to terminate a zoning violation and the suit of Carey Chair Manufacturing Company Inc. against the City for an abatement of taxes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thomas J. Qualters, Chief

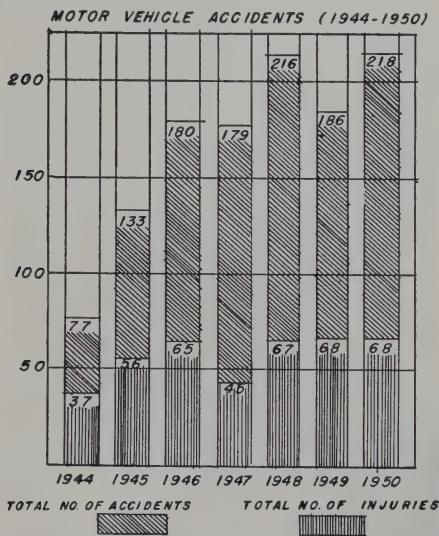
The personnel of the Department consists of the Chief and thirteen officers. During the year 1950, Chief Joseph L. Regan resigned to accept a similar position with the Nashua Police Department. Officer Mervyn W. Frink, a Special Officer, was called to active military duty and his position was filled by Officer Warren Jennison. Officer Carl Decker was appointed to the Department to tag cars for overtime parking in the metered area and to maintain the meters. Clerk Leo Jobin resigned his position to enter the armed forces. Thomas J. Qualters was appointed Chief to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Chief Regan. Sergeant William T. Brigham was promoted from Sergeant to Detective Sergeant in charge of all investigations.

Criminal arrests increased. The number of arrests for 1950 were 760 which is an increase of 128 over 1949. Complaints received for 1950 were 2,386, an increase of 230 over 1949. Again the complaints against juveniles increased to 87 as compared to 49 for the year 1949. Of this number 25 were non-residents of Keene and 47 were in the age bracket of 15-17 years. The total number of juveniles arrested numbered 57 this year as compared with 24 in 1949.

The department through its assigned duties brought the following revenue into the City:—

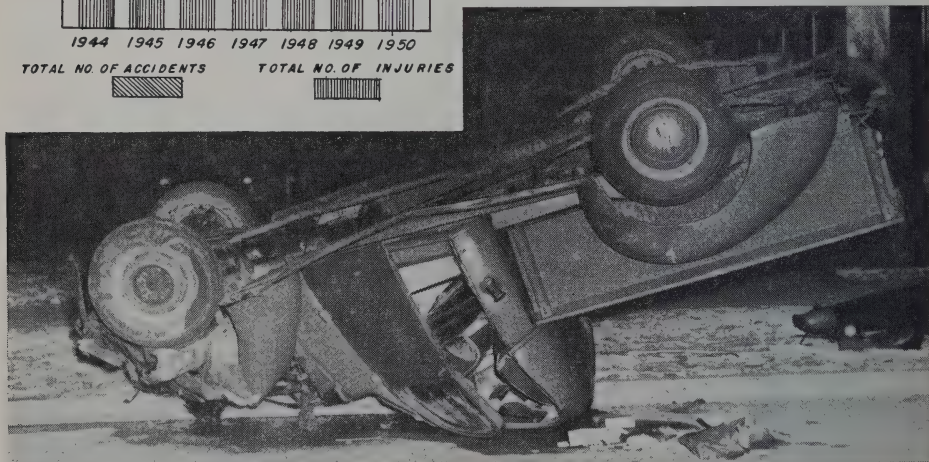
Parking meters	\$24,343.94
Fines and costs of court	5,469.68
Taxis, revolvers, licenses, permits, etc.	3,479.31

Total \$33,292.93



The appropriation for the department for the year 1950 amounted to \$52,415.00.

Traffic accidents reached an all time high in 1950 to 218 as compared to 187 in 1949. Of these accidents our city was charged with two fatalities, one pedestrian and one operator. Sixty-eight persons were injured in these accidents. Main Street and West Street lead the location list with 50 and 25 respectively. Inattention of operator was the cause of 103 accidents and 134 of the total occurred in clear weather. One hundred forty-three of the total number occurred in daylight. Saturday was the predominant



ant day for accidents and the business zone accounted for 55 accidents during the year.

In compliance with the Civil Defense Organization Director the Auxiliary Police was reactivated. This group is presently being trained in all phases of police work as well as disaster procedure.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the coop-

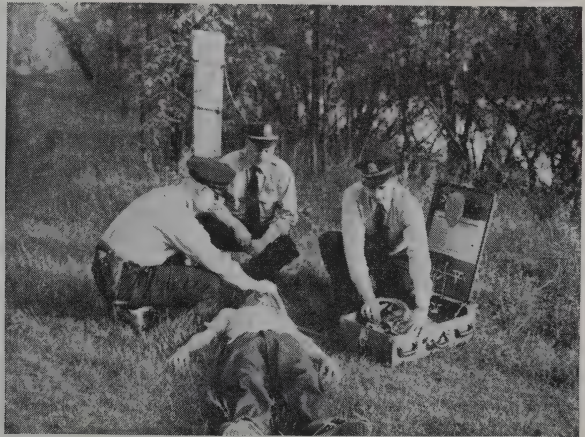
eration of the Mayor, members of the City Council, City Manager, and the various department heads of the City Government. The department wishes to express our appreciation to the County Solicitor, City Solicitor, and to Judge Olson and the associate judges.

Attached hereto is a Summary Comparison of Police Department Activities.

Summary Comparison of Police Department Activities

	1949	1950
Complaints received	1,956	2,386
Stolen property recovered	\$7,844	\$8,411.81
Operators stopped, warned, booked, M. V. Laws	163	103
Operators checked for license, occupants of car, etc.	663	602
Tags issued violation parking laws	5,244	5,634
Repair tags issued—defective equipment	26	32
Accidents investigated:		
Property damage	119	97
Personal injury	68	45
Fatal	0	2
Total accidents investigated	187	134
Accidental deaths investigated	9	4
Prisoners accepted for safekeeping	172	100
Business doors and windows secured	4,168	3,733
Lights left on in business places	1,163	1,370
Street lights reported out	385	153
Vacant residences inspected	695	1,258
Persons accepted for night lodging	352	393

Keene policemen use their resuscitator on a "victim". He was saved.



MUNICIPAL COURT

Arthur Olson, Justice

During 1950, 1,442 cases were handled by the Municipal Court of Keene. Of these, 1,070 were criminal, 72 were juveniles, 73 were civil and 227 were small claim cases.

Of the 1,070 criminal cases handled, 47

were felonies, and 366 were for violations of the motor vehicle laws.

During 1949, 1,224 cases were handled.

The quarters furnishd the Municipal Court are woefully inadequate.

PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

James K. Williams, Director

Total Expenditures	\$19,700
Personnel	
Full Time Personnel	2
Playground Supervisors	9
Program Specialists	4
Waterfront Staff	4
Part Time Personnel	6
Playgrounds	5
*Total Aggregate Attendance	31,500
*This figure represents Total aggregate attendance during hours playgrounds were supervised.	

opportunity for the development and expansion of outdoor recreational areas.

In addition to the activities and programs sponsored by the department, many events and programs were co-sponsored with other agencies and organizations. Such activities included the community Halloween program with the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Catholic War Veterans, the American Art Week Exhibit with the local committee, the summer swim programs with the Girl Scouts, the bicycle safety program with PTA's, the Junior High Football League with the schools, and close cooperation with churches, the YMCA, and the YWCA. Advisory services were also extended to many organizations including the Keene Children's Theatre and the Keene Girl's Drum and Bugle Corp.

RECREATION

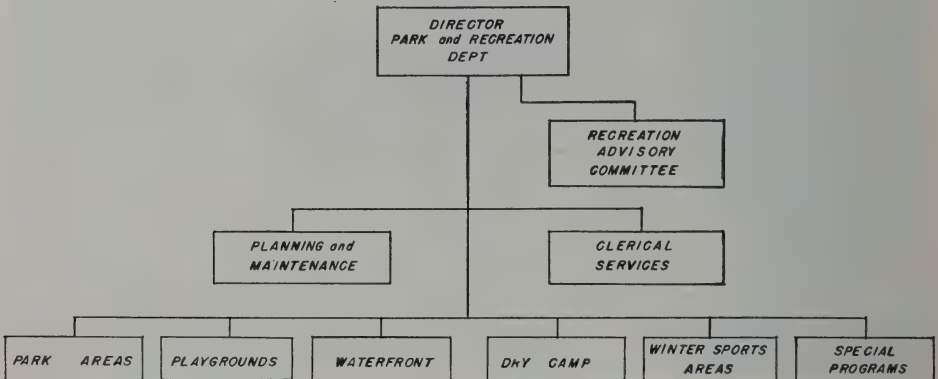
The year 1950 was a year of growth and expansion for community recreation all over the country. In Keene, many social, athletic, and educational programs have been started which will serve as a foundation for expansion. The guiding purpose of the department is to provide adequate and well-balanced recreational programs and opportunities for all the people of Keene. Such planning is actually an investment in the mental and physical health of the community.

Many existing facilities are inadequate, and there is a need for additional facilities for indoor athletic and social programs.

During the later part of the year the Recreation Department and the Park Department were merged in order to coordinate the work of both departments. This new arrangement provides better

Five playgrounds were operated during the year by the department. These areas were at Robin Hood Park, Wheelock Park, Fuller Park, Tilden School, and Cleveland School. In addition to these activities, use was made of Alumni Field and the athletic field at Keene Teachers College. The summer playground staff consisted of nine playground supervisors and four program specialists. A waterfront staff of one director and three instructors were also provided at Spofford Lake for the playground swim program. The City Hall Auditorium, the G. A. R.

ORGANIZATION of KEENE PARK and RECREATION DEPT.



Hall, the High School Auditorium and the swimming pool at Spaulding Gym were used to carry on most of the indoor programs. Many activities are seriously limited by the lack of space.

I PROGRAM REPORT

A Summer Playgrounds

1. *Athletics* — Two baseball leagues totaling 10 teams were organized this year to serve boys from 8 to 15 years of age. About 200 boys participated in the two leagues.

For girls — playground softball and volleyball leagues were organized. About 150 girls participated in the program.

Instruction was also provided on each playground in the basic skills for various athletic activities. The primary emphasis was on developing attitudes of clean sportsmanship and providing opportunities for team play.

2. *Arts and Crafts* — An arts and crafts program was available on each playground. Indian bead work, plaster modeling, leatherwork, painting, and simple crafts proved to be very popular among the younger children. One important purpose of this whole program was to teach craft skills so that the boys and girls

could use their playground experience for hobbies throughout the year. Instruction was provided to meet the needs of different age groups on the playgrounds.

3. *Nature Lore* — Nature Lore was a new program started this year. Nature hikes, bird study and campcraft were the highlights of the program. Weekly field trips to Robin Hood Park were scheduled for each playground. Conservation and a better appreciation of parks and outdoor life was emphasized throughout the entire program.

4. *Swimming* — More than 1,500 different children participated in the swim program. Swim classes were conducted for each playground. Each day, the children from one playground were transported to and from Lake Spofford. The program was somewhat limited by the fact that the children from any one playground had only one opportunity a week to participate.

5. *Special Events* — In addition to the regular playground program, several special events were conducted on a city-wide basis. These included: Annual Track and Field Day (attendance 500), Bicycle Rodeo (attendance 300) Annual Jamboree (attendance 800), Boys trip to

4. *The pond at Robin Hood Park and the skating rink at the Keene Teachers College (below) were maintained for public use. This required flooding the rink and snow removal on both areas.*



Braves-Giant game in Boston—150 boys, Girls Outing at Sunapee Lake—150 girls.

6. *Individual Playground Program* — Each playground provided activities to meet the interests of the children. Passive games, sand-box play, talent shows, costume parades, hot-dog roasts and outings were some of the activities provided. Playgrounds were open under supervision daily from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Each area was supervised by a man and a woman. Certain special activities such as athletic leagues, arts and crafts, nature lore and swimming were scheduled at certain times for each playground, however, free time was allowed for boys and girls who participate in whatever activity they were most interested.

7. *Special Summer Programs* — A block dance in the Square, during the month of August, attracted about 1,200 people. Consideration is being given to plan this program on a weekly basis during the summer months. The City also provided weekly band concerts at Fuller Park for the public. This program attracted large numbers of people of all ages.

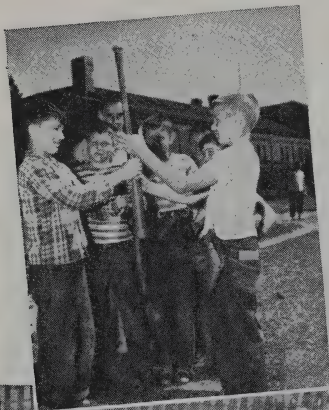
B Year Round and Seasonal Programs

1. *Keene Winter Sports Club* — A Keene Winter Sports Club with senior and junior divisions was organized in October. The senior club was organized as a co-ed club for any one in high school or older. The junior club was organized for junior high school students. The program consisted of social, educational, and some athletic activities. The purpose of these groups were to promote interest in winter sports. It is planned to expand a club program next year.

2. *High School Bowling Association* — A boys' league of six teams and a girls' league of six teams was organized for high school students.

3. *Saturday Community Dances* — A Saturday social program was started for the young people in Keene. The programs included weekly dances and entertainment. The program was organized on a self-supporting basis.

4. *Family Recreation Programs* — The department started a series of family recreation programs. The purpose of these programs is to provide an opportunity for family groups to participate together in



(Left) Boys of the Fuller Park area "toss the bat" as they choose sides.

(Bottom left) "Tiny Tots' Area" at Robin Hood Park attracts all the small fry.

(Below) "Sid" Gordon, Braves outfielder, gives a few pointers to some of the 150 Keene boys who enjoyed an outing to Boston.



community activities. Seven hundred fathers and sons were present at the first Father and Son Night. Six hundred mothers and daughters were present at the first Mother and Daughter Night.

5. *Indoor Swimming Program* — This program is sponsored jointly with the American Red Cross. Adult swim classes take place Friday evening and children's swim classes take place Saturday afternoons at the Keene Teachers College Pool.

C Adult Programs

1. *Golden Age Club* — The Golden Age Club of Keene provided recreational opportunities for elderly people. The club meets each month for a social program. Special interest programs were also provided during the month.

2. *Men's Softball Association* — The department sponsored three men's softball leagues during the summer months with a total of twenty teams.

3. *Men's and Women's Bowling Association* — The association consisted of twenty-six men's teams and fourteen women's teams. The men's league scheduled a thirty week season and the women's league scheduled a twenty week season.

II PARK AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

A Park and Recreational Facilities

1. A Tiny-Tot play area and a children's sled slide were developed at Robin Hood Park.

2. Picnic areas were maintained and firewood furnished for picnic fireplaces. Work was also started at Happy Hollow Picnic Area at Robin Hood Park.

3. The three baseball diamonds at Wheelock Park were maintained for use by playground baseball leagues and the adult softball leagues.

4. Special facilities and equipment for playground programs were provided.

B Maintenance of Areas and Apparatus

1. Routine maintenance work included edging and weeding walks, mowing of 17 acres of grass, pruning shrubs, clearing trails of undergrowth, fertilizing trees and shrubs, removal of rubbish, maintenance of dirt roads and parking areas, and clearing sanitary facilities.

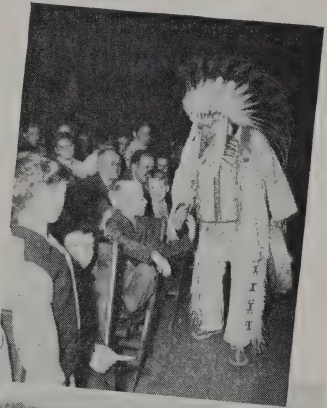
2. Playground apparatus was repaired and maintained.

3. Playground sandboxes were raked, and the tennis courts at Robin Hood Park were rolled every other day.

(Below) The series of 14 Saturday Community Dances at City Hall attracted both teen-agers and adults.

(Bottom right) Keene playground children were transported daily to Lake Spofford, one playground area a day.

(Right) Chief Crazy Bull, grandson of Chief Sitting Bull of the Sioux tribe, entertained at a Family Recreation Night program.



PUBLIC LIBRARY

Charlotte Haskins, Acting Librarian

Personnel	6
Expenditures	\$22,316.68
Revenue	2,516.54
Total Circulation	98,737
Number of Registered Borrowers	7,267
Total Number of Books	38,596
Number added during year	1,342
Number lost and withdrawn	1,093
Circulation per borrower	13.5
Circulation per capita	6.4

For many years public libraries serving large populations have realized that the medium of the printed word alone is an insufficient service to reach satisfactorily the public they serve. Radio, television and motion pictures are more easily accessible and have in a measure supplanted the reading of books. These media have not supplied students in public schools and colleges who must still find supplementary materials in reference and factual books supplied by the public libraries, but the reading of books for pleasure has declined, as commercial communications have increased.

Large libraries now have their own radio programs, motion pictures, music records and television, with emphasis on high quality and educational values. Smaller libraries emulate these large libraries insofar as their funds permit and their staffs are able to administer.

Our library has this year taken a step in this direction by purchasing a music recorder and records for circulation, a service which has met enthusiastic acceptance far beyond our expectation. The initial purchase of 28 records of high quality was a modest beginning. These 28 records in 16 days circulated 79 times. It is desirable to increase our stock of records to meet the response and commendation which proves its worth.

The circulation gains for 1948 and 1949 totaled 21,997, and we regret that we must report a loss of 2,212 in 1950. Of this loss 1,998 was adult and 214 juvenile, and all loss was in fiction. Non fiction shows a slight gain: literature leads with a total of 3,241; next are biography, 2,802; fine arts, 2,750; useful arts, 2,210. Our highest count is in periodicals with a total of 4,696. While recent issues of periodicals circulate extensively, the greatest use is of back issues located by subject in the

"Readers Guide to Periodical Literature" and used by college and high school students for theme and debate material.

Miss Hill circulates books at the Fuller, Roosevelt and Symonds schools, spending one morning each week at each school. The school circulation of 12,426 was a gain of 744 over the preceding year. Mrs. Horton circulates books to patients at the Elliot Community Hospital one morning each week. A monthly deposit of books is sent to the Invalid's Home.

The library was host to librarians of this region at a May meeting, when Miss Catharine Pratt, Assistant State Librarian, conducted a workshop of interest and value.

With the duplicating machine purchased last year, we are able to issue monthly lists of new books attractively illustrated by Mrs. Horton. Special lists which supplement book collections are distributed, also lists of records. Mrs. Richmond and Miss Fox were again responsible for the library exhibit at the County Fair.

Friends have given generously to the library. We have received books, records and flowers. A very fine gift of 42 books from Mr. John W. Hagemann, and a gift of books from Mrs. Robert L. DeLancey have added many desirable titles to our book collection. There have been many worthwhile smaller gifts, and the library gratefully acknowledges all gifts received. It also thanks those who loaned exhibits, the State Library for the loan of many books, and the Keene Evening Sentinel for inclusion of book lists, news and exhibits, and for its favorable publicity of library activities.

There has been one change in our library personnel. Mrs. Elizabeth A. Horton, Wellesley College, 1948 joined the staff in July, replacing Miss Drenan who left to enter Simmons College for the course in library science. Miss Fox has completed her work at Simmons and has received her B. S. degree. Miss Hill who is having summer leaves of absence will continue her studies at Simmons.

The librarian gratefully acknowledges the efficient and enthusiastic work of the library staff, and the helpful guidance of the library trustees.

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Paul Hayward, Overseer of Poor

During the year 1950 this department has taken care of all applications for Direct Aid according to the Welfare Laws of the State of New Hampshire. (Chapter 124 of the Revised Laws of the State 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 or loss of legal settlement have been referred to the agency responsible for their care.

A review of the records for 1950 show that the causes for direct aid are similar to 1949. Although the case load and the number of persons involved is slightly less than in 1949, the cost for 1950 shows an increase of about 4 per cent, owing to the increase of general living conditions.

During the past year an effort has been made to employ as many of the people on welfare by the different city departments as was possible. This practice has worked

out beneficially for the welfare department and should be continued.

	1950	1949
Total number of cases on		
direct aid	117	123
Persons involved	334	360
Present case loan	38	51
Persons involved	80	120
Veteran's Aid	25 cases,	76 persons
Causes for aid:		
Unemployment		60
Illness		28
Cripples		3
Old Age		19
Children		5
Widows		2

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE, which is supervised entirely by the State Welfare Department has shown a slight increase both in number of cases and costs.

	1950	1949
Cases	149	136

DIRECT AID EXPENDITURES

1950	Appropriation for Direct Aid	\$34,260.00
1950	Expenditures Direct Aid	34,100.47*
		<hr/>
		\$159.53
1950	Reimbursements	2,007.91
		<hr/>
	Balance	\$2,167.44
	1949 Total	
	\$27,329.47	
	1950 Total	
	\$34,100.47	

1950 Expenditures Itemized

Rent	\$2,551.90	Medical	\$3,468.73
Food	11,281.99	Burials	627.50
Fuel	1,204.80	Board and Care	11,819.03
Clothing	358.65	Administration	2,787.87

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

1950	Appropriation for Old Age Assistance	\$22,000.00
1950	Expenditures Old Age Assistance	20,854.21*
		<hr/>
		\$1,145.79
1950	Reimbursements	169.73
		<hr/>
1950	Balance	\$1,315.52

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Evan C. White, Health Officer

Personnel		2
Total expenditures	\$5,771.99	
	1950	1949
Sanitary Inspection	796	950
Water samples tested	1,109	1,499
Milk samples tested	518	417
Veneral diseases	124	153
(Cases, contacts, follow-ups)		

Sanitary inspections of all kinds were carried out throughout the year, also the investigation of more than the usual number of unsanitary conditions. Complaints of illegal rubbish dumping have been frequent. More emphasis was placed on the inspection of dairy farms during the year owing to changes in the State Regulations such as requiring construction of milk rooms by all producers of milk. Cooperation on the part of the producers was good.

Several prosecutions for violations of health regulations were necessary and several buildings were condemned for lack of suitable sanitary facilities during the year.

There was less incidence of veneral disease in 1950 than in 1949 and consequently less money spent on its treatment. Keene had no epidemics of contagious diseases during 1950 although there was some prevalence of chicken pox and mumps. There were no cases of poliomyelitis during the year.

The laboratory did a large amount of work in 1950 on milk and water. On June 15th the laboratory tested the 5000th sample, of city water since this work began on November 8th, 1943.

Seven swamp locations were sprayed at the beginning of summer with D. D. T. and H. T. H. to keep down flies, mosquitoes and odors. The temporarily unused city dump was poisoned for rats with what seemed to complete success. This was done to keep them from migrating to nearby houses when their food supply ran out. The city had the advice and help of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Dept. of the Interior on this project.

Sixty-two talks were given on various matters concerning public health to school classes and various organizations.

Your Health Officer is at present serving as Chairman of the Health and Sanitation Committee, Civil Defense of Keene and on the Advisory Committee, Health and Sanitation Section, N. H. Civil Defense. During the year he also attended the annual meeting of the New England section of The American Industrial Hygiene Association at Portsmouth, N. H. and a Sanitation Seminar by the Division of Food and Chemistry, State Department of Health at Concord, N. H.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES REPORTED



	1950	1949
Chicken pox	72	78
Dermatitis	1	0
Diphtheria	0	1
Dog Bite	1	1
German Measles	5	20
Gonorrhoea	13	22
Measles	2	323
Meningococcus meningitis	1	0
Mumps	50	8
Poliomyelitis	0	3
Septic sore throat	1	0
Scarlet Fever	9	6
Syphilis	13	20
Vincent's angina	2	0
Whooping cough	5	42
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	175	524

AIRPORT

Installation of runway markers, beacons, obstruction and hazard lights was completed in 1950. The installation included 100 airport runway lights on each of the two 4,000 foot runways, a rotation beacon on the field, red blinker hazard lights on six surrounding hills, a lighted wind T, two strings of approach obstruction marker lights and an auxiliary power supply.

The 36 inch rotating beacon, mounted on a 51 foot steel tower north of the field, will be visible to pilots flying 50 miles away on a clear night. The beacon beam will clear all the surrounding hills. About 5 miles underground cable was laid by the Electric Service Co. of Auburn, Maine, in order to complete the project. Installation of the Keene Airport lighting system was started in 1949.

AIRPORT STATISTICS

Number of Landings - - -	
Northeast Airlines	904
Wiggins Airlines	673
Other over 10,000 lbs. gross weight	61
Other transient	1,082
Local	1,552

Total	4,272
Northeast Airline Passengers	
Northbound	ON 118
" "	OFF 2,031
Southbound	ON 2,395
" "	OFF 101
Wiggins Airways Passengers	278

Total	4,923
Lbs. Air Mail	
Northeast Airlines	6,716
Wiggins Airways	2,554
Lbs. Air Freight	37,753
Lbs. Air Express	21,281
Gallons gasoline sold	34,664
Quarts oil sold	1,770
Number of flyable days	290



PLUMBING INSPECTION

John H. Simpson, Inspector

I hereby submit my report as Inspector of Plumbing for the year ending December 31, 1950. I have contacted all persons doing plumbing and have found all parties conforming to the rules required. Listed below is a record of work done during the year 1950.

Permits issued	213
Water tests made	98
Nature of Plumbing installed	
Plumbing installed in new buildings	86
Alterations—Additional and new work in old buildings	127
Closets	198
Sinks	147
Bowls	189
Baths	111
Shower baths	21
Wash Trays	16
Washing Machines	24
Urinals	10
Drinking Fountains	14
Plumbers Licenses renewed	21
Plumbers license fees collected	\$10.50
which has been turned over to the tax collector and I have his receipt for same.	

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Walter L. Green, Inspector

	Correct	Adj.	Cond.
Scales	476	82	3
Weights	902		
Personal Slot Scales	15		1
Gasoline Pumps	112	68	6
Grease Dispenser	60		
Liquid Measures	121		
Kerosene Pumps	20	11	
Oil Bottles	229		
Yard Sticks	77		
Bottle Gas Tanks	40		
Wood Carts	23		
R. R. track scales with B. & M. Inspector	1		
Oil Tanks with Stick	33		
Test Cans	3		

PACKAGES REWEIGHED

Reweighed	1,431
Not properly marked	73
Correct	963
Underweight	537
Overweight	15
Warnings given	9

TAX COLLECTION

Elliot A. Wright, Collector

During 1950, the Collector took over in the name of the City, one old house and 6 acres of woodland for non-payment of taxes.

A new tax for the Tax Collector to collect is the Timber Yield Tax. \$502.77 was obtained during 1950 from this item.

The main duties of a Tax Collector, as provided by State law, are to keep suitable records of Poll and Property taxes due, collected and abated and of all property sold for non-payment of taxes. Here in Keene as City Collector he has the added duties of collecting for Water, Cemetery and Public Works bills, as well as issue over 6,500 Motor Vehicle Permits and collect weekly from Parking Meters.

For all this work of collecting over \$1,400,000 a year, two assistants or Deputies are required. One in the office to help collect taxes and keep records and the other on the road to collect delinquent Polls and Personal Property taxes as well as other past due City bills such as Water Assessments, Cemetery and Public Works bills for water and sewerage connections, and to collect money from the parking meters.

Total Property Warrant for 1950 was again over a million dollars being \$1,103,584.10 (including \$4,925.27 National Bank Stock Tax) against \$1,018,197.57 for 1949. 91% of Total Warrant was collected for 1950 the same as in 1949.

Poll Tax Warrant for 1950 was \$14,232

against \$14,480 for 1949. This tax is due from all residents between the ages of 21 and 70, with Veterans of both World Wars exempted.

Auto Permits show an increase of \$9,166.27 over 1949. Total Permits issued, including transfers, was 6,586 against 5,817 for 1949. With many people changing from one old car to another, it takes us a lot of time on transfers looking up and trying to identify many old cars for the small amount of revenue (\$.50 in many cases) we are allowed to charge.

Parking Meters show \$24,343.94 collected for the year, or about the same as in 1949. With a policeman now constantly on Parking Meters, revenue should show a slight increase.

Besides the above the Tax Collector received payments of Water, Cemetery, Public Works jobs and other City Departments amounting to \$216,949.42.

During 1950 a Tax Sale was held on unpaid 1949 property taxes. Unpaid taxes, it will be noted, show an increase each year in number of unpaid items, as per following comparison:

Year	No. Items	Amount Unpaid
1947	40	\$5,235.15
1948	70	\$10,431.43
1949	86	\$9,540.34

At present on the books, the Collector still has outstanding \$2,469.84 in unpaid 1948 property taxes, which will have to be paid by this coming June, otherwise we can take deed to their property.

SUMMARY OF TAX COLLECTIONS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1950

	1950 <i>Levy</i>	1949 <i>Levy</i>	1941-1948 <i>Levies</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Property Taxes*	\$1,004,569.43	\$88,326.59	\$2,102.76	\$1,094,998.78
Poll taxes	12,741.00	1,233.45	154.82	14,129.27
Soldiers Bonus			49.00	49.00
Tax Liens		3,674.73	6,059.23	9,733.96
Interest and Costs	354.30	2,994.29	500.12	3,848.71
	\$1,017,664.73	\$96,229.06	\$8,865.93	\$1,122,759.72

*Includes Nat. Bank Stock Tax.

SUMMARY OF UNCOLLECTED TAXES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1950

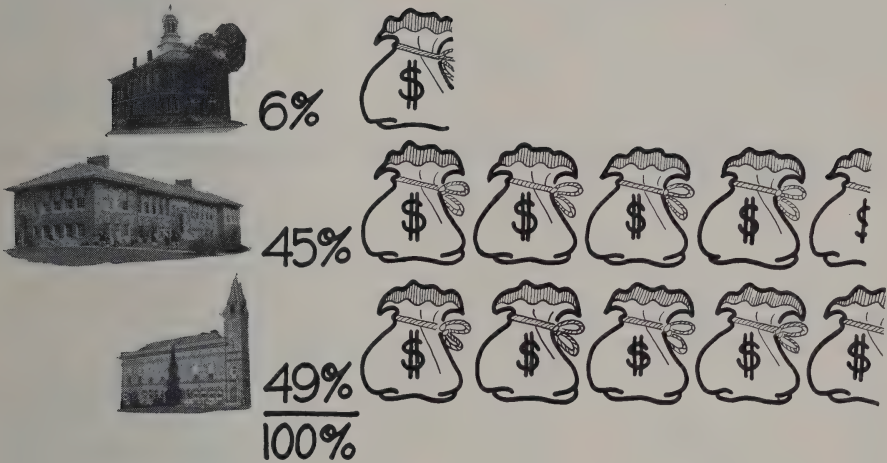
	1950 <i>Levy</i>	1949 <i>Levy</i>	1941-1948 <i>Levies</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Property Taxes	\$93,780.27	\$244.79	\$1.75	\$94,026.81
Poll taxes	1,349.00	191.15	417.92	1,958.07
Soldiers Bonus			184.00	184.00
Tax Liens				
Interest and Costs		5,727.64	2,469.84	8,197.48
	\$95,129.27	\$6,163.58	\$3,073.51	\$104,366.36

FINANCE

In 1950 the People of Keene
paid to the City Tax Collector
in various types of taxes and charges
(but not including water charges)

\$1,271,796.58

This money went to:



For persons particularly interested in the figures for the *property tax* alone, the 1950 property tax warrant is ---

Schools	\$506,975.75
City	507,886.40
County	71,635.16
	\$1,086,497.31
Overlay	12,161.52
	\$1,098,658.83
Polls	14,232.00
National Bank Stock Tax	4,922.60
	\$1,117,813.43

Receipts:

Each \$100.00 of total Revenue† was received from the following sources ---
1949 and 1950 compared:

Source	1950	1949
Property tax	\$87.60	\$85.16
State taxes	3.93	4.07
Motor vehicle taxes	3.85	3.49
Departmental Income	1.42	1.76
Poll tax	1.11	1.23
Other revenue	2.08	4.29
	\$100.00	\$100.00

*Note. *As this year's report goes to press, the city's books are being audited by Leonard D. Riccio, CPA. The report presented here does NOT contain figures audited by Mr. Riccio. Copies of his audit are available for inspection in the City Clerk's Office.*

How Your City Spent its Money

FUNCTION*	1950	1949
General Government (Council, Court, Manager, City Clerk, Assessing, Tax Collection, Accounting, etc.)	\$12.25	\$12.71
Protection of Persons and Property (Police, Fire, Inspection)	16.55	20.24
Health (Sewerage, Garbage, Health Department)	10.66	11.35
Highways and Bridges	21.77	18.99
Libraries	3.33	3.63
Public Welfare	8.19	8.75
Patriotic Purposes	0.20	0.24
Recreation	2.95	3.62
Public Service Enterprises (Cemetery and Airport)	3.35	3.98
Unclassified	0.66	0.70
Capital Outlay	17.89	13.02
Indebtedness	2.20	2.77
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$100.00	\$100.00

This classification follows the 1950 State Tax Commission report form --- not including the water utility.

Bonded Indebtedness

SCHEDULE OF BONDS OUTSTANDING

Purpose & Rate	Year Issued	Term (Years)	Orig. Amt.	Outstanding 12/31/50
Water (4 $\frac{1}{4}$ %)	1931	24	\$50,000	\$2,500
Water (4%)	1934	18	22,000	2,000
Sewer (4%)	1934	20	140,000	28,000
Airport (1 $\frac{1}{4}$ %)	1942	15	75,000	27,000
				<hr/>
				\$59,500

ANNUAL MATURITIES

SEWER AND AIRPORT BONDS

	Principal	Interest	Total
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
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$55,000	\$3,009	\$58,009

WATER BONDS

1951	\$3,500	\$113	\$3,613
1952	1,000	20	1,020
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$4,500	\$113	\$4,633

Independent Water Utility

COMPARATIVE WATER UTILITY FUND BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

<i>Current Assets</i>	<i>December 31, 1949</i>	<i>December 31, 1950</i>
Cash in Bank	\$2,617.52	\$8,481.05
Accounts Receivable	12,762.22	22,869.18
Inventories	23,476.32	36,411.24
	-----	-----
	\$38,856.06	\$67,761.47
<i>Fixed Assets</i>		
Structures and Improvements	\$588,804.85	\$588,804.85
Equipment	3,739.67	3,739.67
Land	77,800.00	77,800.00
	-----	-----
	670,344.52	670,344.52
	-----	-----
TOTAL ASSETS	\$709,200.58	\$738,105.49

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable		
General Fund	\$25,538.59	\$49,819.74
Municipal Investment	708,538.30	708,538.30
Deficit	24,876.31	20,252.05
	-----	-----
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$709,200.58	\$738,105.99

Comparative Statement— Water Utility Fund Expenditures

	<i>1949</i>	<i>1950</i>
Water Shed and Taxes	\$4,965.60	\$3,987.27
Mains	5,239.73	6,035.42
Filters	4,810.06	5,208.44
Hydrants	3,229.56	3,248.44
Meters	9,040.32	7,239.14
Services	11,467.06	17,081.75
Pumping Station	1,615.07	815.51
Billing and Administration	10,382.00	10,734.39
	-----	-----
Total current expenditures	\$50,749.40	\$54,350.36
	-----	-----
Capital Improvements	28,362.47	35,073.65
	-----	-----
Total expenditures	\$79,111.87	\$89,424.01

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

ASSETS

Cash:	<i>Dec. 31, 1950</i>	<i>Dec. 31, 1949</i>	<i>Dec. 31, 1948</i>
Treasury Cash	\$173,777.88	\$171,494.58	\$137,005.37
Petty Cash	470.00	460.00	435.00
 Uncollected Taxes:			
Poll Taxes	1,958.07	2,282.94	2,330.79
Property Taxes—Delinquent	94,474.27	91,294.11	69,730.21
Tax Titles Unredeemed	8,188.62	8,609.16	3,375.95
Special Poll Taxes 1944-45	184.00	303.00	409.30
 Accounts Receivable:			
Department Accounts	7,140.23	3,858.61	5,198.40
Other	4,497.02	3,306.55	437.38
 Inventories:			
Materials and Supplies	13,649.42	14,762.68	37,965.15
 Due from Other Funds:			
Water Utilities	49,819.74	25,538.59	11,484.04
Sumner Knight Chapel	38.00	59.94	234.82
Bond Fund			35,598.76
	\$354,197.25	\$321,970.16	\$304,205.37

LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND SURPLUS

 Accounts Payable:			
Withholding Taxes	\$1,540.78	\$1,240.38	\$1,142.80
Retirement Assessments	768.30	700.87	554.66
State of N. H. Spec. Poll Tax	258.00	303.00	409.30
Monadnock View Cemetery Fund	180.00	180.00	180.00
Union School District	171,975.75	207,889.74	194,840.33
Dog Tax (To Schools)			2,530.25
 Unexpended Balances:			
Capital	36,496.95	35,030.98	37,366.07
Trust Fund Income	3.46	6.42	9.42
 Reserves:			
Municipal Car			771.36
Cancelled Bonds and Checks	1,490.12	1,490.12	1,490.12
Parking Meter Fund	37,006.65	19,187.65	14,945.87
Equipment	27,925.90	11,509.31	
Due Bond Fund	416.25	385.90	
Yield Tax	356.15		
 Surplus			
Surplus arising from inventories	13,649.42	14,762.68	37,965.15
Surplus other	62,129.52	29,273.08	12,000.04
	\$354,197.25	\$321,970.16	\$304,205.37
 <i>Revenue</i>			

STATEMENT OF REVENUE*

ESTIMATES AND RECEIPTS GENERAL FUND 1950 BUDGET

REVENUE ITEM	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL
LOCAL TAXES		
Poll Tax	\$14,000	\$14,129.27
Property Tax	513,176	521,196.96
National Bank Stock Tax	4,800	4,924.87
	----- \$531,976	----- \$540,251.10
STATE COLLECTED TAXES		
Int. and Dividends	37,500	\$41,733.49
Savings Bank Tax	4,500	4,476.56
Railroad Tax	3,500	3,751.34
	----- 45,500	----- 49,961.39
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE		
Interest on Taxes	3,000	3,848.71
Motor Vehicle Tax	42,000	49,703.11
Municipal Court Fines	5,000	5,330.92
Sales and Rents of Property	800	930.60
Licenses and Permits	1,800	2,336.00
City Clerks Fees	1,700	2,008.76
Dog Tax	2,500	3,058.75
Parking Meters	10,000	2,360.57
Other Income		602.98
	----- 66,800	----- 70,180.40
DEPARTMENTAL INCOME		
Public Works Department	2,000	5,600.51
Airport	2,500	1,687.45
Library	1,000	2,176.60
Cemeteries	9,000	9,294.81
Police	600	313.53
Fire	400	310.00
Park		374.65
Recreation		25.41
	----- 15,500	----- 19,782.96
COMPLETE TOTAL	\$659,776	\$680,175.85
DIFFERENCE	\$20,399.85	

*This is a statement of cash receipts, not accrued revenue.

Comparative Statement—Operating Expenditures

	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>		
	1950	1950	1949	1948
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
General Government	\$38,600.00	\$34,377.57	\$24,567.43	\$21,458.19
City Clerk	4,320.00	4,185.27	3,709.32	3,479.73
Elections	4,300.00	3,796.71	1,908.35	4,200.04
Municipal Court	5,500.00	5,466.50	5,287.20	5,082.64
Planning Board	2,600.00	1,674.41	886.10	442.59
Municipal Bldg.	11,600.00	10,293.75	10,945.47	11,729.79
Accounting	6,306.00	5,913.18	5,966.66	7,785.32
Assessors	9,330.00	5,998.31	6,313.16	6,004.52
Collector	9,440.00	9,320.44	9,149.66	8,546.02
PUBLIC PROTECTION				
Police Department	52,415.00	49,796.34	50,846.04	48,277.23
Fire Department	48,480.00	47,729.48	46,820.24	44,458.49
Inspection Services	11,800.00	11,790.10	11,672.79	10,814.79
PUBLIC WORKS				
Administration§	27,823.15	25,175.23	20,057.09	34,003.21
Highway	86,450.00	93,938.29	82,694.85	86,354.38
Incineration	10,192.71	8,034.86	5,959.96	
Sewerage	20,850.00	24,868.73	17,952.40	14,319.14
Equipment*				30,039.97
Water Utility‡				36,984.53
Municipal Airport	5,100.00	3,945.31	3,961.93	3,635.86
HEALTH AND WELFARE				
Health Department	6,285.00	5,771.99	5,523.08	5,219.32
Elliot Community Hospital	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	6,000.00
Visiting Nurses	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Garbage Collection	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Welfare Department	34,260.00	33,531.85	27,329.47	21,096.82
Old Age Assistance	22,000.00	20,684.48	20,064.94	19,066.24
PUBLIC SERVICES				
Library	21,660.00	22,008.10	19,589.00	22,215.79
Recreation	14,240.00	14,012.86	14,636.35	14,213.69
Parks	5,550.00	5,557.78	4,912.81	3,486.76
Cemeteries	17,300.00	18,290.20	17,594.45	24,054.91
Street Lighting	26,000.00	24,909.76	24,580.56	22,891.93
UNCLASSIFIED ITEMS				
Patriotic Purposes	1,410.00	1,341.80	1,300.00	1,872.50
Unclassified Items	4,950.00	4,385.40	3,772.11	8,741.89
	\$540,761.86	\$528,798.90	\$480,001.42	\$543,476.31

* In 1949 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.

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

§The Public Works General Fund Administration account includes expensess of administering the Water Utility Fund as follows: 1948—not separated, 1949—\$5,120.00, 1950—\$6,633.15. These amounts were transferred from the Water Fund to the General Fund as additions to Budget Appropriations.

Comparative Statement—Capital Outlay Appropriation Accounts

	<i>Available</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>		
	1950	1950	1949	1948
EQUIPMENT:				
City Hall	\$459.49	\$194.00	\$1,564.14	
Addressograph				\$1,942.20
Collector	937.35	98.40	51.99	1,010.66
Fire Department	4,100.00	907.45	550.00	2,105.00
Public Works Department	18,263.12	18,259.31	2,906.88	53,408.68
Recreation and Parks Dept.	1,214.71			125.80
Cemetery Department	229.84			3,500.16
Police Department	1,675.00	1,356.90	400.00	
CONSTRUCTION:				
Pine Bank Project	2,514.32		2,321.47	6,422.83
Street Improvements	6,280.88	11,950.63	12,066.91	6,618.23
Sidewalks	15,868.65	9,937.36	6,612.54	4,465.65
Beaver Brook	3,382.36	3,268.68	431.45	695.85
Incinerator				150.60
Water Extensions				4,648.76
Sewer and Drains	3,750.00	6,002.48	1,913.39	1,326.24
Police Garage Doors				475.00
Robin Hood Pool	1,662.14	183.86	6.47	2,000.00
Spruce St. Drains	2,132.91	2,676.37	12,867.09	
Sanitary Sewers	21,252.66	30,473.44	6,841.39	
Airport Lights	2,212.80		11,787.20	
Airport Runways	545.95		5,454.05	
Emergency Airport Lights	1,500.00			
Traffic Lights	231.22		2,868.78	
Traffic Contingencies	8,485.25	1,734.64	1,414.75	
Court St. Bridge	15,000.00	8,663.36		
West St. Bridge	20,000.00			
Equalization	11,000.00	11,000.00		
Tax Maps	9,000.00	8,516.52		
Wading Pool	307.29	307.29		
Total	\$152,005.94	\$115,530.69	\$70,462.06	\$88,895.66

CITY GOVERNMENT
of the City of
KEENE, N. H.
1950-1951

MAYOR

Honorable Leroy S. Ford
 Residence 30 School St.
 (Elected at Municipal Election November
 7, 1949 for a Two-Year Term expiring
 December 31, 1951)

CITY COUNCIL

(Five Members Elected at Municipal
 Election November 7, 1949, for a
 Four-Year Term Expiring
 December 31, 1953)

	WARD 1	
Don W. Cook		65 Wilber St.
	WARD 2	
Joseph H. Johnson		243 Gilsum St.
	WARD 3	
Fred D. Laurent		29 Forest St.
	WARD 4	
Clair E. Wyman		15 Nelson St.
	WARD 5	
Joseph A. Barcomb		141 Island St.

(Ten Members Elected at Municipal
 Election November 7, 1949, for a
 Two-Year Term Expiring
 December 31, 1951)

	WARD 1	
Ralph H. Clark		Chapman Road
Gordon S. Proulx		5 Avalon Place
	WARD 2	
Mrs. Bernece W. Colby		23 Douglas St.
J. Earl Davis		Concord Road
	WARD 3	
Burleigh R. Darling		70 Mechanic St.
James M. Erwin		95 Elm St.
	WARD 4	
Ralph W. Wright		43 Birch St.
Richard P. Gilbo		26 Wheelock St.
	WARD 5	
Joseph M. Coppola		27 Hooper St.
Harold B. Nims		38 Richardson Ct.

CLERK

Mrs. Lena F. Warren
 (Elected by City Council for a
 Term of One Year)

POLICE COMMISSIONER

Rupert E. Robinson
 Term Expires January 1952
 Richard L. Holbrook
 Term Expires January 1954
 John P. Wright
 Term Expires January 1956
 John P. Wright, Clerk
 (1 Member Elected at Municipal Election
 for a Six-Year Term)

CHIEF OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

Joseph L. Regan
 Resigned June 1, 1950

ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael T. Griffin
 Appointed by Police Commissioners
 June 1, 1950 to July 31, 1950

CHIEF OF POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thomas J. Qualters
 Appointed by Police Commissioners
 July 31, 1950

CITY OFFICERS

1950

MAYOR Honorable Leroy S. Ford
 Elected at Municipal Election for a
 Two-Year Term

CITY MANAGER Henry F. Goodnow
 Elected March 22, 1948, Indefinite
 Term

CITY CLERK Mrs. Lena F. Warren
 Elected Annually first meeting in Jan-
 uary

COLLECTOR OF TAXES Elliot A. Wright
 Appointed Annually March

CITY SOLICITOR Kenneth J. Arwe
 Elected Annually first meeting in Jan-
 uary

CITY TREASURER Stafford M. Boardman
 Elected Annually first meeting in Jan-
 uary

ASSISTANT CITY TREASURER
 Russell G. Putney
 Elected Annually first meeting in Jan-
 uary

CITY ASSESSOR-ENGINEER-BUILDING
INSPECTOR Chester F. Langtry
 Elected May 4, 1950, Indefinite Term

FIRE CHIEF EMERITUS Eugene B. Riley
 Elected February 7, 1946



CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN 1950

First City Council elected under new charter which provides for a single council. The Board of Aldermen went out of existence at the end of 1949.

Left to Right

Back Row—Don Cook, Gordon Proulx, Earl Davis, James Erwin, Joseph Barcomb, Fred Laurent, Joseph Johnson, Harold Nims, Joseph Coppola.

Front Row: Richard Gilbo, Clair Wymin, Ralph Wright, Mayor Leroy Ford, Burleigh Darling, Bernice Colby, Ralph Clark.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

One member elected Annually in January
by City Council for a 3-Year Term

Frank J. Bennett

Term Expires January 1951

Joseph T. Cristiano

Term Expires January 1952

*Verne C. Swan

Term Expires January 1953

*Resigned May 1, 1950

Board of Assessors Terminated May 4,
1950 by Ordinance Passed by City
Council

ASSESSMENT ARBITRATION BOARD

Under Assessor Ordinance

May 18, 1950

One member elected Annually in January
by City Council for a 5-Year Term

Cleon E. Heald

Term Expires January 1951

Francis H. Ayer

Term Expires January 1952

Ira A. Huntley

Term Expires January 1953

Clare E. Conant

Term Expires January 1954

J. Alfred Dennis

Term Expires January 1955

ZONING-BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Under Zoning Board Ordinance

One member elected Annually in January
by City Council for a 5-Year Term

Theodore H. Bergeron

Term Expires January 1951

Philip H. Faulkner, Chairman

Term Expires January 1952

Don W. Cook, Clerk

Term Expires January 1953

*Clifford E. Emery

Term Expires January 1954

†Robert F. Babcock

Term Expires January 1954

J. Earl Davis

Term Expires January 1955

*Resigned July 13, 1950

†Elected July 13, 1950

PLANNING BOARD

Under Planning Board Ordinance

Members Ex-Officio

Leroy S. Ford Mayor

Chester F. Langtry, Administrative Head
Appointed Annually by Mayor

Ralph H. Clark, Council member elected
Annually by City Council

One Member Appointed by Mayor
Annually—6-Year Term

John R. Holbrook

Term Expires January 1951

Arthur K. Whitcomb

Term Expires January 1952

Ralph W. Newell

Term Expires January 1953

Lloyd W. Hewitt

Term Expires January 1954

L. Roland Taylor

Term Expires January 1955

William H. Shea

Term Expires January 1956

LADIES PARK

1 Councilman and 1 Lady Doner
appointed by Mayor annually

Leroy S. Ford, Mayor, Councilman Clair

E. Wyman, Mrs. Edith K. Watson

SURVEYORS OF WOOD AND LUMBER

Elected Annually by City Councils

James F. Cady, Walter G. Perry, Donald
Davis, Raymond Nye, Samuel V.
Thompson, Walter M. Barnard, Silas
M. Spring, Linn Parker, V. Wayne New-
ell, Russell O'Brien

FENCE VIEWERS

Elected Annually by City Council

Chester F. Langtry Emlen P. Pitfield

KEENE PUBLIC LIBRARY

TRUSTEES

THAYER TRUSTEES

Robert T. Kingsbury

John J. Colony

Lucy J. Dickinson

Elizabeth F. Lacey

Winfield M. Chaplin

John P. Wright

TWO MEMBERS ELECTED ANNUALLY BY
CITY COUNCIL

Philip H. Faulkner, President

Term Expires January 1951

Beatrice W. Clark

Term Expires January 1951

*Julia F. Chapman

Term Expires January 1952

†Edward A. Sillari

Term Expires January 1952

Kate L. Tilden

Term Expires January 1952

Ruth P. Huntress

Term Expires January 1953

J. Alfred Dennis

Term Expires January 1953

*Deceased Feb. 13, 1950

†Elected March 28, 1950

ACTING LIBRARIAN Charlotte Haskins
(Elected by Keene Public Library
Trustees)

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

One member Elected Annually by City
Council, Term 3 Years

John L. Saunders

Term Expires January 1951

Allen L. Martin

Term Expires January 1952

Stafford M. Boardman

Term Expires January 1953

TRUSTEES OF VETERANS SERVICE FUND

Elected by City Councils Jan. 4, 1945

Arthur Olson

Paul E. Whitcomb

Percy A. Hudson

WEIGHERS

Elected Annually by City Council

F. A. Kimball, John J. Falvey, Harold L.
Niles, Clovis L. Dupre, Gordon L. Phil-
lips, Norbert J. Klaiber, Frank H. Arn-
ott, John H. Rule, Richard Rule, Paul
F. Rule, Guy B. Merry, Emile Martin-
eau, Walter M. Barnard, J. Willy De-
Rosier, Horace W. Sawyer, Arnold
O'Brien, Helen P. O'Brien, Walter J.
Hansson.

CITY OFFICERS APPOINTED BY
CITY MANAGER

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS Robert G. Shaw
 HEALTH OFFICER Evan C. White
 SUPERINTENDENT OF CEMETERIES AND
 SEXTON Elmer S. Britton
 OVERSEER OF POOR Paul B. Hayward
 CHIEF ENGINEER FIRE DEPARTMENT Walter R. Messer
 CITY MESSENGER Frank W. Niles
 RECREATION DIRECTOR Charls S. Farrar
 Resigned February 11, 1950
 RECREATION DIRECTOR James K. Williams
 Appointed May 8, 1950
 CITY PHYSICIAN John D. MacAllister
 INSPECTOR OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES
 Walter L. Green
 PLUMBING INSPECTOR John H. Simpson
 ACCOUNTING OFFICER William H. Black
 Resigned September 16, 1950
 ACCOUNTING OFFICER Charles F. Sumner
 Appointed September 18, 1950

SUPERVISOR OF PARKS & MAINTENANCE
 Wright V. Carter
 Combined with Recreation Department
 —Resolution passed Novembr 2, 1950

RECREATION COMMITTEE
 Mrs. Laverne Bushnell, John O. Talbot,
 Joseph T. Cristiano, Leroy S. Ford,
 Mayor, Wellington Clark

BOARD OF HEALTH
 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

 FORMER MAYORS
 of the
 CITY OF KEENE

City Incorporated by Act of Legislature
 Approved July 3, 1873. First organization
 of City Government, May 5, 1874.

*Horatio Colony	1874-75	*Charles G. Shedd	1911-13
*Edward Farrar	1876-77	*Herbert E. Fay	1914-15
*Reuben Stewart	1878-79	Orville E. Cain	1916
*Horatio Kimball	1880	*George H. Eames, Jr.	1917-18
*Ira W. Russell	1881-82	William H. Watson	1919-20
*Horatio Kimball	1883-84	Orville E. Cain	1921-22
*Alfred T. Batchelder	1885-86	Robert T. Kingsbury	1923-25
*Asa Smith	1887-88	Arthur R. Jones	1926-28
*Herbert B. Viall	1889-90	Forrest L. Carey	1929-30
*Horatio Kimball	1891	*John J. Landers	1931
*Frederic A. Faulkner	1892-94	*Nathan C. Sibley	1932-33
*George W. McDuffee	1895-96	*George F. T. Trask	1934-37
*Francis A. Perry	1897	*William J. Callahan	1938
*George H. Eames	1898-99	†Richard L. Holbrook	1938-39
*Austin A. Ellis	1900	Richard L. Holbrook	1940-45
*Francis A. Perry	1901-02	James C. Farmer	1946-47
*James S. Taft	1903-05	Frederick D. Mitchell	1948-49
*Martin V. B. Clark	1906-09	*Deceased	
*John E. Benton	1910	†Appointed July 28, 1938	

WARD OFFICERS

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

MODERATORS

Ward 1	Georgé H. Carron
2	Kenneth P. Colby
3	Clarence B. Ewins
4	Leroy E. Codding
5	Harold T. Packard

CLERKS

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

SUPERVISORS OF CHECK LISTS

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

*Resigned March 2, 1950.

‡Appointed March 16, 1950.

SELECTMEN

Elected at the Municipal Election November 7, 1949, Two-Year Term, 1950-1951

Ward 1	Harley E. Folsom	Gordon L. Phillips	Doris W. Proulx
2	John H. Dennis	William C. Chapman	Guy F. Fairfield
3	George R. Miller	James M. Erwin	Edith L. Gale
4	Erwin S. Wilber	Clarence F. Caldwell	Robert A. Smith
5	Thomas H. Kepple	Henry W. Bent	Warren H. Jennison

BALLOT INSPECTORS

Nominated by Chairman Republican and Democratic Committees

Elected by Councilmen

October 1950 to October 1952

Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3
Ethel M. Little—R	Flora E. Amadon—R	Morgan L. Barrett—R
Hazel I. Mann—R	Verne C. Swan—R	Robert W. Ringland—R
Margaret T. Webster—D	Edward J. O'Leary—D	Esther W. Winn—D
Dorothy K. Applin—D	Alton O. Weagle—D	Alice F. McCushing—D
Ward 4	Ward 5	
Mary E. Wyman—R	Viola L. Adams—R	
Marion D. Wyman—R	Sprague W. Drennan—R	
Mabel Daggett—D	Rose B. Arseneault—D	
Dorothy W. Metivier—D	Margaret C. Howarth—D	

15 APR '54

New Hampshire State Library



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If you want information on—

MAR 27 '59

	Call	At
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	2419-W
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	2419-W
Streets.....	Public Works Department	2419-W
Street Lights.....	Public Service Company	810
Sewers.....	Public Works Department	2419-W
Snow Removal.....	Public Works Department	2419-W
Tax Assessments.....	Assessor	1349
Tax Collections.....	Tax Collector	415-W
Trees.....	Public Works Department	2419-W
Voting.....	City Clerk	50
Water Bills.....	Public Works Department	2419-W
Water Repairs.....	Public Works Department	2419-W
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.