FOURTY-FOUR ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER

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Fourty-four Annual report of the City of Rochester by Various

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VARIOUS

FOURTY-FOUR ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER





HARRY M. MEADER, MAYOR

Forty-fourth Annual Report

OF THE

CITY OF ROCHESTER

NEW HAMPSHIRE



For the Year Ending December 31st Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-five THE RECORD PRESS, INC. ROCHESTER, N. H.

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INAUGURAL ADDRESS

by Mayor Harry H. Meader

Gentlemen of the Council:

In accordance with the provisions of our City charter and the laws of New Hampshire, the citizens of Rochester have delegated to us the power to conduct for them the affairs of this City for the year 1936. We are the servants of ALL the people, chosen by them to carry on and transact the big business of spending nearly a half a million dollars of their money.

Partisan politics must never enter into our policies as we are pledged to serve the best interests of all the

people.

If we carry out this pledge on a conservative business basis, we shall be able to lower the tax rate and accomplish all that is necessary in the way of good government.

This trust should always be sacred with us. We should be ever mindful of its responsibilities and appreciative of the confidence placed in us. We must work together in harmony for the best interests of all the people, conducting the affairs of the city upon sound business principles.

Finance

The financial condition of the city is not serious. We should, however, adopt a pay-as-you-go policy and keep our credit good for any emergency.

The following is a statement of the financial stand-

ing of the City ending December 31, 1935.

Financial Statement

Funded Debt January 1, 1936

School house bonds		\$28,000 00
	notes	
Water construction	notes	59,000 00

Total\$117,000 00

Schools.

Of equal importance to the handling of our finances, is the improvement of the educational facilities of our

City. To my mind, gentlemen, there is no greater obligation than that of the present generation toward the enlightenment of those who are to follow in our footsteps. There is but one way in which to meet this situation; that is by the far-sighted and constructive improvement of our local school system, not only in the selection of good teachers and improved text books, but also in the improvement of school buildings and their equipment. I would suggest that you consider very carefully the enlargement of our high school to meet the demands of increased enrollment and also a gymnasium that could be used as an assembly hall as well as for basketball.

Roads, Bridges and Drains

Next to our schools the highways take the largest amount of money. With so large an area of our City rural and with nearly 200 miles of highways, makes the task of determining the expenditures in this department more arduous; therefore requiring more careful consideration. Since the only benefit rural taxpayers receive is good roads, it is our duty to do all we possibly can in improving all highways. Our City's highways now compare favorably with those of our neighboring cities. It seems most advisable that the Highway committee should consider the following unfinished roads: Portland street to East Rochester, Salmon Falls road, Pickering road, and Old Dover road—continuation of Charles street, before new projects are started. We are indeed fortunate in having for our Highway Commissioner one whose life's work has been road building; under his skilled management with the assistance of the Highway committee we should be assured that full value is received for all money expended.

Fire Department

The Fire department is one of the most important departments and should receive very careful attention. Upon the efficiency of this department depends the protection of our property and sometimes our lives. Our fire losses have been very small and this speaks for the efficiency of the department. The members of this department, like the Police department, come in direct contact with the people and therefore should be kind

and courteous at all times, because, after all, they are the servants of the people.

Water Department

Good pure water is most essential for the growth and prosperity of any city. We are fortunate, indeed, in having a plentiful supply of very fine water. This department has been handled very satisfactorily under the guidance of our efficient Water Commissioner. I believe that by extending our water and sewer mains, we shall create more taxable property, thereby increasing our valuation.

Police Department

The affairs of the department have been carried on in a very competent and pleasing manner, due to the high character and good judgment of the men in charge, who have merited much favorable comment for the very courteous treatment given to everybody coming in contact with them.

Public Library

The report of the librarian shows, by the increased attendance to the reading room, the large circulation of books and the amount of reference work done by the high school pupils, the growing importance of this institution to our citizens. Many of our high school courses would be difficult to complete without the use of the public library for reference work.

More space is needed to care for and preserve the ever increasing number of books. The splendid work of the library has been due to the close application and conscientious endeavor of our most respected Librarian and her corps of assistants.

Shade Trees, Parks and Commons

Our City has been very fortunate to have had such a public-spirited citizen as Charles A. C. Hanson, who donated the land and made it possible for us to construct a fine park for the amusement of our young people. Our appropriations for this department should be as generous as possible so that all our numerous small parks may have proper care.

There is need of much work to be done in beautifying our common and many of our streets are much in need of shade trees. Due care should be exercised in the preservation of all our shade trees which add materially to the beauty of our city.

I sincerely hope that the committee will hesitate and consider carefully before allowing the destruction

or removal of a single tree.

Conclusion

We have a City of which to be proud because of our high type of citizenship, made up of conservative thinking, common sensed home owners who have demonstrated so many times, when in a crisis their sound reasoning and good judgment, by their perfect cooperation. Let us strive to so conduct the business of the City this year as to meet the approval of all our people and never give cause for them to feel that their confidence has been misplaced. Let us all keep in mind that it is our duty to pass on to the next generation, their rightful heritage, the affairs of our City in as good condition or better than we received it.

Your city and my city:
And O how much it holds—
Your home and my home—
Secure within its fold:
Your heart and my heart
Beat quicker at the sight:
Your hand and my hand
Must strive to keep it right