THIRTY-EIGTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Thirty-Eigth Annual Report of the City of Rochester new Hampshire by Various

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VARIOUS

THIRTY-EIGTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER NEW HAMPSHIRE





LOUIS H. McDUFFEE, MAYOR

Thirty-Eighth Annual Report

OF THE

CITY OF ROCHESTER

NEW HAMPSHIRE



For the Year Ending December 31st Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-Nine ROCHESTER PRINTING COMPANY ROCHESTER, N. H.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

By Mayor Louis H. McDuffee

Gentlemen of the City Council:

The year 1929, from the point of view of work accomplished, has been a successful one. The City Government to a man has functioned well, and each man has done all that could be expected of him. The few changes in the personnel is proof that the citizens are satisfied with the results obtained.

As usual, the finances come in for first consideration, and the following report gives an idea of how much money has been handled.

There is one account which has run over its appropriation, and that is the Poor Account. I have checked this account with those of other cities, and find that they have all run over last year.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Road building, like other industries, profits from the long established custom of pausing at the close of the year to take stock of what has been accomplished, and to make plans for the future. Some progress along the line of construction has been made, insofar as two and a quarter miles on the East Side Road have been completed. There were 4,000 cubic yards of gravel and 12,000 tons of crushed stone used on the base course. On the Pickering Road 1,500 yards of gravel have been used this year, and in the Spring, as early as possible, the completion of the same is first on our program. Hancock and Chestnut Streets have been hot topped. Much work has been done on the rural

roads, by hauling gravel, etc. The general routine of work requires much time and expense. There have been 25 miles of bushes cut along the highways. The efforts of the Department this year should be the improvement of Pine, Granite, Glen, Sheridan, Spring, Portland, Heaton, and South Main Streets, and last, but not least, Washington Street.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

I have visited on several occasions the public schools. It seems to me that the discipline in the schools of today is much better than when I attended school. The instruction seems to be under capable and efficient leaders. More renairs on the school buildings have been made than for several years. Our school buildings should be kept in first class condition. The executive management of the school department is very satisfactorily handled. I have examined the records of several of our high school graduates who are attending post-secondary institutions, and I am well satisfied that the instruction given in the high school is above the average. It costs money to run the schools, but it is a wise investment for any city. I am convinced that our next school building program should consist of an eight-room building at Maple Street and a gymnasium on the present high school lot. Both of these projects should be constructed in the near future.

LIBRARY

The library is closely allied to the school. Many books have been added, and new shelves built. In the course of a year, more room will be needed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Our police department has been working very satisfactorily. There have been less police court penalties than for some years past. I am sorry to say that during the year we suffered a real loss in the death of Eugene Luneau. The police auto has been in use for four years, and I think it is time to make a change. I hope this year our men will appear in new uniforms.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

We have been very fortunate in regard to fires the past year. Very few bell alarms have occurred, and what fires we had were promptly taken care of with the least possible loss. The fire station has been entirely renovated, and the men's quarters made comfortable. It is only a matter of a few years before some of the fire fighting apparatus has to be changed.

PARKS

The parks have had very little done to them during the year. The common has been cleaned up and that is about all. During the year 1930 the dump on River Street should be cleaned up, grassed over, and a rail fence erected. This dump, which is visible from the Main Street Bridge, has been an eyesore, and it should be climinated.

WATER WORKS

It is very gratifying to me to say that we have so successfully passed a year, which according to reports from many sections of the country, was one of the worst ever experienced in water works history. Nearby towns exhausted their water supply, wells in the farming districts went dry, and people were obliged to procure water in any place available. In our case, during the month of September, we were on the verge of stopping all unnecessary use of water, owing to the low water level, but through the efficient management of our water system, we were carried through safely. For the benefit of all within our city, I want to say that after fully considering the water situation, there were purchased extra water rights and when these privi-

leges are fully developed. Rochester will have an ample supply of water, both in quality and quantity, to meet all requirements for many years to come.

SURFACE SEWERS

The surface sewers on Heaton and Knight Streets should be relaid, or new sewers put in, as these sewers on both streets have ceased to function for several years.

With a business having a turnover of five hundred thousand dollars a year, or ten thousand dollars a week, employing throughout the year from eighty to one hundred forty people, it is easy to find plenty to do, and even by using the best effort possible, the individual desires of each citizen could not be satisfied. I find that the Mayor's job is not simply signing his name, but it will take all the time he will give to it.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1930 DEBIT

Municipal Bonds, \$42,000 00 Municipal Highway Bonds. 5,000 00 Notes Payable, 20,000 00 Owe on Sundry Accounts, 4,092 37 Accrued Interest, 1,122 08 Checks Out Unpaid. 2,695 09 Amount Due Water Works on Account. 25,881 00

\$100,790 54

CREDIT

Boston & Maine Stock,	\$880	00
Due on Tax Collector's List, 1929,	20,198	57
Due on Sundry Accounts,	2,997	18
Due from State on Account of State High-		
way,	3,198	74