

Annual Reports



SCUTH WILBRAHAM ACADEMY
NOW KNOWN AS OLD TOWN HALL
BUILT ABOUT 1850

TOWN OF H A M P D E N

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1955

Annual Reports
OF THE
Town Officers
OF THE
Town of Hampden



AND OF THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE
Year Ending December 31, 1955

THE PALMER REGISTER, Inc.

Palmer, Mass.

1956

72

Elected Town Officers --- 1955

Moderator

GEORGE W. INGLE

Clerk and Treasurer

GRACE L. KIBBE

Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare

WILLIAM H. BURNS, 1957, Chairman
CHARLES R. MELVILLE, 1956

LEONARD G. CURTIS, 1958

Clerk to the Selectmen, RUTH W. WOODS

Assessors

RALPH HATCH, Chairman, 1958
PERCY FULLER, 1956 LEONARD G. CURTIS, 1957
Clerk to the Assessors, ALICE FULLER

School Committee

EDWIN N. LOMBARD, 1957, Chairman
ELOISE WALLACE, 1956
LESTER F. PAULY, 1956
ELEANOR MACMULLEN, 1957
JOHN F. WHITNEY, JR., 1958

Trustees for Public Library

ELIZABETH Q. MORGAN, 1956
GERTRUDE LYONS, 1957
ELEANOR B. McCRAY, 1958

Collector of Taxes
DOROTHY S. FLYNN

Constables
ALTON GREGORY
JAMES P. LYONS ARTHUR H. GERRISH

Cemetery Commissioners
HERBERT BURNHAM, 1956
NEIL KIBBE, 1957 HOMER FULLER, 1958

Planning Board
GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT, Chairman, 1959
JOHN R. WALLACE, 1956 DORVAL E. VIGER, 1957
MARION WELLS GERRISH, 1958
WILLIAM P. PATULLO, 1960

Auditor
LESLIE F. WOODS
Tree Warden
AUSTIN K. HARRIS
APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS

Town Bookkeeper
ROLLYN H. HATCH

Forest Fire Warden
WILLIAM ALLEN

Inspector of Animals
PERCY FULLER

Inspector of Slaughtering

GEORGE A. PATRIC

Sealer of Weights and Measures

ERROL M. BEEBE

Moth Superintendent

CHARLES H. LEMON

Superintendent of Streets

ARTHUR H. GERRISH

Recreation Committee

JASON DOUBLEDAY, Chairman, 1956

JAMES INGRAHAM, 1956

JOHN F. WHITNEY, JR., 1957

ATHOS ROSSI, 1958 RALPH MELANDER, 1958

Burial Agent

HOMER FULLER

Burial Agent for Soldiers and Sailors

FRED C. SAMBLE

Agent for Care of Soldiers' and Sailors' Graves

RAYMOND W. DUNLEA

Agent for Veterans' Benefits

THOMAS J. FAULKNER

Measurers of Wood, Bark and Charcoal

HOMER L. HATCH

AUSTIN K. HARRIS

Dentist for Dental Clinic

DR. HAROLD J. BENNETT

Pound Keeper and Field Driver

PERCY FULLER

Fence Viewers

DONALD E. DICKINSON

GEORGE PATRIC, JR. WARREN DICKINSON

Welfare Agent

MARY CANTWELL

Town Counsel

THOMAS F. MORIARTY

Building Commissioner

GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT

Electrical Inspector

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

Plumbing Inspector

WILLIAM P. PATULLO

Board of Appeals

EARLE H. HARRIS, Sr., Chairman, 1958

HOWARD GRAY, 1956 EVERETT S. WOODS, 1957

WILBUR F. BRIEN, 1958 JAMES E. INGRAHAM, 1959

Alternates

JOHN R. SCHMUCK, 1956

H. LAWRENCE FOSTER, 1960

Advisory Committee

DR. HAROLD J. BENNETT, Chairman, 1957

WILLIAM PLATE, 1956 BEN F. LIBBY, 1957

CHARLES A. MAGARIAN, 1958

ERROL M. BEEBE, 1958

School Building Committee

H. LAURENCE FOSTER, Chairman

RUTH PLATE	HELEN B. TOWER
THOMAS DEMETRION	GEORGE W. INGLE
DANIEL M. FLYNN	CHARLES G. HILL
JOHN F. WHITNEY, JR.	EDWIN N. LOMBARD

Voters Liable for Jury Duty for the Year Beginning

August 1, 1955

GEORGE AUDREN	ROYAL JOHNSTON
HARRY LUDWIG	E. NORTON DAVIS
LAURENCE A. TEED	EDWARD PETERSON
WELLS CARVER	LEONARD G. CURTIS
MAURICE FITZGERALD	WILLIAM E. MESSIER
CLIFFORD R. GUNTHER	HERBERT BURNHAM
GEORGE D. FISHER, JR.	RUSSELL STREETER
EDWARD H. DAYTON	ARTHUR CODERRE
	WILBUR BRIEN

Board of Registrars

GRACE L. KIBBE

L. NORRIS FITZGERALD, 1956

EDWIN BRENNAN, 1957

FAYE FLYNN, 1958

Special Police

GEORGE D. FISHER, SR.	AUSTIN K. HARRIS
HAROLD D. JONES	PAUL BOUCHARD
KENNETH L. MOODY	GARFIELD TRACY
WILFRED J. GERARD	KENNETH E. HENNING
CLIFFORD R. GUNTHER	JOHN E. PIXLEY
ARTHUR H. GERRISH	JAMES P. LYONS
ALTON M. GREGORY	CHARLES R. MELVILLE
LEONARD G. CURTIS	

EARLY HAMDEN SCHOOLS

BY CARL C. HOWLETT

With the great interest this year in building a new school in Hampden many have asked how long educational opportunities have been available in our town, when the first school was built and where it was located.

While the first settler arrived in town in 1741 records indicate that no schools had been built in our limits when the Revolutionary War was over in 1781; in fact no school buildings were probably erected until 1791. The sessions were held in rooms in private houses and were often taught by farmers who could hardly read and write.

Moses Stebbins and Enos Stebbins were early schoolmasters. The master had the only arithmetic and the sums were given out to the scholar and written down. He "did" them at his leisure. No slates were used in the early days; ink and paper, coal and board, nail and birch-bark were the mathematical apparatus. The knowledge communicated was very meagre, children rarely attending after 12 years of age.

In the conduct of the business matters of our schools the School District system prevailed. The voters in each district held an annual meeting and elected a Prudential Committee, who had charge of the selection of teachers and all other matters in connection with the carrying out of the work. The bills which they presented, after being approved by the town school committee, were paid by the town. If a new schoolhouse was built in any district, the expense was met by a tax assessed on the residents and property in that particular district.

CENTER SCHOOL

It is not known when the first school was built in the Center but it is assumed that it was about 1791 since that year the mother town of Wilbraham made appropriations to be divided among the districts in proportion to what they paid into the treasury. The appropriations were principally designed for erection of school houses.

The Center School was District No. 4 of the town of Wilbraham. The first building was erected near the street directly opposite from the present residence of Ralph B. Hatch. It was a two story building, painted red, with a belfry. It was probably a little to the right of the road which now leads to the home of Miss Donalda Brack at the top of the hill.

Early teachers in this school were Samuel Beebe, Samuel Henry, Marcus Cady, Betsy Sessions, Sally Silcox and Lydia Amea. Old tax records in the possession of Mr. Homer L. Hatch reveal that in 1827 Abial Morris taught in this district; in 1829 Martha Saxton; in 1835 Caroline Morris; in 1836 Roderick Burt; in 1858 Martha Curtis; and between 1861 and 1864 Lucilla Cady, Miss M. E. Smith, Henrietta N. Day, Miss S. E. Cone and Geo. S. Noyes were teachers.

At the beginning of the Civil War when it had a total of 57 pupils in both rooms it was still the only school in the town of Wilbraham which had two rooms, the rest being only one room.

In 1871 it was felt that a new building was necessary and the town acquired the property at the top of the hill from Sumner Sessions, who then owned the present Robert Sessions Farm. Title to the new schoolgrounds was acquired on Oct. 28, 1871. A new two-room building was then erected, which was opened in 1872. The old building was acquired by Moses Warren, who owned the property now belonging to Ralph B. Hatch and it was moved

across the road to the Warren property and used for a barn for many years. In 1954 it succumbed to the ravages of time.

The building on the hill was used until 1913 when it burned to the ground on January 31st. The writer remembers Miss Ada Congdon, the teacher, calling out "Call the Fire Department." Since it was long before the days of fire protection in Hampden the school soon went up in smoke.

The school year was finished out in the Old Town Hall, the elementary grades having the west room and the primary grades the south room on the first floor.

A new two room building was then erected on the top of the hill, which was ready in the fall of 1913. While it had a central heating system, such conveniences as running water, flush toilets, and electricity were still missing.

This building was used until 1932 when the Town House was given by Miss Elizabeth Sessions. It was then sold at public auction and Miss Sessions was the purchaser. The building was torn down by Richard Joyce and the wood used in the erection of a house by him.

McCRAY CORNER OR OVER-THE-MOUNTAIN OR WEST SIDE SCHOOL

In the early days of the town a one-room school was erected on the lot now owned by Royal Johnston on Somers Road. Col. John McCray operated a tavern in what is now known as the Old Allen House. The Allen House Corner was then called McCray Corner and the school also carried the name. Afterward it was called the Over-The-Mountain School and early in this century it was called the West Side School.

About 1865 the McCray Corner District School re-

sidents decided that they would like a new schoolhouse and therefore, sold the old building to James and Mary Twohig for \$250. They carefully took down a number of fences, and moved the building to its present location on East Longmeadow Road. The house with later additions is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. William R. Palmer. The windows in the front were lowered but those on the west side remain as when the building was originally erected.

After Mr. and Mrs. Twohig removed the old building a new two-story schoolhouse was erected with a piazza across the front. This building was used until April, 1918 when it was destroyed by fire. The present building owned by Mr. and Mrs. Johnston was then erected and was used until Miss Sessions gave the Town House.

An old-time teacher at this school was Jesse Rice of Wilbraham, whose strict discipline many pupils had occasion to remember. The late George West tells us that he remembers that Ellen Chapin, daughter of Sumner Chapin, Miss Firmin and Miss Fay were teachers in his day. In the Civil War days the school was known as District No. 10 of Wilbraham, had 37 pupils, and the teachers were Misses Emma Turner, Esther C. Burleigh and S. E. Cone. In 1878 Mrs. Susan (Beebe) Burleigh was the instructor.

SCANTIC SCHOOL

Little is known of the early history of this school. Old tax records indicate that Justin Goodwill was a teacher at District No. 5 in 1828. In Civil War days the school had 30 scholars and among the teachers at that time were Katie A. Crooks, Miss M. Curtis, and Mrs. L. H. Nichols. All pupils on Firmin Road (now Chapin Road) walked down across the lots to attend this school rather than Center School. After it ceased to be a school it was bought by Walter E. Temple who remodeled it.

HENDRICK SCHOOL OR NEWELL DISTRICT SCHOOL OR GLENDALE ROAD SCHOOL

According to Peck's History of Wilbraham this school was built about 1790. It was called the Hendrick District School after the family by the same name who built one of the first houses in town on property formerly owned by Richard Joyce. Afterwards called the Newell District School after Deacon Alonzo B. Newell, who lived where the Gerrish Family now resides and was a member of the Hampden School Committee for 50 years. This was known as District No. 6 in Civil War days and had 25 scholars. Teachers at that time were Phianda L. Blanchard, A. J. Blanchard, L. C. Newell and Fidelia Beebe. Miss Elizabeth Sessions taught in this school at one time. After it ceased to be a school it passed into the hands of Edward P. Lyons, father of Walter J. Lyons, who made it into a tenement.

THE PORTER CROSS SCHOOL ON WILBRAHAM ROAD NEAR BLISS PEACH FARM

While this school was over the line in what is now Wilbraham, just north of where Holton Pease now lives, it is being mentioned in this article for two reasons. First, it was attended by all the children in the northern end of what is now Hampden, including the Sessions family. Second, Francis C. Sessions in "The Sessions Family In America" gives an excellent account of this school, which is a good example of what a country school was like 150 years ago.

The first schoolhouse at this spot was built about 1790, when most of the first district school buildings in Wilbraham and South Wilbraham were erected. In 1845 a new schoolhouse was built and used until the town was divided in 1878. The district was then divided between the two towns and the house was sold and moved away.

Records indicate that some times this school had as many as 100 scholars ranging in age from 6 to 20 years old.

Heat was derived from an open fireplace, after great sticks of green wood had been cut and brought in from the adjoining woods. Mr. Sessions tells us that his seat was on the lower row, with no desks in front, but covers on the seat which lifted. The pupil's outer garments were placed in the box under the seat during the day and when school was not in session the books were kept in the box.

Each pupil had a writing book which was made by the good mother at home, with a few sheets of ash paper stitched at the back with brown paper covers. The teacher took each writing book after school and set the copy at the head of the page, and the pupils were required to copy as closely as possible on the page.

There were no steel or gold pens, but the flocks of geese in the streets furnished the quills for the pens which the teacher was required to make and mend.

Some times the school house became so cold that the ink would freeze, which was made at home from the extract of maple bark. If this was not available "gall" from the oak trees was used.

The teacher generally came from Yale or some of the New England colleges, received about \$12 to \$16 a month and boarded around.

The "ferule" laid on the desk of the teacher, on one side of the great fireplace, which was the dread of all disobedient boys. The "ruler or ferule", which was about two feet long, two inches wide and one inch thick, was well laid upon the open hand which smarted for some time. In summer sessions the good old fireplace was filled with pine boughs for decoration and the dry boughs were also used for punishment.

When a pupil entered the room the boy took off his cap and made a bow to the teacher and the girl her courtesy, and so on leaving the school room.

When Rev. Rufus P. Stebbins, D.D., president of the American Unitarian Association was teaching in this school in 1828 he tells us that pitch from the pine boards of the ceiling often dropped into his (the master's) hair. At that time a dilapidated door was used for a blackboard. On a cold day the boys were sent out to run to keep themselves warm and the girls went to the fire by classes to keep from freezing. One time a nest of squirrels was found in the wall, which had gone into winter quarters.

Under such conditions our fathers attended school 125 years ago.

REV. MOSES WARREN

Rev. Moses Warren, Hampden's first minister, was one of the first grammar school teachers in town. During his full 40 years pastorate (1789-1829) he lived in the house on Main Street now owned by Mrs. Ernest Howlett. Hardly a day elapsed in that long period but some young man in town could be seen seated with the pastor before the open fireplace in the West Parlor either studying grammar or being tutored for college. (The room remains much as it was 150 years ago with the entire fireplace side paneled and the good pastor would probably recognize his red blanket chest and cheese press if he should enter it today.)

The law required that Grammar be taught in each town. When the state found out that it was not being taught in South Wilbraham the town was indicted. Robert Sessions of Wilbraham Road defended the town in the action and hired Mr. Warren to teach a school of this type for all in town. At times he kept a school for the

young men and women of the parish who could not obtain from the common schools the drills and discipline required.

Some 15 or 16 young men were fitted by him for admission to college and were graduated at different institutions in the country. Among his students were Hon. Oliver Bliss Morris, Judge of Probate for Hampden County for many years; Rev. Enoch Burt, a missionary in the West; Rev. Noah Saxton, editor of the "New York Evangelist"; Rev. Warren Isham, a clergyman in the West; Rev. Horace Sessions, who went to Liberia with a company of colored people; Rev. Samuel Bascom, a clergyman in Vermont; William S. Burt, a celebrated headmaster; Stewart Beebe, a Connecticut attorney; Walter Beebe, who graduated from Williams College in 1810; Robert Aussell who graduated from Williams College in 1811; as well as Mr. Warren's own two sons, Rev. John Bliss Warren, a clergyman in the South and Moses Warren, Jr., who graduated from Williams College in 1812.

REV. ALVIN BENNETT

Rev. Alvin Bennett, an ancestor of Dr. Harold J. Bennett was also an early teacher in town. He not only had private pupils but conducted public classes. He was pastor of the Colton Hollow Baptist Church on the North Monson Road from 1810 to 1836.

SOUTH WILBRAHAM ACADEMY OR HIGH SCHOOL

With the death of Rev. Moses Warren in 1829 and the removal of Rev. Alvin Bennett from town it was impossible for several years to secure a high school education in our village. Therefore, when Rev. Hubbard Beebe arrived in 1848 to become pastor of the Congregational Church he roused the parents to an active sense of the young people's needs in educational privileges.

As a result an association was formed by several gentlemen of the town, with the object, as stated in their first prospectus, "of establishing upon a permanent basis a select school in this village to secure a more thorough and extensive course of instruction for our youth." The names of the three men signed to the prospectus were William V. Sessions, Walter Hitchcock, and Marcus S. Beebe. As a result, the building we now know as the Old Town Hall was erected. The total expenses of each pupil for the year were not to exceed \$88.50.

Mr. George Brooks was the first principal. Others to head the school were C. E. Wood, E. J. Howe, Charles Marsh and a Mr. Bliss. The last person to conduct an academy in the building was Alonzo B. Newell, who lived where Arthur Gerrish now lives on Glendale Road.

Harvey O. (Ted Smith) has recently shown the writer a printed program for the Students Exhibition of South Wilbraham High School for March 19, 1852. It was surprising to learn that 36 students took part in the exhibit. It is not many years ago that Hampden was sending less than 36 students to Springfield High Schools. This shows the great interest in higher education in our town 100 years ago.

THE LINE SCHOOL

After the town was divided in 1878 the students in the southern part of Wilbraham had to attend the school at the "Mile Tree" and those in the northern part of Hampden had to attend the McCray Corner School, to which reference has been made above. This made a long walk for students in both directions. About 1883 a school was established known as the Line School to take care of nearby pupils in both towns. It was held in Hampden in a house which used to stand just above where William Buereau now lives. Among the teachers was Mrs. Robert Howlett of Main Street. She recalls

"boarding around" among the Bliss, Butterworth, Soule, Stebbins, and Powers families. The school was abandoned after a few years.

SOUTH ROAD SCHOOL

Neil S. Kibbe tells us that there used to be a school many years ago near his house on South Road and that the cellarhole is still visible. One would wonder where the pupils could have come from but he tells us that there are many other cellar holes in the woods in that area testifying to the number of houses that used to be in that section.

MISS MARY L. POLAND

For many years the school committee in the town had direct supervision of all education. However, in 1893 the towns of Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham and Hampden decided that a superintendent of schools was needed for the district and Miss Mary L. Poland was hired. She proved to be a very gracious lady, a fine administrator and filled the position for 22 years, retiring in 1915. She had 86 schools under her supervision, necessitating at least one call each a month. In addition there was much office work to be done and the trial of engaging teachers. To reach Hampden from her apartment in Springfield she took the trolley car to East Longmeadow, hired a team at one of the livery stables and drove to town in all kinds of weather, from ice and snow to blistering hot days. The writer recalls it was a great honor to "hitch" Miss Poland's horse when she arrived at the local school.

TWO WELL-KNOWN TEACHERS

Two teachers, both born in town, who spent a great portion of their lives instructing our youth were Miss Etta C. Beebe and Mrs. Grace (Pease) Carew, Miss

Beebe, who resided where Leslie Woods now lives on Main Street taught for many years at the Center School. Mrs. Carew, who also lived on Main Street, where Mrs. Francis Garfield now resides, and who left the local library \$2,000 in her will taught in both the West Side and Center Schools.

FINALE

It is interesting to note the advances in educational facilities in our town in the last 150 years,—from the days of quill pens, heat derived from fireplaces, pine pitch dropping on the schoolmaster's head, and the "ferule" on the teacher's desk. Who will venture a guess as to what the schools in Hampden will look like in 150 years from now or what the curriculum will be? Where will the high school be located? Will the teachers arrive by airplane? Will the students also arrive by air?

Town Warrant

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

County of Hampden

Town of Hampden

To either of the Constables of the said Town of Hampden
in said County:

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the Town of Hampden, qualified to vote in elections of Town officers, to meet at the Town House on Monday, the twenty-seventh day of February, A.D. 1956, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to give in their votes on one ballot to the election officers of said Town, for the following officers, to wit:

To choose a Moderator for one year. To choose a Town Clerk and a Town Treasurer for one year. To choose one Selectman for three years, who shall also be on the Board of Public Welfare; to choose one Collector of Taxes, three Constables, one Tree Warden; one Auditor, all for the term of one year; one Assessor for the term of three years; two School Committee Members, one Cemetery Commissioner, one Library Trustee; all for the term of three years; one member of the Planning Board for the term of five years. Also to choose all other necessary Town Officers. The polls shall open at 10 A.M. and shall close at 8:00 P.M.

And you are further hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Hampden, qualified to vote in Town Affairs, to meet at the Town House, Hampden,

on Monday, March 5, A.D. 1956, at eight o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles, viz:

Article 1. To hear the Annual Reports of all the officers of the Town and any committee whose duty it may be to report at said meeting and act thereon.

Your Advisory Committee requests that their reports and recommended budget be read and thoughtfully studied.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided for by Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, and to raise and appropriate the following sums to cover same, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the following amounts be raised and appropriated to pay the salaries of the Elective Town Officers,

Salaries

Selectmen	525.00	
Board of Public Welfare	\$175.00	700.00
Treasurer		650.00
Collector		650.00
Assessors	200.00	
	150.00	
	150.00	500.00
Auditor		15.00
Moderator		35.00
Town Clerk		100.00

Article 3. To raise money and make appropriations to defray the expenses of the Town for the ensuing year.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the following sums of money be raised and appropriated for the several purposes hereinafter designated.

General Government

Selectmen's Expenses	\$500.00
Accounting Salary	650.00
Accounting Expenses	100.00
Treasurer's Expenses	200.00
Collector's Expenses	450.00
Assessors' Expenses	750.00
Town Clerk's Expenses	225.00
Law & Claims	250.00
Certifying Notes & Other Finance	50.00
Building Inspector—Salaries	300.00
Building Inspector—Expenses	150.00
Elections & Registrations	800.00
Town Hall Maintenance	100.00
Town House Maintenance	2,500.00

Protection of Persons & Property

Forest Fires	200.00
Forest Fire Warden	50.00
Tree Warden	200.00
Fire Department	1,500.00
Sealer of Weights & Measures	100.00
Moth Eradication	400.00
Dutch Elm Disease	700.00

Health & Sanitation

Meat Inspection	50.00
Animal Inspection	60.00
Town Dump	150.00

Highways

Snow & Ice Removal	1,000.00
Highways, Bridges & Railings	2,500.00
Street Lighting	1,038.00
Garage Maintenance	250.00

Charities

Old Age Assistance	15,000.00
Disability Assistance	2,800.00
General Relief	2,100.00
Aid to Dependent Children	2,500.00
Southeast Hampden Welfare District	600.00

Library	1,700.00
Unclassified	
Memorial Day	225.00
Soldiers and Sailors Graves	175.00
Town Common	100.00
Printing Town Report	780.00
Insurance	3,731.00
Advisory Committee Expenses	150.00
Cemeteries	800.00

Article 4. To see what disposition the Town will make of the Dog Fund, now in the hands of the Treasurer.

The Advisory Committee recommends that this fund be paid into the Library Account.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2700.00 for the repair and maintenance of Town Roads and instruct the Selectmen to petition and contract with the Commissioners of the Department of Public Works, under the provisions of Chapter 81, Section 26 of the General Laws.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$2700 be raised and appropriated for the repair and maintenance of town roads in accordance with the above article.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be used in conjunction with any money which may be allotted by the State or County, or both, for Chapter 90 maintenance, or take any action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$1000 be raised and appropriated for use on Chapter 90 Maintenance.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be used in conjunction with any money that may be allotted by the State or

County or both, for the widening and surfacing of Main Street, or take any action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$3500 be raised and appropriated for the widening and surfacing of Main Street.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury a sum of money for Chapter 81 and 90 Highways in the three preceding articles or take any action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends the transfer from unappropriated available funds in the treasury the sum of \$22,400 for Chapter 81 and 90 highway work as outlined in the three preceding articles.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50 for planting trees along the highways.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100.00 to be expended in the Town by the Hampden County Trustees for Aid to Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 128, Section 42.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums for the School Department or take any other action relative thereto.

GENERAL CONTROL:

School Committee Expense		\$350.00
Salary of Superintendent		
State's Share	\$3,333.33	
Town's Share	2,766.67	6,100.00
Expense of Superintendence		1,250.00

EXPENSES OF INSTRUCTION:

Supervisors' Salaries	2,134.00
Teachers' Salaries	35,600.00
Textbooks	900.00
Supplies	1,400.00

EXPENSE OF OPERATION:

Janitor's Salaries	3,500.00
Fuel and Light	2,300.00
Miscellaneous	750.00

MAINTENANCE:

Repairs and Replacements	900.00
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AUXILIARY AGENCIES:

Health	1,060.00
Transportation	22,950.00
Tuition	32,141.00
Miscellaneous	125.00

OUTLAY:

New Equipment	540.00
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CONTINGENCY FUND:	2,000.00
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TOTAL BUDGET	114,000.00
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ESTIMATED CREDITS FROM COMMONWEALTH

Superintendent's Salary	3,333.00
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Transportation:

Chapter 71, Section 7A	18,200.00
State Wards	150.00
Vocational Ed. Chapter 74, Section 8A	1,100.00

Tuition:

State Wards	120.00
Vocational Education	2,500.00
Chapter 70	15,000.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED CREDITS	40,403.00
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ESTIMATED COST OF EDUCATION

FROM TOWN TAXES 73,697.00

The Advisory Committee recommends that the several items listed in the above budget be raised and appropriated.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$425 for the maintenance of the Dental Clinic for the ensuing year, \$400 to be used for Salary and \$25 for expenses; in accordance with the provisions of Section 50, Chapter 111, General Laws, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$855.52 to be paid to the Treasurer-Custodian of the Hampden County Retirement System as provided by Chapter 658, Section 22 of the Acts of 1945, and as further amended by Chapter 530 of the Acts of 1951, to be credited to the Town's share of the funds thereof.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Road Machinery Fund Account to the Road Machinery Maintenance Account.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$2500 be transferred to the Road Machinery Maintenance Account.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$3500 from the Overlay Reserve to the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to change from Residence A to Business Zone a parcel of land owned by August Sundgren of Hickory Lane, Hampden; said parcel of land runs easterly along West Main Street from

the northeast corner of land owned by John H. Twomey, a distance of 495.02 feet to an iron post at the northwest corner of land owned by Wilfred O. and Margaret B. Worthing; thence southerly along the boundary of the Worthing property to the Scantic River, a distance of 285 feet; westerly along the bank of the Scantic River to the southeast corner of land owned by Helge J. and Barbara C. Johnson; and northerly along the Johnson property line and the property of John Twomey, a distance of 325 feet, to the point of beginning; or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to be paid to a full time Recreation Director appointed by the Recreation Committee to serve for the school summer vacation period.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250.00 for the use of the Recreation Commission for the maintenance and improvement to Hampden Memorial Park, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100.00 for the use of the Recreation Commission in purchasing recreation field equipment to be used at Hampden Memorial Park.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$950.00 for the use of the Recreation Commission for flood damage repair to Hampden Memorial Park, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1000.00 to be used for the purchase of radio equipment for the Fire Department, of which the State will reimburse the Town 50%, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$500.00 be raised and appropriated to be used in conjunction with a sum of \$500 to be transferred from unappropriated available funds. This transfer to be reimbursed to the Town.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1000.00 for construction and maintenance of water holes, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends a negative vote. A more comprehensive survey should be made of water holes before any action is taken on the above article.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 for the use of the Police Department during 1956, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends the sum of \$1000.00 be raised and appropriated.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the purchase of one heavy duty truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends a negative vote. It is felt that the present equipment is adequate for the ensuing year.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to create a special unpaid committee, to be known as a regional school district planning committee to consist of three members, including one member of the school committee, to be appointed by the moderator in accordance with the

provisions of Section 14 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as amended; and that there be appropriated for the use of said committee the sum of \$50.00.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the purchase of a Model E Highway Spreader, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory Committee recommends a negative vote. It is felt the need does not justify the expenditure.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury a sum of Money to the Stabilization Fund.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the sum of \$10,000 be transferred from unappropriated available funds in the treasury to the Stabilization Fund, this fund to be deposited in a savings bank.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the Revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1956 and to issue a note or notes and renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44 of the General Laws.

The Advisory Committee recommends favorable action.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to compile and print the assessed valuation of all land and real estate in the Town of Hampden as of January 1, 1955 and to raise and appropriate a sum of money to print same, or take any other action in relation thereto. Date of publication to be not later than August 1, 1956.

The Advisory Committee recommends the sum of \$350.00 be

raised and appropriated to print a Real Estate Valuation Book. It is felt that the assessed valuation as of January 31, 1955 would be more desirable.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy thereof at each of the three places designated by the Town. Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at or before the time of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this twelfth day of January, 1956,

s/ WILLIAM H. BURNS

s/ CHARLES R. MELVILLE

s/ LEONARD G. CURTIS

Selectmen of Hampden, Mass.

STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Herman B. Dine
Director of Accounts
Department of Corporations and Taxation
State House, Boston

Sir:

As directed by you, I have made an audit of the books and accounts of the town of Hampden for the period from June 26, 1953, the date of the previous examination, to June 21, 1955, and submit the following report thereon:

The records of financial transactions of the several departments collecting or disbursing money for the town or sending out bills for collection were examined, checked, and verified.

The ledger accounts kept by the town bookkeeper were checked in detail. The receipts as recorded were checked with the treasurer's record of receipts, and the recorded payments were checked with the selectmen's warrants and the treasurer's cash book. The appropriations as listed from the town clerk's record of town meetings were checked with the ledger appropriation accounts, the transfers from the reserve fund were compared with the authorizations of the advisory board, and all other accounts were checked with information in the departments in which the transactions originated.

The ledger was analyzed, a trial balance was taken off, and a balance sheet, which is appended to this report, was prepared showing the financial condition of the town on June 21, 1955.

The books and accounts of the town treasurer were examined and checked. The receipts as recorded were compared with the departmental records of payments to the treasurer and with other sources from which money was paid into the town treasury, while the payments were checked with the selectmen's warrants and the town ledger. The cash book was analyzed, and the cash balance on June 21, 1955 was proved by reconciliation of bank balance with a statement received from the depository, by examination of the savings bank books, and by actual count of the cash in the office.

The records of payroll deductions for Federal taxes and the county retirement system were checked. The deductions were listed, the payments to the proper agencies were verified, and the balances in the general treasury on June 21, 1955 were listed and proved.

The savings bank books and securities representing the investment of the trust and investment funds in the custody of the town treasurer and the trustees were examined and listed. The income was proved, and the sale of securities as well as the transfers to the town were verified.

The payments on account of maturing debt and interest were proved by comparison with the amounts falling due and with the cancelled securities on file.

The books and accounts of the tax collector were examined and checked in detail. The taxes and motor vehicle and trailer excise outstanding at the time of the previous examination, as well as all subsequent commitments, were audited and proved with the assessors' warrants. The collections as recorded were checked, the payments to the treasurer were verified, the recorded abatements were checked with the assessors' record of abatements granted, the outstanding accounts were listed and proved with the town bookkeeper's ledger, and

the cash on hand June 21, 1955 was proved by actual count of the cash in the office.

The outstanding accounts were further verified by mailing notices to a number of persons whose names appeared on the books as owing money to the town, and from the replies received it appears that the accounts, as listed, are correct.

The appropriations, as voted by the town meetings, were listed from the records of the town clerk and were compared with the aggregate amounts raised by the assessors in the determination of the tax rates for 1954 and 1955.

The financial transactions of the town clerk were examined and checked. The receipts for dog and sporting licenses, as well as for gasoline renewals, were checked with the record of licenses issued, and the payments to the town treasurer and to the Division of Fisheries and Game were verified. The cash on hand June 21, 1955 was proved by actual count of the cash in the office.

The receipts for licenses and permits issued by the board of selectmen were checked with the record of licenses and permits granted, and the payments to the treasurer were verified.

The books and accounts of the sealer of weights and measures were examined. The recorded receipts were checked with the record of work done, the payments to the treasurer were verified, and the cash on hand was proved.

The records of departmental accounts receivable were examined and checked. The departmental records were analyzed, the recorded collections were compared with the payments to the treasurer, the abatements were verified, and the outstanding accounts were listed and proved with the bookkeeper's ledger.

The receipts of the school lunch program for the sale of lunches and Federal and State reimbursements were examined and checked, and the payments to the treasurer were verified.

The recorded receipts of the librarian were checked and the payments to the treasurer were verified.

Appended to this report, in addition to the balance sheet, are tables showing a reconciliation of the treasurer's cash, summaries of the tax and departmental accounts, as well as schedules showing the condition and transactions of the trust and investment funds.

While engaged in making the audit cooperation was received from all town officials, for which, on behalf of my assistants and for myself, I wish to express appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM SCHWARTZ

Assistant Director of Accounts

Report of Advisory Committee

The annual budget as recommended by the Advisory Committee is presented in a new form this year. It provides information for an easy comparison of an amount voted for a similar purpose in the previous year and the average appropriation for the three preceding years. The individual items of the budget have been grouped according to recurring major areas of town activity and the percentage of the group to the total has been reported.

Your Advisory Committee has given careful study and deliberation to the budget and the other items of the warrant. The recommendations are based on promoting the best interests of the Town by providing the necessary functions in an efficient manner and in fairness to those who pay the costs and those who perform the work.

We urge you to give our recommendations careful consideration in arriving at your decision in voting.

The estimated valuation of the Town indicates that each \$2,000 you appropriate will mean \$1.00 in your tax rate. The tax rate last year was \$63.00. If the recommendations of the Advisory Committee are followed, the tax rate will be approximately \$63.00 for 1956.

During the year ten transfers were approved from the Reserve Fund amounting to \$1,609, leaving a balance of \$1,891 to be closed to surplus revenue. An analysis of the transfers is contained in the Town Bookkeeper's Report.

We wish to express our appreciation for the co-

operation of the various Town Officials in providing information concerning the budget and other Town affairs.

Your Advisory Committee invites you to meet with them to discuss Town affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD J. BENNETT

Chairman

ERROL M. BEEBE

BEN F. LIBBY

WILLIAM L. PLATE

CHARLES A. MAGARIAN

**SUMMARY OF BUDGET FOR 1956
RECOMMENDED BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

CLASSIFICATION	Amount	
	Recommended	% of Total
General Government	\$9,375.00	5.4%
Protection of Persons & Property	4,650.00	2.7%
Health and Sanitation	685.00	.4%
Highways	11,488.00	6.6%
Charities	23,000.00	13.3%
Schools	114,000.00	66.1%
Library	1,700.00	1.0%
Recreation	950.00	.6%
Unclassified	5,692.00	3.3%
Cemeteries	975.00	.6%
Total budget recommendations	\$172,515.00	100.0%

BUDGET FOR 1956
RECOMMENDED BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Item No.		Ave.			
		Appro. 1952-53-54	Appro. 1955	Recom. 1956	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
5.4% OF TOTAL					
1	Moderator	\$27	\$35	\$35	
2	Advisory Committee	150	150	150	
Selectmen					
3	Salaries	700	700	700	
4	Expenses	500	500	500	
Town Accountant					
5	Salary	583	600	650	
6	Expenses	100	100	100	
7	Auditor	15	15	15	
Treasurer					
8	Salary	533	550	650	
9	Expenses	160	160	200	
Collector					
10	Salary	533	550	650	
11	Expenses	342	425	450	
Assessors					
12	Salary	500	500	500	
13	Expenses	717	1,000	750	
14	Laws & Claims	400	250	250	
Town Clerk					
15	Salary	100	100	100	
16	Expenses	158	225	225	
17	Elections and Registrations	442	400	800	

Item No.	Ave. Appro. 1952-53-54	Appro. 1955	Recom. 1956
18 Town House Maintenance	2,500	2,500	2,500
19 Town Hall Maintenance	50	100	100
20 Planning Board	167	175	Bal. over
21 Board of Appeals		50	50
22 Total General Government			9,375

PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY
2.7% OF TOTAL

		Art. 23
23 Police	750	800
24 Fire	1,259	1,500
Building Inspector		
25 Salary	250	300
26 Expenses	153	150
27 Sealer of Weight and Measures	45	70
28 Moth Eradication	400	400
29 Dutch Elm Disease	472	700
30 Tree Warden	200	200
31 Planting Trees	50	50
32 Forest Warden	50	50
Forest Fires		
33 Salaries	267	300
34 Equipment	200	200
35 Total Protection		4,650

HEALTH AND SANITATION .4% OF TOTAL

Item No.	Ave.		
	Appro. 1952-53-54	Appro. 1955	Recom. 1956
36 Health	417	Bal. over	Bal. over
			Art. 12
37 Dental Clinic	408	425	425
38 Animal Inspection	53	60	60
39 Meat Inspection	50	50	50
40 Town Dump Maintenance	150	100	150

41 Total Health and Sanitation			685

HIGHWAYS 6.6% OF TOTAL

42 Highways, Bridges & Railings	2,667	2,500	2,000
43 Snow & Ice Removal	1,667	2,000	1,000
44 Road Machinery Maintenance			transfers - special article - article 14
45 Town Garage Maintenance	250	200	250
46 Street Lighting	919	1,038	1,038
			Art. 5
47 Chapter 81	2,550	2,700	2,700
			Art. 6
48 Chapter 90 Maintenance	1,167	2,000	1,000
			Art. 7
49 Chapter 90 Construction	2,167	2,500	3,500

50 Total Highways			11,488

CHARITIES 13.3% OF TOTAL

Item No.	Ave.		
	Appro. 1952-53-54	Appro. 1955	Recom. 1956
51 Public Welfare			
District	267	400	600
52 Public Welfare	3,100	2,300	2,100
53 Disability Assistance	1,867	2,800	2,800
54 Old Age Assistance	13,667	15,000	15,000
55 Aid to Dependent Children	1,033	2,200	2,500
56 Veterans' Benefits	1,000		Bal. over
57 Total Charities			23,000

SCHOOLS 66.1% OF TOTAL

General Control

58	Committee Expenses	388	350	350
59	Supt. - Salary	2,646	5,800	6,100
60	Supt. - Expenses	1,470	1,350	1,250

Expenses of Instruction

61	Supervisors - Salary	2,005	1,980	2,134
62	Teachers - Salary	24,132	29,640	35,600
63	Textbooks	800	800	900
64	Supplies	1,267	1,300	1,400

Expenses of Operation

65	Janitor - Salary	3,070	3,450	3,500
66	Fuel and Light	2,200	2,100	2,300
67	Miscellaneous	883	750	750

Maintenance

68	Repairs and Replacements	1,167	1,000	900
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Item No.		Ave.		
		Appro. 1952-53-54	Appro. 1955	Recom. 1956
Auxiliary Agencies				
69	Health	1,225	1,060	1,060
70	Miscellaneous	125	125	125
71	Tuition	31,214	35,100	32,141
72	Transportation	13,975	22,793	22,950
73	New Equipment	767	600	540
74	Contingency Fund	1,233	2,000	2,000
75	Total Schools		Art. 11	114,000
LIBRARY 1.0% OF TOTAL				
76	Library	1,333	1,500	1,700
RECREATION .6% OF TOTAL				
77	Recreation Field	333	500	250
78	Recreation Director	167	500	500
79	Swimming Site	133	500	100
80	Town Common	100	100	100
81	Total Recreation			950
UNCLASSIFIED 3.3% OF TOTAL				
82	Town Reports	594	650	780
83	Memorial Day	200	200	225
84	Insurance	2,752	3,460	3,731
			Art. 13	
85	County Retirement System	719	1,108	856

Item No.	Ave.		
	Appro. 1952-53-54	Appro. 1955	Recom. 1956
86 Aid to Agriculture	67	75	100
87 Reserve Fund	1,667	trans.	trans.
88 Total Unclassified			5,692
CEMETERIES .6% OF TOTAL			
89 Cemeteries	458	500	800
90 Soldiers and Sailors Graves	158	175	175
91 Total Cemeteries			975
MATURING DEBT AND INTEREST — % OF TOTAL			
92 Maturing Debts	1,000		
93 Interest	27		
94 Total Debt and Interest			
95 Total budget recommendations		\$172,515	
96 Total recommended, special articles		1,850	
97 Total, all recommendations		174,365	
98 Estimated additional expenditures		8,700	
99 Grand Total, recommendations and estimates		183,065	
100 Deductions to compute estimated tax rate: estimated receipts		57,680	
101 Estimated balance to be raised by a levy on local real estate and tangible personal property		125,385	
102 Estimated tax rate, based on above recommendations	\$63 per \$1,000 valuation		

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL ARTICLES

Item No.	Ave.		
	Appro. 1952-53-54	Appro. 1955	Recom. 1956
Special Art.	Requested	Recom.	
20 Recreation - Flood Damage	\$950	\$950	
		500	Tran.
21 Fire Dept. - Radio Equip.	1,000		+500
22 Fire Dept. - Water Holes	1,000		
24 Highway Dept. - Heavy duty truck		5,000	
25 Regional School Dist. - Plan. Comm.	50		50
26 Highway Dept. Sand Spreader		3,000	
29 Printing Valuation Book			350
Total Special Articles	\$11,000		\$1,850

Report of Selectmen

During the past year the Selectmen have held regular weekly meetings and have submitted regular weekly warrants to the Treasurer. The exercise of regular Board functions in various departments has resulted in the following matters which we submit for your consideration: Early in 1955 the Selectmen met with State and County officials and allocated the funds to be used for highway work for the year 1955.

1. During the year Edwards Street was hardened.
2. Part of Hickory Lane was hardened.
3. Work has been started on Pinewood Road.
4. Construction was started on west Main Street taking the curve of the river out at Bureau's Garage and a start has been made on excavating one of the curves on the west part of Main Street.
5. Last August the Scantic River went frantic. Fortunately not a life was lost. The flood left many scars, however. Numerous persons were hit, physically and financially by this devastating flood. The Town lost several of its bridges and many of its roads were washed. Contracts for our bridges have been let. Most of our roads are in good condition again. It is fortunate for the Town that the Federal and State governments gave us allotments which will make the flood damage cost to the Town only a few hundred dollars.
6. Thomas F. Moriarty was employed as Town Counsel, and has attended Selectmen's meetings, and given legal advice to all Town Boards and Committees who requested it.

7. The Board wishes to thank sincere and interested citizens who gave their time to serve on the construction of bridges which were temporarily repaired after the flood.

8. The white lines on through roads have again been painted by the State Highway Department.

9. In accordance with the vote of the Town at the Special Town Meeting held June 27, 1955, the Selectmen appointed a School Building Committee of 9 Citizens to prepare and make recommendations in connection with possible school construction, and to authorize said committee to employ an architect or other consultant for such purposes.

10. The local and State Police have spent many hours patrolling our roads, particularly during the night hours. We sincerely hope the townspeople will grant us a larger appropriation for the police department this year.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM H. BURNS

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

LEONARD G. CURTIS

Board of Selectmen

Report of the Board of Health 1955

Cases of disease, listed as dangerous to the public health by the Massachusetts State Board of Health, were reported during 1955 as follows:

Measels	14
Mumps	2
Dog Bite	2
Polio	2
Scarlet Fever	6
Chicken Pox	9

The Board of Health received several complaints during the past year, which were considered detrimental to public health.

The Board of Health made an examination of fifty flooded wells.

The Board wishes to thank the residents of the Town for their splendid cooperation in rectifying the complaints when brought to their attention by the Board of Health.

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD G. CURTIS

Chairman

Report of the Board of Public Welfare

GENERAL RELIEF

Appropriation			\$2,300.00
Carried forward from 1954			735.99
			<hr/> \$3,035.99

	Cases	Per.	Amount
Aided in this Town	6	19	\$1,262.82
Town Cases Aided	2	6	\$193.30
Hampden Settled Cases			
Aided in Other Cities			
and Towns	2	5	859.82
Cases Aided in Hampden			
Settled Other Cities			
and Towns	2	5	209.70
			<hr/> \$1,262.82

EXPENDITURES

Paid Other Cities and Towns	\$ 859.82
Cash	359.25
Medical	28.75
Provisions	15.00
	<hr/> \$1,262.82
Balance December 31, 1955	1,773.17
	<hr/> \$3,035.99

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

Cases Active January 1, 1955	2
Cases Added During 1955	1
Cases Closed During 1955	1
Cases Active December 31, 1955	2

TOWN APPROPRIATION

Appropriation	\$2,800.00
Refund	69.25
<hr/>	
	\$2,869.25

Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$2,628.88
Unexpended Balance December 31, 1955	240.37
<hr/>	
	\$2,869.25

FEDERAL GRANT

Balance January 1, 1955	\$ 857.13
Cash Rec'd Federal Government	640.00
<hr/>	
	\$1,497.13
Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$702.70
Balance December 31, 1955	794.43
<hr/>	
	1,497.13

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Cases Active January 1, 1955	1
Cases Added During 1955	2
Cases Closed During 1955	1
Cases Active December 31, 1955	2

TOWN APPROPRIATION

Appropriation	\$2,200.00
Transfer from Reserve Fund	300.00
	<hr/>
Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$2,500.00

FEDERAL GRANT

Balance January 1, 1955	\$ 176.97
Cash received from Federal Government	2,001.30
	<hr/>
	\$2,178.27

Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$2,002.52
Unexpended Balance December 31,	
1955	175.75
	<hr/>
	\$2,178.27

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

WILLIAM H. BURNS

LEONARD G. CURTIS

Board of Public Welfare

By: MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent

Report of Bureau of Old Age Assistance

Cases Active January 1, 1955	20
Cases Added During 1955	2
Cases Closed During 1955	3
Cases Active December 31, 1955	19
TOWN APPROPRIATION	
Appropriation	\$15,000.00
Refund	9.25
	<hr/>
Cash Paid on Playrolls	\$14,486.00
Paid Other Cities and Towns	506.80
Unexpended Balance December 31, 1955	16.45
	<hr/>
	\$15,009.25
FEDERAL GRANT	
Balance January 1, 1955	\$ 960.64
Cash Rec'd from Federal Government	7,838.71
	<hr/>
	\$8,799.35
Cash Paid on Payrolls	\$4,896.12
Balance December 31, 1955	3,903.23
	<hr/>
	\$8,799.35
Rec'd from Other Cities & Towns	\$ 324.04

Cash Rec'd from State (To estimated Receipts)	8,370.89
Recovery (To estimated Receipts)	19.44

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MELVILLE

WILLIAM H. BURNS

LEONARD G. CURTIS

Board of Public Welfare

By: MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent

Southeast Hampden Welfare District

The following is the report of the Southeast Hampden Welfare District comprising the towns of Monson, Hampden and Wales.

Balance as of January 1, 1955	\$90.31
Payments from Towns	
Comprising District:	
Monson	\$1,600.00
Hampden	400.00
Wales	400.00
Received from Federal Government	4,515.73
Received from State	3,253.39
Refund to District	142.75

Transfer from Hampden	133.60

Expenditures	\$10,535.78
	10,354.71

Balance forward to 1956	181.07

EXPENDITURES

Salaries, Agent, Social Worker & Jr. Clerk Typist	\$8,642.33
Treasurer, Hampden County Retirement	581.82
Travel & Conference Expenses (Agent & Social Worker)	355.49
Town of Monson (Rent)	180.00
Salaries, District Treasurers	100.00
William P. Stone, P.M. Stamps	60.00
United Community Service	25.00
Frederick J. Sullivan, Jr. (Bond)	15.00
Public Admin. Dues	3.00
Supplies	135.04
Clerical Labor	10.00
New England Tel. & Tel.	240.48
Remington Rand (Repairs)	6.06

	\$10,354.71

Respectfully submitted,

MARY H. CANTWELL, Agent

Report of Superintendent of Streets

The big flood of August 19th was the highlight of the Highway Department for the year 1955. The 20-inch rainfall of August 18th and 19th within a comparatively few hours wrought havoc with our bridges and highways. Tiny tributary brooks became raging torrents undermining the roads and causing the dams and bridges to give way. The dam at Goodwill's Pond went early Friday morning and was shortly followed by the Ravine Dam which went out when a portion near the highway was swept away. Center Bridge, Somers Road Bridge and Mill Road Bridge were completely swept away. The bridges on Stafford Road, Peck's Bridge on South Monson Road and one on Howlett Hill were badly damaged. A temporary bridge was erected at the center over the Scantic River in about 36 hours by the local department and townspeople. Another bridge on Scantic Road was also erected in this way. The State Department of Public Works erected a single lane Army Bailey Bridge over the Scantic River on Somers Road.

Washouts occurred on nearly all the roads but major ones were on Howlett Hill Road, South Road near the state line and on Rock-a-Dundee Road.

From August 19th until October 7 we made temporary repairs, filling in washouts, etc., with gravel. After the surveys and estimates and the like, the State Flood Relief Board gave us the green light to make permanent repairs to the amount of \$15,500 including contracts let by the U. S. Army on Howlett Hill Road and Rock-a-Dundee Road. There still remain considerable repairs to be made where the Army left off.

The State Department of Public Works will rebuild the bridges and contracts are being let out at the time of the writing of this report.

Prior to the flood, we finished Chap. 90 Maintenance which included the resurfacing of East Longmeadow Road, part of Stony Hill Road, some of Wilbraham Road, the honing and resurfacing of a large part of North Monson Road and widening of the Springfield and North Monson Roads. The sum of \$6,000 was available for this with the cost divided equally between the state, county and town. Of this amount \$1,378.80 was expended for labor, \$3,796.62 for materials and \$824.30 for equipment.

Chap. 90 Construction was also started just before the flood and was later resumed. This included the laying of a 40"x65" deformed metal culvert on West Brook to carry that stream under Main street emptying into the Scantic River in the rear of William Buereau's garage. This eliminated the right angle turns of the old stream and also the wooden bridge in front of the fire station which was always a source of trouble with its decaying stringers and planks.

A new channel was excavated for "the frantic little Scantic" through Buereau's land to carry the water farther away from the Main Street where the road will be straightened. The sum of \$10,000 was available for this Chap. 90 project with the state contributing half the amount and the county and town each contributing \$2,500.00. About half of the Chap. 90 money was expended and the balance will be used in 1956. There is also an unexpended balance of \$2,000 on Chap. 81. Permission has been granted the town to carry these accounts over into 1956 because of the pressure of flood repairs and weather conditions.

Last July the department hardened Hickory Lane

and Edwards Street to a width of 22 feet. A start has been made on Pinewood Road which has finally been legally accepted as a town road. We were unable to extend much permanent work under Chap. 81 on Chapin Road because of water conditions although gravel was hauled there.

We carried over quite a sum of the Snow and Ice Appropriation from last winter which should help on this winter's budget although wages have risen slightly and the cost of materials has increased.

Again I recommend a body-type sand spreader for ice control. One man with this type of equipment can sand more roads in less time than the present type which requires two men to stand on the back of each truck to feed the sander.

ARTHUR H. GERRISH

Superintendent of Streets

Report of Assessors

TABLE OF AGGREGATES OF POLLS, PROPERTY,
AND TAXES AS ASSESSED January 1, 1955

Number of persons assessed	Individuals	Others	All
On Personal Estate Only	7	8	15
On Real Estate Only	527	4	531
On Both Personal and Real Estate	70	1	71
 Total number of persons assessed			<hr/> 671
Number of Polls Assessed			533
 Value of Assessed Personal Estate			
Stock in Trade	\$16,920.00		
Machinery	10,985.00		
Live Stock	26,000.00		
All other tangible personal property	127,625.00		
 Total value of Assessed Personal Estate			\$181,530.00
 Value of Assessed Real Estate			
Land Exclusive of Buildings	\$275,850.00		
Buildings exclusive of Land	1,485,890.00		
 Total Value of Assessed Real Estate			\$1,761,740.00
 Total Value of Assessed Estate			\$1,943,270.00

Tax Rate per \$1,000.00—\$63.00

Taxes for State, County, and Town

Purposes including Overlay:

On Personal Estate	\$11,436.51
On Real Estate	110,990.24
On Polls	1,066.00
<hr/>	
Total Taxes Assessed	\$123,492.75
Number of Live Stock Assessed	
Horses	24
Cows (Milch)	291
Bulls 27; Yearlings 85; Heifers 66; Steers 1	179
Swine	35
Sheep	1
Fowl	3,829
All Others—Goats 16; Donkey 1; Pony 1; Mink 778	796
Number of Acres of Land Assessed (More or less)	12,075
Number of Dwelling Houses Assessed	565
Each building used as a dwelling counted as ONE without regard to number of families housed.	
1955 RECAPITULATION SHEET	
Total Appropriation Voted to be raised by Taxation	\$172,154.47
Total Appropriations Voted to be taken from Available Funds since 1954 tax rate	none
Total Appropriations Voted to be taken from Available Funds in 1955	36,971.02
<hr/>	
	\$209,125.49

Veterans Service District	\$685.80
State Parks and Reservations	211.64

County Tax	\$2,256.00
Tuberculosis Hospital Assessment	119.56

Overlay of current year	\$2,375.56
Gross Amount to be Raised	\$5,960.48
	\$218,358.97

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS

Income Tax	\$17,075.19
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Corporation Taxes	3,599.06
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Old Age Tax (Meals)	506.59
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Motor Vehicles and Trailer Excise	9,375.00
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Licenses	500.00
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General Government	500.00
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Protection of Persons and Property	25.00
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Charities	1,000.00
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Old Age Assistance (Other than Federal Grants)	7,000.00
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Schools	18,000.00
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Interest and Taxes and Assessments	100.00
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Total Estimated Receipts	\$57,680.84
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Overestimate of previous year

County Tax	\$112.21
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County Tuberculosis Hospital	101.20
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State Parks and Reservations	.95
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Available Funds taken by vote	36,971.02
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Total Estimated Receipts and Available Funds	\$94,866.22
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Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation

on Polls and Property	\$123,492.75
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Number of Polls 553 at \$2.00 each	\$1,066.00
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Total Valuation	
Personal Property	\$181,530.00
Real Estate	\$1,761,740.00
Total Taxes to be levied on Polls and Property	\$123,492.75
Omitted Assessments	
Real Estate Value	\$2,825.00
Personal Value	\$200.00
Polls 45	Tax \$90.00
Total	\$280.58
Total Taxes Committed on Polls and Property	\$123,773.33
Taxes Abated during 1955	
1954 Real Estate	\$73.70
1955 Real Estate	75.60
Polls	18.00
Total Taxes Abated	\$167.30
Statutory Exemptions	
Real Estate	\$2,280.61
Polls	118.00
	2,398.61
Total Exemptions	
Motor Vehicles Excise Committed	
1954 Excise	\$835.45
1955 Excise	20,222.36

Number of Vehicles Assessed in 1955—1,030

Commissioners Value of Vehicles \$439,220.00

Abatements:

Commitment of 1954	\$348.19
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Commitment of 1955	1,181.53
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The Town owns the Following Real Estate:

Long Hill	11 Acres	\$100.00
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North Road	1/4 Acres	50.00
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Ames Road	6 Acres	60.00
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We have a meeting the third Monday of each month and we would be glad to have you come in and talk with us.

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH B. HATCH

PERCY A. FULLER

LEONARD G. CURTIS

Board of Assessors

Tax Collector's Report

1953 REAL ESTATE

Balance due January 1, 1955	463.06
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	459.76
	<hr/>
Balance due January 1, 1956	3.30
Interest paid Town Treasurer	30.24

1954 REAL ESTATE

Balance due January 1, 1955	9,517.71
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	8,857.78
Abatements	78.70
	<hr/>
Balance due January 1, 1956	586.23
Interest paid Town Treasurer	214.36

1954 PERSONAL PROPERTY

Balance due January 1, 1955	510.49
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	510.49

1954 POLL TAX

Balance due January 1, 1955	2.00
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	2.00

1954 MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE

Balance due January 1, 1955	2,204.43
Committed January & February 1955	835.45
	<hr/>
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	2,691.69
Abatements	348.19
	<hr/>
Interest paid Town Treasurer	26.54

1955 REAL ESTATE

Total Commitments	111,435.97
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	99,292.46
Abatements	2,356.21
	<hr/>
Balance due January 1, 1956	9,787.30
Interest paid Town Treasurer	50.46

1955 PERSONAL PROPERTY

Total Commitments	11,449.11
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	10,371.38
	<hr/>
Balance due January 1, 1956	1,077.73

1955 POLL TAX

Total Commitments	1,158.00
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	1,022.00
Abatements	136.00
	<hr/>

1955 MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE

Total Commitments	20,669.64
Collected and paid Town Treasurer	18,181.53
Abatements	1,181.53
	<hr/>
Balance due January 1, 1956	1,306.58
Interest paid Town Treasurer	12.91

Respectfully submitted,

DOROTHY S. FLYNN

Collector of Taxes

Town Bookkeeper's Report

1955

Summary of Receipts and Expenditures for 1955

Taxes	\$120,515.87	44.8%		
State Taxes	11,537.97	4.3		
Licenses and Permits	1,320.50	.5		
Motor Vehicle Excise	20,873.22	7.8		
Interest	1,596.81	.6		
General Government	1,164.10	.4	\$12,575.61	5.1%
Protection of Persons and Property	1,341.64	.5	5,221.77	2.1
Health and Sanitation	30.00		811.00	.3
Highways	32,488.85	12.1	51,874.17	21.1
Charities and Veteran's Benefits	22,503.13	8.4	30,237.49	12.3
School Department	45,624.76	16.9	115,173.17	46.8
Library	586.12	.2	2,089.46	.9
Cemeteries	295.12	.1	1,340.67	.5
Recreation and Unclassified	53.84		7,149.34	2.9
Agency, Investment and Refund	9,288.44	3.4	19,778.35	8.0
Total Receipts	269,220.37	100%		
Cash Balance 1/1/55	131,659.73			
Total Cash Available	400,880.10			
Total Expenditures			\$246,251.03	100%
Cash Balance 12/31/55	\$154,629.07			

RECEIPTS FOR 1955

General Revenue

Taxes

1953 Real Estate		\$459.76
1954 Poll	\$ 2.00	
1954 Personal Property	510.49	
1954 Real Estate	8,857.78	9,370.27
	<hr/>	
1955 Poll	1,022.00	
1955 Personal Property	10,371.38	
1955 Real Estate	99,292.46	110,685.84
	<hr/>	

From State

Corporation Tax	3,150.00	
Meals Tax	510.60	
Income Tax	7,877.87	11,537.97
	<hr/>	

Licenses and Permits

Liquor, Package Store &		
Druggist	1,250.00	
Licenses	58.00	
Permits	12.50	1,320.50
	<hr/>	

Fines — District Court

327.50

Grants from Federal Government

Old Age Assistance	7,838.71	
Aid To Dependent Children	2,001.30	
Disability Assistance	640.00	10,480.01
	<hr/>	

Grants from State Government

Animal Inspector	30.00
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Chapter 81	3,901.39
Schools — Superintendent	3,333.33
Schools — Tuition and Transportation	22,614.01
Mass. School Fund	8,300.00
	<hr/>
Grants from County	
Dog Licenses	571.02
	<hr/>
	\$182,931.60
Commercial Revenue	
Privileges	
Motor Vehicle Excise—1954	\$ 2,691.69
Motor Vehicle Excise—1955	18,181.53
	<hr/>
General Government	
Town House Income	1,151.35
Sale of Street List	1.00
Planning Board Recording Fee	5.00
Newspaper Advertising	6.75
	<hr/>
Protection of Persons & Property	
Insurance Claim — Fire	
Truck Flood Damage	979.34
Sealer's Fees	34.80
	<hr/>
Highways	
Machinery Fund	2,982.60
Chapter 90 Construction— State	4,999.87
Chapter 90 Construction— County	2,499.93

Chapter 90 Maintenance—			
State		1,999.91	
Chapter 90 Maintenance—			
County		3,499.31	
U. S. Army Corp of Engineers—			
Flood	12,605.84	28,587.46	
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Charities & Veteran's Benefits			
Public Welfare	256.86		
Disability Assistance	1,806.18		
Aid to Dependent Children	1,163.21		
Old Age Assistance	8,714.37		
Veteran's Services	82.50	12,023.12	
<hr/>			
Schools			
U. S. Treasury Public Law 874	1,329.04		
Tuition	451.60		
School Lunch	9,596.78	11,377.42	
<hr/>			
Unclassified			
Tailings		58.84	
Interest			
Defined Taxes	289.56		
Motor Vehicle Excise	40.35		
Library Funds	15.10		
Cemetery Funds	295.12		
Invested Funds	1,266.90	1,907.03	
<hr/>			
Total Commercial Revenue		\$77,000.33	
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Agency, Trust, Investment & Refunds

Agency

Federal Withholding Taxes	\$7,448.81
County Retirement Contributions	901.91
Dog Licenses	756.60
	9,107.32

Refunds

1954 Tuition	181.12
Total Agency, Trust, Investment & Refunds	\$9,288.44

Total Receipts for 1955	\$269,220.37

EXPENDITURES FOR 1955

General Government

Moderator—Salary	35.00
Selectmen—Salaries	\$525.00
Board of Public Welfare	175.00
	700.00

Selectmen—Expenses

Clerk	266.76
Printing, Postage & Stationery	71.39
Travel, Telephone & Meetings	127.50
Mass. Law Replacements	48.00
Association Dues	18.00
	531.65
Auditor—Salary	15.00
Bookkeeper—Salary	600.00

Bookkeeper—Expenses			
Printing, Postage & Stationery	69.43		
Typewriter Rental	18.00		
Clerk	36.00		
Association Dues	3.00	125.43	
Treasurer—Salary			550.00
Treasurer—Expenses			
Printing, Postage & Stationery	86.40		
Surety Bond	71.60		
Association Dues	2.00	160.00	
Collector—Salary			550.00
Collector—Expenses			
Printing, Postage & Stationery	310.56		
Surety Bond	111.60		
Association Dues	2.00	424.16	
Assessors—Salaries			500.00
Assessors—Expenses			
Clerk	550.00		
Printing, Postage & Stationery	153.45		
File Cabinet	69.28		
Auto Hire & Meetings	56.50		
Photostats of Deeds	64.80	894.03	
Certifying Notes & Other Finance			
Certifying Contracts	15.00		
Newspaper Advertising	21.11	36.11	
Law and Claims			
Town Counsel			60.00
Town Clerk — Salary			
Town Clerk — Expenses			100.00
Recording Fees	84.00		
Printing, Postage & Stationery	81.94		
Surety Bond	6.00		
Association Dues	7.50	179.44	

Elections & Registrations	
Election Officers	192.44
Printing, Postage & Stationery	142.54
Street List	149.00
Election Booths	31.85
Police at Polls	13.75
	<hr/>
Town House Maintenance	
Janitors	733.65
Oil Burner	860.00
Lights and Phone	1,099.30
Repairs	159.72
Janitor's Supplies	72.26
	<hr/>
Old Town Hall Maintenance	
Roof Repairs	50.00
Interior Repairs	82.04
	<hr/>
Insurance	
Workmen's Compensation	1,143.74
Automobile	872.01
Fire & Theft	1,402.97
	<hr/>
Board of Appeals — Clerk	
Advisory Board	3.00
Clerk	25.95
Association Dues	10.00
Travel & Meetings	44.87
	<hr/>
Planning Board	
Clerk	10.00
Association Dues	12.50
Printing, Postage & Stationery	3.20
	<hr/>
Total General Government	\$12,575.61
	<hr/>

Protection of Persons & Property

Police

Wages	963.08	
Auto Hire	94.69	1,057.77

Fire Department

Sunday Watch	64.00	
Gasoline & Oil	68.71	
Repairs & Parts	128.13	
New Equipment	460.00	
New Boots	88.50	
Fuel, Lights & Phone	642.19	
Repairs to Building	339.70	1,786.28

Dutch Elm Disease

Labor	265.59	
Tree Removal Contracts	434.41	700.00

Moth Eradication

Labor	377.50	
Auto Hire	20.25	397.75

Tree Warden—Labor 199.70

Planting Trees—Labor 49.52

Forest Fires

Forest Warden—Salary	50.00	
Forest Fires—Wages	297.50	
Forest Fire Equipment—Hose	167.00	

Sealer of Weights & Measures

Salary	50.00	
Expenses	16.30	66.30

Building Inspectors—Salary	300.00
Building Inspectors—Expenses	
Printing	37.50
Telephone & Auto Hire	112.50
	150.00
Total Protection of Persons & Property	\$5,221.77

Health & Sanitation

Health

Tuberculosis Board & Treatment	39.00
Dental Clinic	
Salary	400.00
Supplies	21.25
	421.25
Animal Inspector—Salary	60.00
Meat Inspector—Salary	50.00
Town Dump Maintenance	
Labor	21.75
Hired Equipment	219.00
	240.75
Total Health & Sanitation	\$811.00

Highways

Highways, Bridges & Railings

Labor	2,372.24
Materials	934.41
Hired Equipment	99.00
Traffic Signs	161.85
	3,567.50

Emergency Flood Repairs

Labor	4,280.94
Police Protection	355.42
Hired Equipment	6,737.00

Materials	2,632.55	
Chain Saw	344.00	
Miscellaneous	47.39	14,397.30
<hr/>		
Permanent Highway Flood Repairs		
Labor	2,527.40	
Hired Equipment	1,871.61	
Material	2,885.97	7,284.98
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Snow & Ice Removal		
Wages	771.03	
Material	472.51	1,243.54
<hr/>		
Street Lighting		1,038.00
Town Garage Maintenance		
Heat, Light & Phone		181.65
Road Machinery Maintenance		
Labor	148.29	
Gas & Oil	1,501.77	
Repairs, Parts, etc.	832.86	2,482.92
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Chapter 81		
Labor	4,147.56	
Town Equipment	1,977.20	
Hired Equipment	764.50	
Material	4,114.16	11,003.42
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Chapter 90 Maintenance		
Labor	1,432.95	
Town Equipment	578.90	
Hired Equipment	191.25	
Materials	3,796.62	5,999.72

Chapter 90 Construction			
Labor	904.21		
Town Equipment	372.35		
Hired Equipment	646.50		
Material	2,752.08	4,675.14	
 Total Highways			\$51,874.17
 Charities & Veterans' Benefits			
Welfare District	533.60		
Public Welfare	1,262.82		
Disability Assistance			
Town Appropriation	2,490.38		
Federal Grant	702.70	3,193.08	
 Old Age Assistance			
Town Appropriation	14,983.55		
Federal Grant	4,896.12	19,879.67	
 Aid to Dependent Children			
Town Appropriation	2,500.00		
Federal Grant	2,002.52	4,502.52	
 Veterans' Benefits			180.00
Veterans Service Center			685.80
 Total Charities & Veterans' Benefits			\$30,237.49
 Schools and Library			
School Committee—Expenses			
Clerk	258.64		
Association Dues	10.00		
Graduation Reception	30.00		
Printing, Postage & Stationery	35.58	334.22	

Superintendent—Salary	5,758.32
Superintendent—Expenses	
Clerk	430.52
Telephone	157.30
Traveling & Conference Expenses	266.57
Printing, Postage & Stationery	83.68
Attendance Officer	25.00
Census	75.00
Rent of Office	180.00
	1,218.07
Teachers' Salaries	29,640.00
Supervisors' Salaries	1,870.50
Textbooks	800.00
Supplies	1,300.00
Tuition	29,979.34
Transportation	22,766.73
Janitor Salary	3,418.00
Fuel	2,100.00
Repairs & Replacements	977.40
Miscellaneous Operating	
Telephone	92.25
Janitor Supplies	554.44
Rubbish Removal	53.50
Auto Hire	49.81
	750.00
New Equipment	
Desks	360.00
Motion Pictures	233.50
Transportation on Surplus	
Equipment	6.50
	600.00
Miscellaneous Auxiliary	
Diplomas & Graduation Exercises	73.64
Films & Records	51.36
	125.00

Health		
Physician	463.00	
Nurse	500.00	
Supplies	68.65	1,031.65
Contingency Fund		1,968.39
U.S. Treasury—Public Law 874		
Tables		51.04
Hot Lunch		
Labor	2,870.00	
Food, Supplies & Gas	6,417.20	
Tables	524.12	9,811.32
School Expansion Committee		
Clerk	42.00	
Land Appraisals	75.00	
Lawyers & Title Search	178.00	
Civil Engineer	10.00	
Miscellaneous	9.40	314.40
Eminent Domain—School Bldg. Site		
Land Appraisal		165.00
School Building Committee		
Clerk	67.36	
Travel	69.22	
Petty Cash	50.00	
Postage	7.21	198.79
Total Schools		\$115,173.17
Library		
Labor	895.25	
Books	891.87	
Periodicals	172.30	
Incidentals	130.04	2,089.46
Total Schools & Library		\$117,262.63

Enterprises and Cemeteries

Cemetery Maintenance

Labor	426.26
Gas, Oil & Repairs	58.85
New Fence	200.00

Cemetery Funds Income

New Fence	480.56
Soldiers & Sailors Graves	
Labor	157.15
Supplies	17.85

Total Enterprises — Cemeteries	\$1,340.67
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Recreation & Unclassified

Town Common

Labor	99.54
Gas	.46

Memorial Day

Flags	15.00
Flowers & Wreaths	105.00
Band & Transportation	80.00
Public Address System	18.00

Recreation Field

Materials	117.75
Hired Equipment	362.45
Arts & Craft Material	25.00

Recreation Swimming Site

Materials	63.75
Hired Equipment	436.25

500.00

Recreation Director—Salary	500.00
Recreation Field House	
Materials & Consultant	500.00
State Census—Labor	200.00
Town Reports—Printing	697.16
Aid to Agriculture	75.00
Hampden County Retirement System	1,108.47
County	
Hospital Assessment	141.64
Tax	2,417.70
	<hr/>
State	
Parks & Reservations	186.17
Total Recreation and Unclassified	<hr/> \$7,149.34
Agency, Trust, Investment & Refunds	
Agency	
Federal Withholding Taxes	7,358.11
County Retirement Contributions	876.05
Dog Licenses	756.00
	<hr/> 8,990.76
Investments	
Stabilization Fund	10,000.00
Refunds	
Motor Vehicle Excise	517.84
1955 Taxes	269.75
	<hr/> 787.59
Total Agency, Trust, Investment & Refunds	<hr/> \$19,778.35
Total Expenditures for 1955	<hr/> \$246,251.03

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1955

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expenditure	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward
Moderator	\$ 35.00	\$	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$	\$
Selectmen—Salaries	700.00		700.00	700.00		
Selectmen—Expenses	500.00	A 150.00	650.00	531.65	118.35	
Auditor	15.00		15.00	15.00		
Accounting—Salary	600.00		600.00	600.00		
Accounting—Expenses	100.00	A 50.00	150.00	125.45	24.57	
Treasurer—Salary	550.00		550.00	550.00		
Treasurer—Expenses	160.00		160.00	160.00		
Collector—Salary	550.00		550.00	550.00		
Collector—Expenses	425.00		425.00	424.16	.84	
Assessors—Salaries	500.00		500.00	500.00		
Assessors—Expenses	1,000.00		1,000.00	894.03	105.97	
Certifying Notes & Other Finance		B 38.50				
Law and Claims	250.00	B 155.25	406.25	60.00		
Town Clerk—Salary	100.00		100.00	100.00		
Town Clerk—Expenses	225.60		225.00	179.44	45.56	
Elections & Registrations	400.00	A 175.00	575.00	529.58	45.42	
Town House Maintenance	3,350.00		3,360.00	2,924.95	435.07	
Old Town Hall Maint.	100.00	B 39.30	139.30	132.04	7.26	
Board of Appeals	50.00		50.00	3.00		
Advisory Board	150.00		150.00	80.82	69.18	

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward
Planning Board	175.00 B	184.00	359.00	25.70		333.30
	A 200.00					
Police	800.00 B	208.53	1,208.53	1,057.77	150.76	
	A 100.00					
Fire Dept. Maint.	1,500.00 B	204.40	2,783.74	1,786.23	18.17	979.34
	C 979.34					
Fire House Repairs	B 179.00	179.00			179.00	
Fire House Wiring	B 138.00	138.00			138.00	
Dutch Elm Disease	700.00 A 435.00	1,135.00	400.00	397.75	2.25	
Moth Eradication	400.00		400.00	199.70	.30	
Tree Warden	200.00		200.00	49.52	.48	
Planting Trees	50.00		50.00	50.00		
Forest Warden	50.00		50.00	50.00		
Forest Fires	300.00 B	118.75	418.75	297.50		121.25
Forest Fire Equipment	B 200.00	200.00	200.00	167.00	33.00	
Sealer of Weights & Measures	70.00		70.00	66.30	3.70	
Building Inspection—Salaries	300.00		300.00	300.00		
Building Inspection—Expenses	150.00		150.00	150.00		
Health	B 1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	39.60		961.00
Dental Clinic	425.00		425.00	421.25	3.75	
Animal Inspection	60.00		60.00	60.00		
Meat Inspection	50.00		50.00	50.00		
Town Dump Maint.	100.00 B	188.99	288.99	240.75	48.24	
Highways, Bridges & Railings	2,500.00 B	1,254.35	3,754.35	3,567.50	186.85	

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward
Emergency Flood Repairs						
Permanent Highway Flood Repairs	2,060.00		2,060.00	7,284.98		(1,791.46)
Snow and Ice Removal	1,038.00		1,038.00	1,243.54		(7,284.98)
Street Lighting	290.00		290.00	181.65		756.45
Town Garage Maintenance						
Road Machinery Maintenance	M 2,500.00		2,500.00	2,482.92		17.08
Chapter 81 Maintenance	2,700.00 E 9,500.00		12,600.00	11,003.42		1,596.58
Chapter 90 Maintenance	2,000.00 E 4,000.00		6,000.00	5,999.72		.28
Chapter 90 Construction	2,500.00 E 7,500.00		10,000.00	4,675.14		5,324.86
Public Welfare District	400.00 A 133.60		533.60	533.60		
Public Welfare	2,300.00 B 735.99		3,035.99	1,262.82		1,773.17
Disability Assistance—Town	2,800.00		2,800.00	2,490.38		309.62
Disability Assistance—Federal	F 640.00		1,497.13	702.70		794.43
Old Age Assistance—Town	B 857.13					
Old Age Assistance—Federal	15,000 F 7,838.71		15,000.00	14,983.55		16.45
Aid to Dependent Children—Town	B 960.64		8,799.35	4,896.12		3,903.23
Aid to Dependent Children—Federal	2,200.00 A 300.00		2,500.00	2,500.00		
	F 2,001.30		2,178.27	2,002.52		175.75
Veteran's Benefits	B 1,161.56		1,161.56	180.00		981.56
School Committee Expenses	350.00		350.00	334.22		15.78
School—Superintendent's Salary	5,800.00		5,800.00	5,758.32		41.68
School—Superintendent's Expenses	1,350.00		1,350.00	1,218.07		131.93

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward
School—Teachers' Salaries	29,640.00		29,640.00	29,640.00		
School—Supervisor's Salaries	1,980.00		1,980.00	1,870.50	109.50	
School—Textbooks	800.00		800.00	800.00		
School—Supplies	1,390.00		1,390.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	
School—Tuition	35,100.00		35,100.00	29,979.34	5,120.66	
School—Transportation	22,793.00		22,793.00	22,766.73	26.27	
School—Janitor Salary	3,450.00		3,450.00	3,418.00	32.00	
School—Fuel	2,100.00		2,100.00	2,100.00		
School—Repair & Replacements	1,000.00		1,000.00	977.40	22.60	
School—Miscellaneous Operating	750.00		750.00	750.00		
School—New Equipment	600.00		600.00	600.00		
School—Miscellaneous Auxiliary	125.00		125.00	125.00		
School—Health	1,060.00		1,060.00	1,031.65	28.35	
School—Contingency Fund	2,000.00		2,000.00	1,968.39	31.61	
U. S. Treasury Public Law 874		F 1,329.04	1,329.04	51.04	1,278.00	
School Lunch		G 9,596.78	10,745.83	9,811.32	934.51	
School Expansion Committee		B 3,898.81	3,898.81	314.40	H 3,584.41	
Eminent Domain—School Bldg. Property		H 500.00	500.00	165.00	335.00	
School Building Committee		H 3,084.41	3,084.41	193.79	2,890.62	
Regional School Committee		B 45.00	45.00		45.00	
Library	1,500.00	J 571.02	2,104.56	2,089.46		
Cemeteries Maintenance	500.00	K 15.10	18.44	690.13	685.11	5.02

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expended	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward
Cemetery Funds Income	B	190.13	957.40	480.56		476.84
	K	295.12	175.00	175.00		
Soldiers & Sailors Graves	175.00	B	662.28			
Town Common	100.00			100.00	100.00	
Memorial Day	200.00	A	18.00	218.00	218.00	
Recreation Field Improvements	750.00			750.00	505.20	244.80
Recreation Director	500.00			500.00	500.00	
Recreation Swimming Site	500.00			500.00	500.00	
Recreation Field House	500.00			500.00	500.00	
State Census	200.00			200.00	200.00	
Town Reports	650.00	A	47.16	697.16	697.16	
Aid to Agriculture	75.00			75.00	75.00	
Civil Defense	B	90.78		90.78		90.78
Hampden County Retirement System	1,108.47			1,108.47	1,108.47	
Stabilization Fund	E10,000.00			E10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Reserve Fund	1,000.00	L	2,500.00	3,500.00	1,608.76	
Insurance	3,460.00			3,460.00	3,418.72	41.28
Total Appropriations			\$172,154.47			
Total Other Sources			\$91,321.07			
Total Available Funds				\$263,475.54		
Total Expended						\$234,659.13

Account	Appropriation	Obtained From Other Sources	Total Available Funds	Expenditure	Closed To Surplus Revenue	Carried Forward
						\$10,641.96
						<hr/>
						\$23,675.48
						<hr/>
						\$ 9,076.44
						<hr/>
						\$ 3,584.41
						<hr/>

Total Closed To Surplus
Total Carried Forward

Total Flood Repairs Expended &
Reimbursement Due from State
Transfer from School Expansion
Committee Account

Analysis of Reserve Fund Transfers:

Selectmen's Expenses
Accounting—Expenses
Elections & Registrations
Police
Fire Department
Dutch Elm Disease
Public Welfare District
Aid to Dependent Children
Memorial Day
Town Reports

\$150.00
50.00
175.00
200.00
100.00
435.00
133.60
300.00
18.00
47.16

Key to Symbols:

A—Transfers from Reserve Fund
B—Balances Carried Forward from 1954
C—Insurance Claim on Flood Damage
D—U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
E—Excess and Deficiency
F—Federal Aid and Grants
G—Government Aid and Counter Receipts
H—Transfers voted at Special Town Meeting
June 27, 1955
J—Dog Licenses Refunded
K—Interest on Trust Funds
L—Transfer from Overlay Reserve
M—Transfer from Machinery Fund

\$1,608.76

BALANCE SHEET—December 31, 1955
 General Accounts

Assets		Liabilities
Cash	\$154,629.07	Highway Machinery Fund
Taxes—Outstanding:		Sale of Real Estate Revenue
1953 Real Estate	\$ 3.30	State Assessments—Credits:
1954 Real Estate	586.23	State Parks & Reservations
1955 Personal Property	1,077.73	Veteran's Service Center
1955 Real Estate	9,787.63	
	11,454.56	
		Agency Collections:
1955 Motor Vehicle Excise	1,306.58	Federal Withholding Tax
Tax Possessions	60.12	County Retirement Contr.
Departmental Accounts Receivable:		Overlays & Overlay Reserve
Welfare—Temporary Aid	120.90	1953 Overlay
Aid to Dependent Children	473.06	1954 Overlay
Town House Rents	152.56	1955 Overlay
	746.49	Overlay Reserve
Highway Revenue Receivable:		Revenue Reserves:
State:		
Chapter 81	7,561.68	Motor Vehicle Excise
Chapter 90 Construction	5,000.00	Tax Title Revenue
		Departmental
Flood Relief:		Highway
Emergency Repairs	2,394.16	

Permanent Road	15,500.00	17,894.16	Flood Relief	17,894.16	35,069.03
Repairs			Balances Carried Forward	23,675.48	
County:			Less Flood Expenditures		
Chapter 90 Maintenance	2,500.00		not yet reimbursed	9,076.44	14,599.04
State Assessments—Deficits:					
County Tax	161.70				
County Hospital	22.08	183.78	Surplus Revenue	133,639.36	
Total Assets			Total Liabilities & Surplus	\$201,338.44	
			Trust and Investment Funds		
			Post War Rehabilitation Fund	\$17,915.58	
			Stabilization Fund	20,464.01	
			Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	7,716.14	
			Burnstead General Care Fund	2,106.68	
			Day Library Fund	521.44	
			Holt Library Fund	500.00	
			Carew Library Fund	2,096.12	
				\$51,319.97	

Respectfully Submitted,

BOLLYN H. HATCH
Town Bookkeeper

Treasurer's Report

Balance January 1, 1955	\$131,659.33
Receipts for 1955	270,435.84
	<hr/>
	\$402,095.17
Expenditures for 1955	\$247,466.10
Balance December 31, 1955	154,629.07
	<hr/>
	\$402,095.17
Stabilization Fund	\$20,464.01
Post War Rehabilitation Fund	\$17,915.58
Federal Payroll Taxes withheld	\$7,433.21
County Retirement Deducted	917.51

Treasurer's Report --- Trust Funds

Fund	1/1/55	1955			Withdrn. 12/31/55
	Bal.	Int.	1955	Bal.	
Day, Library	516.34	15.60	10.50	521.44	
Holt, Library	500.00	15.10	15.10	500.00	
Carew, Library	2,034.64	61.48	0.00	2,096.12	
Bumstead, Cemetery	2,106.68	63.66	63.66	2,106.68	
Helen E. Stacy	150.00	4.50	4.50	150.00	
Burleigh, Holt	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00	
Anna S. Leonard	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00	
John R. Stoddard	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00	
Twitchell, Burt	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00	
Marcus Beebe	150.00	4.50	4.50	150.00	
Lydia Morris	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00	

Orrin Goodwill	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00
John Q. Adams	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Thompson, Chaffee	300.00	9.00	9.00	300.00
William Johnson	125.00	3.74	3.74	125.00
Calvin Stebbins	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Milo Chapin	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Elsie M. Hilla	1,000.00	30.00	30.00	1,000.00
S. Stacy Hunt	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Henry Dickinson	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Jackson Dickey	40.00	1.20	1.20	40.00
George P. West	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Holms, Beebe	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00
Flora Carlton	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Wm. J. Sessions	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
John Kenworthy	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00
Mortimer Pease	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
John S. Beebe	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Davis, Weeks, Pease	200.00	6.00	6.00	100.00
David Stebbins	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
John F. Whitaker	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Orcutt	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
Beebe, Stanton	150.00	4.50	4.50	150.00
Charles Whitaker	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Bennett, Kenworthy	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Rose Corey	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Joseph Stimson	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
N&E Langdon	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Jennie Shaw	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
Davis, Pease	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
George Pond	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
Martha Edson	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
John Bartlett	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00
C. I. Burleigh	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
D. L. & D. R. McCray	150.00	4.50	4.50	150.00
Henry M. Davis	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
J. L. Gottsche	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Wm. & Fred Leach	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00

Alvin Bennett	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Charlotte & Carl Merrill	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Medicke	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Irving Newell	300.00	9.00	9.00	300.00
Anton Waska	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Marcus Chaffee	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
Agnes Viggers	50.00	1.50	1.50	50.00
A. H. Newman	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Lillie Bradway	101.14	3.02	3.02	101.14
Harry Goodwill	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Gutberlet	100.00	3.00	3.00	100.00
Byron Stebbins	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00
Jane Stebbins	200.00	6.00	6.00	200.00
Balance January 1, 1955				\$12,873.80
Interest Received in 1955				387.30 \$13,261.10
Interest Withdrawn 1955				320.72
Balance December 31, 1955				\$12,940.38

Respectfully submitted,

GRACE L. KIBBE

Treasurer

Report of Auditor

Board of Selectmen

Town of Hampden

Hampden, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I have examined the books of various Town departments and accordingly included such checks and tests and other auditing procedures to the extent deemed necessary and appropriate to establish the general accuracy and correctness of the records. However, I did not make a detailed audit of the various transactions.

Amounts of receipts and disbursements were compared with the Treasurer's Schedules and Warrants and the Treasurer's Cash Book and Bookkeeper's General Ledger for the period starting from the date of a State Audit on June 17, 1955 to December 31, 1955. Computation of Treasurer's cash balance of \$154,629.07 as of the latter date was verified as correct.

Advices of payments by the State to the Town were checked through the Treasurer's Cash Book and Bookkeeper's General Ledger for the same period.

Payments by the Tax Collector to the Treasurer were test checked and amounts of outstanding taxes at December 31, 1955 were compared in the Bookkeeper's General Ledger and the Tax Collector's records.

All officials concerned cooperated to the fullest extent and the information obtained was sufficient in scope to establish in my mind a favorable opinion as to the correctness of the books on account.

Respectfully submitted,

LESLIE F. WOODS

Town Auditor

Town Clerk's Report

Dogs Licensed in 1955:

173 Male	@ \$ 2.00	\$346.00
30 Female	@ 5.00	150.00
107 Spayed	@ 2.00	214.00
6 Kennel	@ 10.00	60.00
1 Kennel	@ 50.00	50.00
		\$820.00

Paid County Treasurer June 1, 1955	\$363.00
Paid County Treasurer December 1, 1955	393.60
Clerk's Fees @ 20c each	63.40
\$820.00	

Births:

23 Male	
24 Female	47

Marrriages	
	16

Deaths:

12 Female	
9 Male	21

Documents Recorded:	
	73

Respectfully submitted,

GRACE L. KIBBE

Town Clerk

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

1955

During the summer of 1955, the Recreation Field again filled the need of many of Hampden's children and grownups as a place to go for relaxation and enjoyment of the field's facilities.

Our Recreation Field director, Chuck Patillo, conducted a program of instruction in swimming, baseball, and arts and crafts.

It was gratifying to note that attendance this season even surpassed the record established last year.

There were two baseball teams made up of boys between ten and twelve years of age. They played practice games at the field under the Daily News Sandlot League rules.

Swimming, the main field attraction, was enjoyed by as many as 120 people per day until August, when the flow water from West Brook was insufficient and the pond was closed for health reasons. During the swimming period, instructions in swimming and life saving were given by Chuck Patillo. No Red Cross certificates could be issued due to unavoidable shortening of the program caused by the August drought and flood.

With the usual co-operation and physical assistance of the townspeople, the following improvements were made:

1. New cement dam for settling basin and basin itself enlarged.
2. Large field house shelter constructed.

3. Existing building converted to double bath house and field equipment storage.
4. Swimming pond outlet stoned, tiled and covered.
5. Access road to pool and baseball diamond widened over brook.
6. Baseball diamond base lines Roto-tiled and backstop heightened and repaired.
7. Swimming pond enlarged, re-sloped, re-sanded and graded.

Due to the August flood, several projects scheduled for 1955 were not completed. They will be completed in 1956.

The Committee wishes to express its appreciation to the Hampden Volunteer Fire Department for their contribution to the field of necessary drinking facilities, consisting of a tiled well, electric pump, and drinking fountain.

JASON DOUBLEDAY

ATHOS ROSSI

JAMES INGRAHAM

JOHN WHITNEY

RALPH MELANDER

REPORT OF TREE WARDEN

In spite of the disastrous flood of August 19, 1955, the damage to trees was negligible since the hurricane was not attended by winds.

However, it was necessary to remove five hazardous trees along Main Street. The sum of \$200.00 was appropriated for this type of work and the amount expended was \$199.70.

The sum of \$50 was appropriated for the planting of shade trees along the highways. The Highway Department worked with the tree warden in this task and many rock maples were planted on the newly accepted streets which were badly in need of shade trees. There are already many requests which have been received for next year's allotment.

Respectively submitted,

AUSTIN K. HARRIS, SR.

Tree Warden

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Devices Sealed

	Adj.	Con.	Sealed
Scales over 10,000 lbs.	1		1
Scales 100 to 5,000 lbs.	1		3
Scales under 100 lbs.	12		16
Avoirdupois Weights			12
Apothecary Weights			21
Metric Weights			30
Liquid Measures 1 gal. or under			5
Gasoline Meters 1" or less	5		11
Kerosene and Grease Pumps			4
Tank Truck Heating Oil Meters			2*
<hr/>			
Total devices sealed			105

*The 2 tank truck heating oil meters were tested, adjusted and sealed in the Springfield Weights and Measures Dept. testing laboratory.

Total fees collected \$34.80.

With the advent of the two new drug stores in town come the problem of testing the prescription scales without testing standards for that purpose. However after having secured the permission of the Mass. Division of Standards, I was granted the use of the equipment of the Springfield Department, thereby eliminating the necessity of the Town purchasing these weights, which would cost approximately \$150.00.

Reweighting of prepackaged merchandise constituted

inspections of dry staples, frozen foods, potatoes, etc. Retests of gasoline measuring devices were made in two instances. Approximately 50 Clinical or fever thermometers were inspected to ascertain if they conformed to all Massachusetts requirements as to manufacturers' seals and that the degree of error was within tolerance. All were found to be correct.

The activities of this department have increased threefold since 1951. In that year 5 stops were made, 22 units sealed and a total revenue of \$12.75 was received. In 1955 20 stops were made, 105 units sealed and a total revenue of \$34.80 was collected. In addition to this 5 inspection stops were made with a total of 90 inspections.

Respectfully submitted,

ERROL M. BEEBE

Sealer

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board held 10 regular meetings and two special meetings during the year 1955.

At the invitation of the School Building Committee, the Planning Board met with it, the Board of Selectmen, the Advisory Board and the Board of Appeals to hear a report on the progress of the School Building Committee toward the proposed elementary school.

The board also held hearings on the development of the Scantic Realty Company on the West Side and the

development of John Mastronardi on Lookout Mountain. In both cases the plans were revised to enlarge the lots and make for more attractive developments.

The year 1955 was one of healthy and normal growth. Building fell off slightly from 40 and 39 new houses respectively during the past two years to 32 in 1955. However, another modern drug store has opened for business and plans have been completed for a service station on the West Side forming the nucleus for a future shopping center.

About the middle of December, 1955 the Planning Board posted notices for a hearing on the extension of the present business zone at the corner of West Main Street and Somers Road to provide an available area for such a shopping center with the plans of the owner including offices for a resident doctor and dentist and other much needed services with an adequate parking space.

Hickory Lane is extending over the mountain with this portion to be known as Old Coach Road and promises to provide many attractive building sites.

Respectively submitted,

GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT, Chairman

MARION W. GERRISH, Secretary

JOHN R. WALLACE

DORVAL E. VIGER

WILLIAM P. PATULLO

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF SLAUGHTERING

During the year of 1955 I inspected

24 hogs

2 beef

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE A. PATRIC

Inspector of Slaughtering

REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hampden Volunteer Fire Departement was called out forty-one times during the year ending December 31, 1955. Fires were: 1 house, 1 garage, 5 chimney, 1 car, and 33 grass and brush.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM R. ALLEN

Fire Chief

**1955 Report
of the
Trustees for County Aid to Agriculture**

Hampden, Mass.

According to Section 45, Chapter 128 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, any town may appropriate money to be expended by the Trustees for carrying out the provisions of the law under which they are appointed.

Agents of the Trustees have made contacts during the past year in your town either by public meetings, individual farm and home visits, group discussions, demonstrations or otherwise in attempting to assist citizens toward improved farm practices, better home management and boys and girls in 4-H Club projects.

The following citizens have been of real assistance in promoting such assigned projects as have been conducted during the year:—

Mrs. Frank Burt, Mrs. Earle E. Dickinson, Mrs. Warren Dickinson, Mrs. Esther Edwards, Mrs. Edward J. Finn, Mrs. H. A. Gray, Mr. Earle Harris, Mrs. Richard Hatch, Mrs. Francis Haynes, Mrs. Stanley Herring, Mrs. Edward Larson, Mrs. Arlene Ross, Mrs. A. R. Shierman.

An expense of \$84.63 was incurred by these local leaders for either travel or purchase of material needed in carrying on the various programs.

Any appropriation made by your town to the Trustees is held by the County Treasurer and used exclusively for reimbursing your own citizens for any necessary expenses they may incur in performing such duties as may be assigned to them.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

1955 Appropriation	\$75.00
1954 Unexpended Balance	\$33.70

Total Available for 1955	\$108.70
Total Expenditure in 1955	\$84.68
Balance Available for 1956	\$24.07
Appropriation recommended for 1956	\$100.00

Respectfully submitted,

Trustees For County Aid To Agriculture
By ALBERT H. FULLER, Clerk

c:75
12/15/55

REPORT OF DUTCH ELM COMMITTEE

In 1955 we cut and burned the following:

In March 5 elm trees were cut and burned.

In June 8 elm trees were destroyed.

In September 2 elms were found diseased and were destroyed.

In October 17 samples were sent in and 14 were found to be diseased. As there was not enough money left to remove them, I had to wait to get additional funds from the Town.

After obtaining sufficient funds, the trees were cut, removed and burned.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. LEMON

Moth Supt.

Librarian's Report

Circulation of Books and Magazines	13,769
Total Attendance	11,364
Books Bought	323
Books Donated	170
Magazine Subscriptions Bought	46
Magazines Donated	346

Donors of Books: In memory of Charles Ballard, 1; in memory of Hetty Burnham, 1; Catholic Women's Club (Courtesy of Mrs Whittum) 4; G. Gray, 8; Mrs. Sawyer, 2; H. Schmuck, 66; T. Hurd, 1; E. Peterson, 9; B. Baker, 5; Mrs. Kinagford, 9; May Phelps, 5; Mrs. L. Cote, 17; Prof. W. V. Sessions, 16; Jennie Bennett, 16; Mrs. A. Hayes, 2; J. Simon, 1; L. Pauly, 1; Rev. M. Lynch, 1; G. Lyons, 1; B. Wallace, 1; J. Officer, 1; R. & E. Woods, 1; Standard Oil Company of N. Y. 1.

Donors of Magazines: J. Lyons, 14; Al Woods, 51; H. L. Foster, 144; Mrs. Morgan, 2; G. Lyons, 10; T. Viggers, 7; F. Garfield, 1; C. Therrien, 6; T. Hurd, 23; M. Battige, 3; C. Melville, 49; L. Koneitik, 6; Mrs. L. O. Howlett, 2; Mrs. H. Atherton, 17; Cy Woods, 11; Hampden Garden Club, 1 year subscription to "Horticulture."

Registered Borrowers

From the School	282
Others	210
Books Reviewed by the School Children	883

State Reading Certificates issued:

Large	29
Small	165

More valuable additions have been made to our Historical Collection from the following: Royal Southwick, a wooden rosette from the old town horse-drawn hearse; Mina Sessions Gibson, valuable data; Estate of Rev. Chas. B. Bliss, many heretofore unknown old pictures of Hampden, a relief map made by the former Hampden pastor, now framed by the Library for safe keeping.

Mrs. Alton Gregory has sent us some glass plates of pictures of the family of Grace Pease Carew and scenes of the West Side. The Library has had a number of these developed.

Easter was appropriately celebrated with a traditional Easter Egg Tree on exhibit, upon which contestants from grades 1-4 hung gayly decorated eggs. Books were given as prizes to the winner of each grade. Mrs. Midyette Supervisor of Art was the judge.

The Librarians attended the Spring Western Massachusetts Library Association meeting at Whately.

Because of our rapidly dwindling budget, and small attendance of previous years, we experimented with summer closing. The Library was open on Wednesday evenings only.

In the fall, both the trustees and the Librarians attended their special work-shop, open-house meetings at the newly opened Winchester Square Branch Library.

National Book Week was observed in November, with a delightful afternoon for the school children who were entertained with story-telling and book-reviewing by Mrs. Irwin Borodkin of Springfield, a former librarian in New York City. The afternoon was completed with coffee hour enjoyed by the school teachers and friends of the library.

Our attractive Christmas displays were furnished by members of the Hampden Garden Club.

It has long been a policy of this and every library to keep certain adult books on a special shelf. These may be obtained at any time by request to the librarian in charge

Respectfully submitted,
MIRIAM P. BRYANS

Librarian

ARLINE M. HOWLETT

DORRIT H. FINN

Assistant Librarians

HAZEL T. FISHER

Substitute Librarian

Library Trustees' Report

MRS. ELIZABETH J. MORGAN	Term expires 1956
MISS GERTRUDE M. LYONS	Term expires 1957
MRS. ELEANOR B. McCRAY	Term expires 1958
Appropriation by the Town	\$1,500.00
Dog Fund from the Town	571.02
Holt Fund Interest	14.46
Balance 1954	3.98
	\$2,089.46
Expended	
Books and Magazines	\$1,069.28
Supplies and Incidental	124.93
Wages	895.25
	\$2,089.46
JOANNA (BURLEIGH) HOLT FUND	
Amount of bequest	\$500.00
Interest available for use in 1956	\$15.10
MORTON L. DAY FUND	
Balance in Fund Jan. 3, 1956	\$516.34
Interest Received	15.60
Withdrawal for Christian Herald sub-	
scriptions to shut-ins Jan. 3, 1956	\$10.50
Balance in Fund Jan. 3, 1956	\$521.44
GRACE (PEASE) CAREW FUND	
Amount of Bequest	\$2,000.00
Accumulated Interest	34.64
Interest for 1955	61.48
Balance in Fund Jan. 3, 1956	\$2,096.12

Respectfully submitted,

GERTRUDE M. LYONS, Chairman
 ELEANOR B. McCRAY
 ELIZABETH Q. MORGAN
 Library Trustees

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN

The Forest Warden reports:

33 grass and brush fires.

There were 898 permits to burn issued for the year and one permit to dynamite. The Forest Fire Warden wishes to emphasize that it is necessary to have a permit for all open air fires.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM R. ALLEN

Forest Fire Warden

GYPSY MOTH REPORT

We completed the search for Gypsy Moth Clusters and found the infestation very light.

About 150 clusters were found and destroyed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. LEMON Moth Supt.

BUILDING COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

For the year ending December 31, 1955 there were one hundred and eighty-two permits granted. These were as follows:

New houses	32
Alterations to houses	3
Additions to houses	12
Garages	6
Store	1
Shelters	9
Shed	1
Greenhouse	1
Service Station	1
Demolish House	1
Plumbing	47
Electrical	68

Respectfully submitted,

GORDON J. E. WILLCUTT

Building Commissioner

Report of the School Committee

The School Committee holds its regular meetings the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, and special meetings when needed. We have worked closely throughout the year with our Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Bernard, and have made some important decisions which will affect our school system now and in the future.

Our meetings are open to the public and we strongly urge interested citizens to attend these meetings.

SCHOOL FACILITIES AND CURRICULUM ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

ELEMENTARY — FIRST GRADE:

With the problem of a large potential first grade class for September, 1955, and with realization of the importance of the first few school years in building a firm foundation for reading and other basic skills, we began to study the possible solution with our Superintendent of Schools.

It was agreed to have the pre-school round-up earlier in the year to guide our thinking in regard to the size of the entering class. The number registering at the pre-school round-up affirmed our opinion that this class should be divided.

We studied several possibilities for facilities, most of which presented problems that could not be overcome. Our final decision was to have the first grade in two sections—one to be in the regular first grade room—

the second to be held in the auditorium-gymnasium. This has worked out well. However, there are difficulties. The rehearsals and presentations of special programs and assemblies have been curtailed. For our indoor physical education program it is necessary to either curtail the program or move the first grade. A compromise program has been worked out temporarily on these problems.

SECOND GRADE THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE:

With the exception of the eighth grade, which is the last small class, the other grades of necessity continue in crowded facilities. This does not make for the best results in learning and achievement.

SECONDARY — NINTH GRADE:

Due to the crowded conditions in Springfield Junior High Schools, we had only Classical Junior High School available for our ninth grade again. Although we have the highest regard for the curriculum of the Springfield schools, we realized that our ninth grade pupils were having difficulty making the necessary adjustments at Classical Junior High. We began to make inquiries into other possibilities. Meetings were held with School Committees of neighboring towns in regard to the possibilities of taking our ninth grade. An agreement was reached with East Longmeadow to take our ninth grade at Birchland Park School until 1957. After 1957 the size of the East Longmeadow ninth grade will make the possibility of accommodating Hampden pupils very uncertain. We must be ready to make other arrangements for our ninth grade.

The Committee strongly recommends that in any local school building plans, provisions be made for local ninth grade facilities.

HIGH SCHOOLS:

Hampden pupils continue to show good achievements at the Springfield High Schools and the Agawam Vocational School. Because of our steadily increasing enrollment at these schools and also steadily increasing tuition rates, we recommend serious consideration of any possible regional school plans with neighboring towns.

The School Committee is continuing its firm stand on Junior and Senior High School absenteeism. This is necessary for educational results as well as fairness to taxpayers. Close cooperation of parents of children involved is essential. At the present time the High School tuition rate is \$436 per pupil per year.

POLIO INOCULATION PROGRAM:

In conjunction with the local Health Department the Salk Vaccine Program was adopted. With the co-operation of the School Nurse, Mrs. Fuller, the School Doctor, Dr. Quinn assisted by Dr. Keroack, and several volunteer workers, the vaccine was administered. Children in grades one and two, whose parents indicated their approval, received the inoculations.

PERSONNEL:

The Committee accepted with regret the resignation of Mrs. Eleanor McCray, teacher and principal, of our staff for many years. Mrs. Helen Enslin was elected principal.

The only other change in our staff was the addition of Mrs. Jeanie A. Hatheway, an experienced and capable teacher, who was elected to teach the second section of grade one.

We have the highest confidence in, and respect for, the abilities and accomplishments of our Superintendent

of Schools and members of the school staff—our teachers, supervisors, health administrators, hot lunch workers, and custodian. They have often performed their duties under unfavorable conditions, and have made the best possible use of the facilities at hand.

TEXTBOOKS AND VISUAL AID PROGRAM:

During the early part of the year our teaching staff formed two committees to do research work on our textbook and audio-visual aid needs. They made the following recommendations: The Textbook Committee recommended the adoption of a new social studies series for grades three through eight, and the purchase of supplementary reference books. The Audio Visual Aid Committee recommended the purchase of a new film strip projector, initiation of a film strip program, adoption of a movie rental program, and the purchase of a tachistoscope to aid in reading, spelling, and arithmetic skills.

After careful study of these recommendations by this Committee and Mr. Bernard, the program was adopted.

PRELIMINARY EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR EXPANDING THE HAMPDEN SCHOOL FACILITIES

Progress made by the School Expansion Committee indicated the need of educational specifications for expanding our school facilities. The Committee together with Superintendent Bernard developed the specifications and made them available to the Hampden School Building Committee.

We feel that in our best judgment these specifications cover the needs of our local school system for the next six years.

Enrollment figures and projections for classroom needs were included in the specifications. We strongly feel that additional school facilities are an immediate need of this Town.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN LOMBARD, Chairman

LESTER PAULY

JOHN WHITNEY

ELEANOR MacMULLEN

ELOISE WALLACE

ITEMIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1955

			Returned to Excess and Deficiency
	Appro.	Exp.	
GENERAL CONTROL:			
School Committee, Expenses	\$350.00	\$334.22	\$15.78
Superintendent's Salary	5,800.00	5,758.32	41.68
Expense of Superintendence	1,350.00	1,218.07	131.93
EXPENSES OF INSTRUCTION:			
Supervisors' Salaries	1,980.00	1,870.50	109.50
Teachers' Salaries	29,640.00	29,640.00	0.00
Textbooks	800.00	800.00	0.00
Supplies	1,300.00	1,300.00	0.00
EXPENSES OF OPERATION:			
Janitors' Salaries	3,450.00	3,418.00	32.00
Fuel and Light	2,100.00	2,100.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	750.00	750.00	0.00
MAINTENANCE:			
Repairs & Replacements	1,000.00	977.40	22.60
AUXILIARY AGENCIES:			
Health	1,060.00	1,031.65	28.35
Transportation	22,793.00	22,766.73	26.27
Tuition	35,100.00	29,979.34	5,120.66
Miscellaneous	125.00	125.00	0.00
OUTLAY:			
New Equipment	600.00	600.00	0.00
CONTINGENCY:	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>1,968.39</u>	<u>31.61</u>
TOTALS	\$110,198.00	\$104,637.62	\$5,560.38
NET EXPENDITURES AS SHOWN			\$104,637.62

CREDITS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH:

Superintendent's Salary	3,333.33
Transportation:	
Chapter 71, Section 7A	18,553.90
State Wards	193.72
Vocational Education, Chapter 74, Section 8A	456.39
Tuition:	
State Wards	195.88
Vocational Education	2,455.37
Chapter 70	15,287.81
TUITION REFUNDS:	337.12

TOTAL CREDITS	\$40,813.52
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AMOUNT PAID FROM LOCAL TAXATION

FOR EDUCATION	63,824.10	104,637.62
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FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT, PUBLIC LAW 874

Received	Expended	Balance
\$1,829.04	\$51.04	*\$1,278.00

*Balance, carried forward to 1956

1956 SCHOOL BUDGET

GENERAL CONTROL:

School Committee Expense	\$350.00
Salary of Superintendent	
State's Share	\$3,333.33
Town's Share	2,766.67
	<hr/>
Expense of Superintendence	1,250.00

EXPENSES OF INSTRUCTION:

Supervisors' Salaries	2,134.00
Teachers' Salaries	35,600.00
Textbooks	900.00
Supplies	1,400.00

EXPENSE OF OPERATION:

Janitor's Salaries	3,500.00
Fuel and Light	2,300.00
Miscellaneous	750.00

MAINTENANCE:

Repairs and Replacements	900.00
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AUXILIARY AGENCIES:

Health	1,060.00
Transportation	22,950.00
Tuition	32,141.00
Miscellaneous	125.00

OUTLAY:

New Equipment	540.00
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CONTINGENCY FUND:	2,000.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL BUDGET	\$114,000.00
ESTIMATED CREDITS FROM COMMONWEALTH	
Superintendent's Salary	3,333.00
Transportation:	
Chapter 71, Section 7A	18,200.00
State Wards	150.00
Vocational Ed. Chapter 74 Section 8A	1,100.00
Tuition:	
State Wards	120.00
Vocational Education	2,500.00
Chapter 70	15,000.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL ESTIMATED CREDITS	\$40,403.00
ESTIMATED COST OF EDUCATION	
FROM TOWN TAXES	73,597.00

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL GROSS BUDGET

	1955	1956	Difference
CONTROLLABLE COSTS			
General Control:			
School Committee Expenses	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	
Salary of Superintendent	5,800.00	6,100.00	\$+300.00
Expense of Superintendence	1,350.00	1,250.00	—100.00
Expenses of Instruction:			
Supervisors' Salaries	1,980.00	2,134.00	+154.00
Teachers' Salaries	29,640.00	35,600.00*	+5,960.00
Textbooks	800.00	900.00	+100.00
Supplies	1,300.00	1,400.00	+100.00
Expense of Operation:			
Janitors' Salaries	3,450.00	3,500.00	+50.00
Fuel and Light	2,100.00	2,300.00	+200.00
Miscellaneous	750.00	750.00	
Maintenance:			
Repairs and Replacements	1,000.00	900.00	—100.00
Auxiliary Agencies:			
Health	1,060.00	1,060.00	
Miscellaneous	125.00	125.00	
Outlay:			
New Equipment	600.00	540.00	—60.00
NON-CONTROLLABLE COSTS			
Auxiliary Agencies:			
Transportation	22,793.00	22,950.00	+157.00
Tuition	35,100.00	32,141.00	—2,959.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$108,198.00	\$112,000.00	\$+3,802.00
CONTINGENCY:	2,000.00	2,000.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$110,198.00	\$114,000.00	\$+3,802.00

*Includes salary of additional teacher as well as salary increases for regular staff.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

To the School Committee of the Town of Hampden:

It is a pleasure to submit my third annual report as Superintendent of Schools for the Town of Hampden. On everyhand, the fine friendliness and cooperation of the townspeople and their deep concern for the best interests of the children have made my task interesting and pleasant.

OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

Our most pressing elementary school problem is lack of classrooms. During the present school year, the auditorium-gymnasium is being used as a classroom. This is an unfortunate procedure. Next school year, through the use of a combination grade in the auditorium-gymnasium, it will be possible to avoid double sessions. Our pre-school potential as determined by the October 1, 1955 school census clearly indicates double sessions in 1958. A slight rise in Hampden's rate of growth will mean double sessions in the fall of 1957. Double sessions have proven most unsatisfactory to pupils, parents, and teachers. It will be unfortunate for Hampden if it is necessary to resort to double sessions. However, the citizens of our community are alert to this problem and their concern is expressed in the existence of the School Building Committee. The School Building Committee is attacking the problem with industry, thoroughness, and enthusiasm. The fine response of the townspeople as expressed in the reception of the School Building Committee's progress

reports and through invitations to discuss school expansion plans with local groups is very encouraging to an early and adequate solution of this problem.

In order to constantly improve the quality and effectiveness of our classroom teaching, a series of local in-service courses dealing with audio-visual aids, basic textbook series, phonetics, and pupil motivation have been instituted. Our teachers also participate in extension courses offered by area colleges. Our teachers are sincere, industrious, and competent; they are making an important contribution to the lives of our boys and girls.

Arrangements have been made with the women's physical education department at Springfield College to provide part time instruction in physical education for the girls in our upper grades. Instruction in physical education for the boys in the upper grades is offered by Springfield College men students when they are available. At the first opportunity, this instruction should be handled by a permanent member of the elementary staff.

During the last school year pupils who participated in the sports program were given a chance to earn their school letter. Also, a school letter was awarded to outstanding pupils for citizenship. Awards were made for reading and writing achievements.

Square dancing and basketball instructions were made available for both girls and boys in the upper grades.

In May, our Treble Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Fitzgerald, participated in a music festival in Chicopee.

The School Committee sponsored a reception for the eighth grade graduating class in June.

Our Hot Lunch Staff serves very effectively an amazing yearly total of approximately 27,000 meals. The

meals consist of a main dish, vegetables, bread and butter, milk and a dessert. These meals are appetizing and well balanced and cost 20¢ each. Grade A Homogenized, Vitamin D added milk is available at recess and at lunch for 2¢ per bottle. Approximately 6100 half pints of milk are consumed by our elementary pupils each month.

In the Spring of each year, our elementary pupils participate in nationwide standardized tests. The tests are revised and refined each year and have been in progress over a long period of time. They furnish an accurate measure of academic standards. It is a pleasure to report a substantial yearly gain in the academic standing of our elementary pupils.

Our departmentalized program of studies in grades seven and eight has been in progress for the past year and a half. This plan is proving beneficial to both pupils and teachers. Our seventh and eighth grade pupils are learning to work against a timetable and should find the transition to high school less difficult. Our seventh and eighth grade teachers benefit by concentrating their class preparations in special fields.

OUR NINTH GRADE PUPILS:

Arrangements have been made with the East Longmeadow School Officials to take our ninth grade on a tuition basis for two years. The East Longmeadow School Department will make "every effort" to provide for them in 1957-58. East Longmeadow cannot accept our ninth grade beyond the 1957-58 school year. It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that facilities be provided for our ninth grade in our local school expansion plans.

OUR HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS:

Our increasing elementary enrollment combined with our increasing pre-school potential and the rising Spring-

field tuition rate suggests review of our high school tuition policy.

The present high school tuition rate for grades 10-12 is \$436.00 per pupil. Unofficial Springfield School Department estimates promise a substantial increase for the coming school year. At the present time our high school classes are relatively small but our tuition bill is substantial. When our present relatively large elementary and pre-school groups are in high school our tuition bill will be terrific. All citizens of Hampden concerned with future local taxes would do well to consider the financial aspects of a regional high school. A two or three town regional high school with East Longmeadow and/or Wilbraham presents an opportunity to save real money. The report of the Regional School District Planning Board, which is contained in this booklet, merits thoughtful consideration.

PUBLIC LAW 874:

During the past two years Hampden participated in Public Law 874. This law offers financial assistance for communities where an influx of people employed in Federal non-taxpaying establishments cause a school problem. The required number of Federally connected pupils has diminished; we are no longer eligible for this reimbursement. The Town of Hampden received \$2,298.80. This money has been deposited with the Town Treasurer to be expended upon authorization by the School Committee as provided for in the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 621 of the Acts of 1953. \$1,020.80 has been expended. The balance of the fund, \$1,278.00 is being carried forward into 1956 and is available for emergency use.

SURPLUS PROPERTY:

Shortly after the unfortunate August flood, Hamp-

den was designated by the State Surplus Property Agency as a flood-stricken community. Your Superintendent of Schools was invited to Camp Devens to select material from the surplus inventory. The School Department was allocated an electric refrigerator, an electric meat slicing machine, two unabridged dictionaries, two teacher's desks, an electric fan, chairs, two electric clocks, and a large quantity of miscellaneous kitchen utensils.

I wish to commend the members of the school staff-teachers, school nurse, school physicians, school dentist, hot lunch workers, school bus drivers, and the school custodian for the faithful performance of their duties.

I wish to thank my associates, the School Committee, the school staff, and the citizens of the Town for their friendly counsel and encouragement.

Respectfully submitted,

S. J. BERNARD

Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS (October 1, 1955)

GRADES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
PUPILS	39	31	31	33	34	37	39	21	265
<hr/>									
GRADES	9	10	11	12					TOTAL
S.H.S.		13	22	12					47
J.H.S.	20								20
Cathedral	2	4	2	1					9
Agawam			3	1					4
Trade	4	8	2	3					17
TOTALS	26	25	29	17					97

OUR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

(October 1, 1955)

GRADE I	PUPILS
1956	40
1957	31
1958	46
1959	43
1960	30
1961	57*

*Jan. 1, 1955 to Dec. 15, 1955

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATES

June—1955

Balser, John P.	Johnson, David J.
Bandoski, Byron P.	Konecik, Raymond
Bernard, William A.	LaBelle, Judith
Bradway, Wayne E.	Merceri, Terrence

Bryans, Daryl E.	Milne, Anne C.
Buereau, Janice M.	O'Brien, Maureen E.
Carver, Janice M.	Pauly, John L.
Connors, Katherine I.	Peck, David H.
Cox, Sandra A.	Reardon, Sandra M.
Flynn, Kathleen F.	Shierman, Robert A.
Fox, Virginia R.	Taft, Jacqueline W.
Goyer, Richard	Wells, Edward W.
Ickrath, Joan	Witkop, Robert M.

REPORT OF HAMPDEN SCHOOL DENTAL CLINIC
FOR 1955

Examinations	260
Notices sent Home	158
Permanent Teeth Filled	70
Temporary Teeth Filled	68
Permanent Teeth Extracted	15
Temporary Teeth Extracted	48
Cleanings	60
Treatments	21

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD J. BENNETT, D.M.D.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL PHYSICIAN

The school physician has completed the following:

Physical Examinations of School Personnel:	21
Vaccinations:	13
Physical Examinations of School Children:	184
Polio Vaccine Inoculations:	28

The school physician, again this year feels that the physical condition of the Hampden School Children is generally good. He wishes to remind all parents that personal hygiene and cleanliness have a great bearing on good health. Let us not forget to impress this on our children so that Hampden may maintain its good physical standards.

The school physician has responded to all school emergencies.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. QUINN, M.D.

ALVIN J. KEROACK, M.D.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse has assisted the school physician with the following:

Physical Examinations of Personnel	21
Physical Examinations of School Children	184
Heart Murmurs	2
Number Weighed and Measured	70
Head Inspection	260
Infested heads	0
Eyes Examined	248
Notices sent on defective eyes	14
Ears Tested	262
Notices sent on defective ears	2
Vaccinations	13

Pre-school registration

All school personnel were X-rayed for tuberculosis.

All reports were negative

The school nurse has assisted the school dentist with the examination of the teeth.

Number of children examined	260
Notices sent	158

One child had the benefit of eight weeks' vacation at Camp Frederick Edwards.

Two children were sent into hospital for eye surgery.

Number of children of each age who received:

Age	Polio Vaccine	No Polio Vaccine
6	6	24
7	16	15
8	5	36
9	1	25
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 28	<hr/> 100

I wish to extend my thanks to the P.T.A., Teachers' Club, and Lions Club for their fine cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

SHIRLEY FULLER, R.N.

THE HAMPDEN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL STAFF

1955-56

S. J. Bernard, B.S., M.A., Superintendent	Grade	Date Appointed	Education, Professional Training
Charlotte Goss	8	1951	B.S., Fitchburg S.T.C.
Helen F. Enslin	7	1959	Hyannis S.T.C.
Lena Moriarty	6	1953	B.S., Westfield S.T.C.
Catherine Garvey	5	1954	Bridgewater S.T.C.
Miriam Bryans	4	1952	Bridgewater S.T.C.
Helen Colling	3	1951	B.S., Framingham S.T.C.
Emilie Steere	2	1951	B.S., Westfield S.T.C.
Eleanor Drummond	1	1953	Lowell S.T.C.
Jeanie Hathaway	1	1955	Westfield S.T.C.
Vivian Cotton, Helping		1953	B.E., Westfield S.T.C.
Teacher		1952	B.A., Smith College
Virginia Midyette, Supw. Art		1952	
Alice Fitzgerald, Supw. Music		1952	
Shirley Fuller, R.N.			School Nurse
John J. Quinn, M.D.			School Physician
Harold J. Bennett, D.M.D.			School Dentist
Wilfred Gerard			Custodian and Supr. of Attendance
Mrs. Alma Temple			Supr. Hot Lunch Program
Mrs. Rachel Dickinson			Asst. Supr. Hot Lunch Program

SCHOOL CALENDAR 1955-56

	M	T	W	Th	F	
SEPT. 17 days			7	8	9	Sept. 7—School opens
	12	13	14	15	16	Sept. 19—Eastern States Exposition
	xx	20	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	30	
OCT. 19 days	3	4	5	6	7	
	10	11	xx	13	14	Oct. 12—Columbus Day
	17	18	19	20	xx	Oct. 21—Hampden County Teachers' Association Convention
	24	25	26	27	28	
	31					
NOV. 19 days		1	2	3	4	
	7	8	9	10	xx	Nov. 11—Veterans' Day
	14	15	16	17	18	Nov. 23—School closes 12 N.
	21	22	23	xx	xx	Nov. 28—School opens
	28	29	30			(Thanksgiving Recess)
DEC. 16 days			1	2		
	5	6	7	8	9	
	12	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	xx	Dec. 22—School closes
	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	(Christmas Vacation)
JAN. 1956 21 days	xx	3	4	5	6	Jan. 3—School opens
	9	10	11	12	13	
	16	17	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	
	30	31				
FEB. 17 days			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	Feb. 22—Washington's Birthday
	20	21	xx	23	24	Feb. 24—School closes
	xx	xx	xx			(Midwinter Vacation)
MARCH 19 days			xx	xx		
	5	6	7	8	9	March 5—School opens
	12	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	xx	March 30—Good Friday
APRIL 19 days		2	3	4	5	
	9	10	11	12	13	
	16	17	18	xx	20	April 19—Patriot's Day
	23	24	25	26	27	April 27—School closes
	xx					(Spring Vacation)
MAY 18 days		xx	xx	xx	xx	
	7	8	9	10	11	May 7—School opens
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25	
	28	29	xx	31	1	May 30—Memorial Day
JUNE 11 days (16 ")						
	4	5	6	7	8	June 15—School closes for Elementary
	11	12	13	14	15	pupils for Summer Vacation
	18	19	20	21	22	June 22—High Schools close
	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	
NOTE: xx indicates No School						

HAMPDEN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING BOARD

Our committee had nine months of inactivity as a result of neighboring communities having reached a negative decision on a regional high school program. In November, at the invitation of the East Longmeadow School Survey Committee, we attended with representatives from Wilbraham, a meeting with Mr. Black and Mr. Domas of the State Building Commission. After a thorough presentation by Mr. Domas, a meaningful discussion took place. This meeting lead to three others with study groups from Wilbraham and East Longmeadow. During these sessions a complete review of figures on enrollments, construction, and operating costs for several regional combinations was concluded. Based on very solid and realistic facts the East Longmeadow group decided to recommend to its community a local plan to facilitate high school needs.

At present we are working with the Wilbraham study group, which at the time of this writing is not an official body. We understand that a warrant similar to ours is being inserted in their town report to establish a committee to investigate with Hampden, the advisability of a two-town regional high school. We feel that if this action is approved by the voters of Wilbraham, the following facts will indicate the advisability of establishing a regional district between the two towns.

In the past two years, tuition fees for senior high school students attending Springfield schools has risen an estimated fifty dollars per student. There is no indication that this figure will not increase each year. This will mean, with our higher enrollment in high school, a tremendous burden for local taxpayers. Hampden has no

control over this assessment nor do we have a voice in establishing educational policy affecting our children. Everyone interested in the local tax program as it concerns education would do well to consider a regional high school. The Commonwealth's regional high school program offers educational and financial advantages that we believe are the answer to this problem.

1. 65% of building construction and equipment costs—payable in equal payments over the life of this bond but not including interest on the bond.
2. 5% of planning costs of the building construction and equipment—paid immediately and not included in the bond.
3. 100% reimbursement for regional transportation on all students transported over $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
4. 15% additional aid on the annual Chapter 70 reimbursement paid each town for local school operation.

As an illustration of how we would save money, the following proposed statement of comparative costs is submitted for your perusal.

**ESTIMATED COMPARATIVE COSTS
2 TOWN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
VS. SPRINGFIELD TUITION COSTS**

	Enrollment (1963)
Town	Gr. 9-12
Wilbraham	524
Hampden	135
<hr/>	
Total	<hr/> (659)
	660
Hampden's Share:	
Construction Costs	\$138,254
Interest—20 years @ 2.75%	\$119,490
<hr/>	
Total Capital & Interest	\$257,744

Hampden's Share on Yearly basis:

1/20 of \$257,744	\$12,887
Cost of Operation, 135 pupils	
@ est. \$350, per pupil	47,250
Total	\$60,137

Hampden's Increased Credits from Commonwealth on yearly basis:

Chapter 70	\$2,638
Chapter 71, 7A	675
Total increased Credits	\$3,313

HAMPDEN'S NET SHARE PER YEAR SPRINGFIELD TUITION COSTS

Yearly Basis:

Grades 10-12, 102 pupils	
@ est. \$461, per pupil	\$47,022
Grade 9, 33 pupils @ est.	
\$383 per pupil	12,639
Total	\$59,661

ESTIMATED DIFFERENTIAL \$2,837

This committee feels that the best interests of our school children and taxpayers would be served if we could participate in a regional high school program with Wilbraham.

We would like to express our appreciation for the cooperation of our Superintendent, Mr. Bernard, in providing us with facts and figures and his professional counsel in our study.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD H. MacMULLEN,
Chairman
EDWIN N. LOMBARD
GRACE W. GRAY

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NEW CENTER SCHOOL
BUILT IN 1913 — TORN DOWN IN 1932



OLD CENTER SCHOOL
BUILT IN 1872 — BURNED IN 1913

