

REPORT OF MILK INSPECTOR.

Since March, appointed by the Board of Health with the specific purpose of securing for Concord a cleaner milk, inspection of milk has been in charge of the present officer.

It was thought that little fault could be found with the quality of the city's milk supply, if inspection looking to the proper care in raising and handling this product could be carried out.

After careful consideration by the city government a milk ordinance recommended by the Board of Health was passed, to go into operation January 1, 1908. Any work looking to cleaner milk without this regulation seemed quite impossible, which facts seem borne out by investigation.

Concord receives her milk from some 150 farms within a radius of a dozen miles of the city, although not more than fifty are run strictly as milk farms for the profit of this product alone, the rest raising milk to help out other industry.

As far as possible these farms have been visited, the conditions noted and the records are kept on file at the office of the Board of Health. Attention is paid to the buildings, to the stock, to the care and manner of housing same, to the care of manure, to the drainage, to the water supply, and especially to the manner of caring for milk and milk utensils. The records show that many changes must be brought about before the city is assured a clean milk.

Such care as the average housewife gives our food is the care the consumer has the right to demand from the farmer who raises his milk. That care is clearly lacking in very many instances.

From the farms the milk is retailed to the stores and homes by some forty-eight men. These men handle anywhere from forty to two hundred quarts of milk each day and obtain it from one, two, three or more farms. These

men are held responsible for the purity and cleanliness of the product. The city is supplied with a night and morning milk, not more than twenty hours old, and the care necessary to keep it clean would seem easy and inexpensive.

Examinations of the milk samples collected from the teams on the street showed that while the milk was rich in natural products and under such laws as an inspector has to work was well up in fats and solids, yet it was taken in many instances from dirty cans in unclean teams without ice or other evidence that the milk man desired to give this important food proper care.

The stores of our city need little care to assure us a clean milk. They for the most part use very little, one can a day, and this is bought from these men who deliver to the homes with but few exceptions. While in their control at the store the milk is kept in ice chests with the meats, butter and other perishable food, so little complaint can be offered on this score.

During the coming year under the new ordinance much good can be accomplished and various evils corrected. With a keen regard for the relation of milk to the public health, inspections under its rulings assures the consumer a natural milk at a temperature below fifty degrees free from dirt and such germs as may or may not be responsible for disease. This we hope to bring about by visits to the farms, offering suggestions here, and at times making demands, the object sought being to bring the poorest farms up to the level of the best farms in the city, for there are farms now doing all things within the requirements of the ordinance, and these same farms claim to be getting a comfortable profit from raising milk.

Other things being equal, and assuming that all milk offered for sale received equal care within the requirements of the ordinance, a bacteriological examination of the milk taken from the teams would show them of even cleanliness. If they are not, the cause of the dirty milk will usually be found in lack of care in handling by others before or af-

ter leaving the farm and the cause may be looked up and remedied.

The spirit of the farmer toward inspection is all that may be desired. Many changes have been made under Board of Health directions, and others are to follow. The ice problem promises to be the hardest problem the milk men will have to contend with, but he will soon learn to solve it and appreciate the value of this preservative to add profit to the business.

CHARLES DUNCAN,
Milk Inspector.

DEATHS DURING 1907, BY SEX, CONDITION AND
NATIVITY, BY MONTHS.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.
SEX.													
Males.....	23	21	23	16	27	15	24	14	19	21	22	15	240
Females.....	16	16	12	16	15	21	10	13	20	11	19	19	188
CONDITION.													
Married.....	18	14	19	17	19	10	12	9	14	8	12	12	164
Single.....	11	14	11	8	8	13	12	11	17	17	14	13	149
Widowed.....	10	7	5	5	13	12	8	7	6	7	15	8	103
Divorced.....		1		1	1	1			2			1	7
Not stated.....		1		1	1		2						5
NATIVITY.													
Concord.....	10	15	8	3	10	7	6	7	16	12	10	10	114
New Hampshire.....	17	11	13	7	17	15	8	7	8	13	13	16	145
Other states.....	6	4	5	10	9	10	10	1	8	5	4	6	78
Foreign.....	6	6	8	11	4	4	8	10	6	2	13	1	79
Not stated.....		1	1	1	2		2	2	1		1	1	12

DEATHS REPORTED BY WARDS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Months.	Wards.												New Hamp- shire State Hospital.	Margaret Phillips General Hospital.	New Hamp- shire Me- morial Hos- pital.	Odd Fellows' Home.	Home for the Aged.	New Hamp- shire State Prison.	Totals.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9										
January.....	5	.....	2	7	3	7	1	2	1	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
February....	6	.....	1	3	7	3	6	1	2	6	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
March.....	1	2	.....	4	3	7	3	.....	2	8	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
April.....	2	.....	.....	1	3	6	5	2	1	7	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
May.....	3	2	.....	4	1	4	6	.....	3	13	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42
June.....	2	2	3	2	4	1	4	2	.....	10	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
July.....	2	2	1	3	4	3	4	1	3	4	5	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	34
August.....	1	1	1	4	1	1	5	.....	1	8	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
September..	3	1	.....	6	5	6	3	2	5	6	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
October....	3	.....	1	7	1	3	5	2	.....	5	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
November..	5	1	1	4	2	5	5	1	4	3	6	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	41
December..	3	1	1	1	7	4	5	1	.....	6	4	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	34
Totals..	36	12	11	46	41	50	52	14	22	84	47	9	2	1	1	1	428		

MORTALITY REPORT.

REPORT OF CITY ENGINEER.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
CONCORD, N. H., December 31, 1907.

To the City Council:

The fifteenth annual report of the city engineer is herewith submitted, showing the expenditures and operations of the engineering department for the year ending December 31, 1907.

The requirements of the various city departments, together with the demands of many citizens for varied information, have kept the engineering department very busy during the past season, but the work has been carried on with a small force.

The expenses of this department were as follows:

Paid engineer and assistants,	\$2,611.81
for supplies,	160.23
car fares and livery,	66.79
postage,	3.62
repairs,	31.31
express,	3.75
telegrams,	.89
trucking,	.75
telephone rental and tolls,	16.89
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Total expenditure,	\$2,896.04
Appropriation,	\$2,900.00
Expended,	2,896.04
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Balance December 31, 1907,	\$3.96

The employés of this department for the season were Fred W. Lang, assistant engineer, and Clarence A. Little, rodman.

ASSESSORS' MAPS.

An appropriation of \$500 was made for this work, and the field work for Wards 4, 5 and 6 was practically completed in the summer.

Plans of the above wards will probably be ready for the assessors about April 1, 1908.

We have not attempted to settle any disputes as to boundary lines between different owners, but have taken the fences as they stood, or in the absence of definite bounds, have taken the deeds and put on the lines called for in them.

The following were employed on the field work: Merrit C. Huse, in charge; Worthen J. Davis, Lloyd Dame and Howard Morrison, as assistants.

There was expended for field work and supplies the following amounts:

Paid for labor,	\$195.11
supplies,	64.05
freight and express,	1.17
deed references,	.75
	<hr/>
Total expenditure,	\$261.08
Appropriation,	\$500.00
Expended,	261.08
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Unexpended balance,	\$238.92

NEW HIGH AND MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOLS.

Plans for the grading of the lots, retaining walls, curbing, steps and entrances were made and the work done under the supervision of this department.

The grading could not be fully completed, owing to the old house in the northeasterly corner of the lot occupied by the High school, but when this building is removed and the grading finished it will add materially to the appearance of the premises.

TOWN LINES.

The line between the city and the town of Bow was perambulated in company with Mr. Frank White, the agent for Bow.

The line between Hopkinton and Concord was perambulated with Mr. A. J. Boutwell and Mr. E. F. Dustin, two of the selectmen of Hopkinton.

The bounds were found intact on both lines, and the marks thereon were renewed in accordance with the law covering this work.

PARK DEPARTMENT.

Lines and grades were given for the extension of the fence at White Park, and the lines determined around the addition to Rollins Park.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

Lines and grades have been given for sidewalk construction, concreting North State and North Main streets, macadamizing North State Street near Blossom Hill Cemetery, the widening of the bridge across Turkey River near St. Paul's School, and all other work where requested.

Some time was spent on surveys and profiles for the Pembroke road, but this work was done under contract and the final grades were fixed by the state engineer, under whose direction the road was constructed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The plans showing the fire alarm boxes and the location of all hydrants, in the city proper, were corrected to date, blue prints made and delivered to the chief engineer of that department.

WATER-WORKS.

A plan of Penacook Lake and the property adjacent to it was completed and turned over to the superintendent of the works.

BUILDING PERMITS.

In company with the chief engineer of the fire department, I have attended twenty-one hearings, upon petitions to build or repair wooden buildings.

We have granted nineteen petitions and denied two.

CEMETERIES.

No new plots have been laid out during the past season.

The record of lot sales have been kept up and lot transfers recorded when possible.

The work on a contour map of the new portion of Blossom Hill Cemetery has not been advanced, as we had no time to devote to it, but hope to be able to report progress the coming season.

SEWERS.

Considerable time was spent on construction during the past season, principally upon the five-foot trunk sewer across the Stickney property, easterly of the Boston & Maine Railroad tracks.

There remains to be built 245 feet of five-foot sewer and 230 feet of forty-two inch sewer to reach North Main Street, which should be completed early the coming season.

This sewer when completed and connected with North Main Street sewer, near Hall's Court, will afford an ample outlet for the territory contributory to it, embracing that portion of the city between Park, Green, Center, Pine, School, Liberty, Auburn, Franklin, Rumford, Beacon, North State, Pearl and North Main streets, and is a start on the relief of this much overloaded portion of the sewerage system. The work should be carried forward as rapidly as possible to relieve the more seriously congested sewers in the northerly and westerly sections of this district, and to prevent further inconvenience and damage to residents and the property situated in the flooded portions.

This work calls for the expenditure of a considerable sum of money, but the plans for proposed improvements

should soon be carried out for the preservation of the sanitary condition of this district, and your attention is again called to the present serious defects in this portion of the sewer precinct.

The expenses attending repairs, new construction and maintenance in the different sewer precincts have been as follows.

REPAIRS.

Church Street,	\$10.47
McKinley Street,	.45
Jackson Street,	2.91
Beacon Street,	1.28
Odd Fellows' Avenue,	2.54
South State Street,	3.55
Brook sewer,	37.36
North State Street, account of Macadamizing,	3.50
South Main Street,	.77
Warren Street,	4.06
Tahanto Street,	19.09
Blanchard Street,	3.33
Morton Street,	1.78
Oak Street,	2.50
Chandler Street,	9.39
Lyndon Street,	5.17
Curtice Avenue,	12.50
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Total,	\$120.65
Repairs to hoister,	47.30
Tool account,	146.30

CONSTRUCTION.

SOUTH STREET.

211 feet of 10-inch Akron pipe laid.	
Paid for labor,	\$84.09
pipe,	65.44
cement,	4.20

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT.

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Paid for trucking,	\$4.50
castings,	11.30
brick,	8.25
wrought iron,	.60
oil,	.70
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Total,	\$179.08
Average cost per foot, \$0.848+.	
Material excavated, sand.	

DUNKLEE STREET.

112 feet of 10-inch Akron pipe laid.

Paid for labor,	\$61.60
pipe,	43.92
cement,	2.10
truckng,	2.50
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Total, \$110.12

Average cost per foot, \$0.983+.

Material excavated, sand and clay.

NORTH FRUIT STREET.

234 feet of 6-inch pipe laid.

Paid for labor,	\$107.25
pipe,	33.22
cement,	2.10
castings,	4.35
truckng,	5.00
oil,	.70
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Total, \$152.62

Average cost per foot, \$0.652+.

Material excavated, gravel and marl.

FIVE-FOOT TRUNK SEWER.

1,205 feet of concrete and brick sewer built.

Paid for labor,	\$7,657.87
cement,	3,528.00

Paid for brick,	\$700.45
crushed stone,	1,085.53
lumber,	1,213.18
centers,	288.00
trench machine,	911.25
hardware,	18.70
coal,	110.50
castings,	22.60
rubber boots,	45.00
freight,	41.30
blacksmithing,	5.80
pump diaphragms,	28.40
trucking,	323.07
water,	25.00
machine oil,	7.30
kerosene oil,	4.05
miscellaneous supplies,	45.16
wrought iron,	.62
pipe fittings,	.88
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Total expenditure,	\$16,062.66
Less labor on manholes and bulkhead,	160.00
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	\$15,902.66
Less materials on hand,	500.00
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Net expense on sewer,	\$15,402.66
Average cost per foot, \$12.78+	
Materials excavated, loam, sand and wet clay.	
Funds available in the city precinct:	
Loan,	\$20,000.00
Appropriation and balances,	1,550.89
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Total,	\$21,550.89
Expended,	\$16,819.11
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Unexpended balance,	\$4,731.78

SEWERS BUILT IN 1907.

6-inch pipe,	234	feet.
10-inch pipe,	323	“
60-inch concrete,	1,205	“
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Total,	1,762	feet.

SEWERS BUILT IN CITY PRECINCT TO DECEMBER 31, 1907.

6-inch,	1,318	feet.
8-inch,	25,003	“
10-inch,	49,560	“
12-inch,	39,222	“
15-inch,	11,310	“
18-inch,	6,404	“
20-inch,	4,549	“
24-inch,	3,370	“
30-inch,	969	“
Brick, 12-inch x 14-inch,	2,758	“
16-inch x 24-inch,	1,848	“
14-inch x 22-inch,	350	“
20-inch x 32-inch,	2,527	“
24-inch x 36-inch,	17,937	“
28-inch x 48-inch,	883	“
24-inch circular,	1,515.5	“
30-inch circular,	402	“
38-inch circular,	4,080	“
24-inch cast-iron pipe,	1,576	“
30-inch cast-iron pipe,	1,054.5	“
60-inch concrete and brick,	1,205	“
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Total,	179,046	feet.

Total miles in the city precinct to date, 33.91+.

WEST CONCORD SEWER PRECINCT.

In this precinct one new sewer was constructed in Highland Road and slight repairs made to one of the outlets.

CITY OF CONCORD.

HIGHLAND ROAD.

248 feet of 10-inch pipe laid.

Paid for labor,	\$140.20
cement,	6.60
pipe,	79.44
castings,	20.10
trucking,	22.86
brick,	9.50
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Total,	\$278.70
Average cost per foot, \$1.119+.	
Material excavated, sand, gravel and hard-pan.	
Paid for repairs on outlet,	\$7.00
Funds available,	\$310.35
Expended,	285.70
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Unexpended balance,	\$24.65

EAST CONCORD SEWER PRECINCT.

There was expended in this precinct the sum of \$4.87 for maintenance.

Funds available,	\$132.40
Expended,	4.87
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Balance,	\$127.53

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL SEWERAGE PRECINCT.

No extensions or repairs were made in this precinct, only the fixed charge for water service in the flush tanks amounting to \$45.00 was paid out.

Funds available,	\$70.64
Expended,	45.00
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Unexpended balance,	\$25.64

There has been deposited to the credit of the city precinct the sum of \$49.70, for which amount the city treasurer's receipts are held.

GRADES ESTABLISHED AND RECORDED.

Westerly sidewalk, Rumford Street, opposite the premises of Jane Wyman.

Westerly sidewalk, Rumford Street, opposite the premises of George V. Hill.

Northerly sidewalk, Lincoln Street, opposite the premises of Will M. Cressy.

Dakin Street extension.

Highland Street, from Rumford Street easterly, as shown by profile on file in the city clerk's office.

To the members of the city council, I wish to express my appreciation for their support and coöperation, and to the heads of other departments, for courtesies extended to this department.

Respectfully submitted,

WILL B. HOWE,

City Engineer.

REPORT OF HYDRANT COMMISSIONERS.

CONCORD, N. H., *December* 31, 1907.

To the City Council:

The Board of Hydrant Commissioners met on January 17, 1907, and unanimously recommended placing hydrants at the following locations, and a letter covering the locations given was mailed to the Hon. Solon A. Carter, president of the water board:

1. Park Street, on east line of St. Paul's Church lot.
2. Montgomery Street, 250 feet easterly from North State Street.
3. North Spring Street, at Maple Street.
4. Lyndon Street, east side, 20 feet southerly from the southerly line of Abbott Street.
5. West Street, near South Main Street, move present hydrant westerly to the westerly line of Mr. Brooks' lot.
6. West Street, move hydrant near Badger Street easterly to a point midway between Morton Street and Badger Street.
7. West Street, set hydrant at the northeasterly corner of Mills Street.
8. Dunklee Street, 150 feet southerly from West Street.
9. Dunklee Street, at northwesterly corner of Allison Street.
10. Broadway, on south line of H. H. Metcalf's lot.
11. Broadway, 450 feet southerly from Stone Street.
12. Broadway, on northerly line of McKinley Street.
13. Blake Street, on the easterly line of J. D. Bridge's lot.
14. Wall Street, near northeasterly corner of Elm Street.
15. Concord Street, near South Street.

16. Church Street, move hydrant near Lyndon Street easterly to the easterly line of Lyndon Street.

17. Railroad Street, midway between Hill's Avenue and Chandler Street.

18. Ridge Road, 250 feet southerly from the southerly line of Forrest Street.

19. Stone Street, 300 feet easterly from Bow Street.

Later in the season a hydrant was located on Maple Street (Ward 1) near Pleasant Street.

All the hydrants above mentioned were set during the past season.

Since our last report we have been called to mourn the loss of one of our members by death, Mr. V. C. Hastings, who for many years gave his best efforts to the water-works as its superintendent, and his labors with this board were in the interests of the city and its fire protection furnished by the water-works system.

His successor in office, Mr. Percy R. Sanders, took up the work left by Mr. Hastings, and has worked in harmony with the other members of this board in their efforts to extend and improve the hydrant service throughout the city.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. HOWE,
W. C. GREEN,

Board of Hydrant Commissioners.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PLUMBERS.

CONCORD, N. H., December 31, 1907.

To the City Council:

The eighth annual report of the Board of Examiners of Plumbers is herewith submitted for your consideration.

The membership of the board is as follows: Henry P. Cilley, a practical plumber, Charles H. Cook, M. D., and Will B. Howe, city engineer.

Henry P. Cilley is the chairman of the board and Will B. Howe, clerk.

Twelve regular meetings and four special meetings have been held during the year.

We have examined four candidates for journeyman plumbers' licenses and have issued licenses to them.

The receipts of the board were \$24.00, for which amount the clerk of the board holds the receipts of the city treasurer.

The expenses of the board were \$10.00 for supplies used in examinations.

The following is a list of all registered plumbers, whose licenses or certificates were renewed in 1907 in the order in which they appear on the register.

MASTER PLUMBERS.

W. Arthur Bean, certificate renewed.

Seth R. Hood, certificate renewed.

Willis H. Robbins, certificate renewed.

William A. Lee, certificate renewed.

Benjamin H. Orr, certificate renewed.

Richard J. Lee, certificate renewed.

George A. Harwood, certificate renewed.

Michael J. Lee, certificate renewed.
Albert S. Trask, certificate renewed.
Frederick Booth, certificate renewed.
G. Arthur Nichols, license renewed.
Charles W. Bateman, license renewed.
Burton A. Curtis, license renewed.
W. M. Trottier, license renewed.
John C. Smith, license renewed.
P. Wallace Orr, license renewed.
Elmer E. Babb, license renewed.
Timothy Kenna, license renewed.
Joseph A. Ralph, license renewed.

EMPLOYING PLUMBERS.

George S. Milton, certificate renewed.
M. E. Clifford & Co., certificate renewed.

JOURNEYMAN PLUMBERS.

Henry P. Cilley, certificate renewed.
Philip King, certificate renewed.
William L. Reagan, certificate renewed.
William H. McGuire, certificate renewed.
Harry H. Kennedy, certificate renewed.
P. H. D. Leary, certificate renewed.
Patrick A. Clifford, certificate renewed.
George N. Berry, certificate renewed.
Fred. F. Converse, license renewed.
Arthur W. Buntin, license renewed.
Thomas Matthews, license renewed.
Harris S. Parmenter, license renewed.
Frank D. Brown, license renewed.
Timothy W. Quinn, license renewed.
Manley W. Morgan, license renewed.
William C. Morey, license issued January 15, 1907.
J. Frank MacDonald, license issued January 15, 1907.
Frank M. Murray, license issued April 5, 1907.
Henry Riley, license issued June 12, 1907.

Master plumbers' certificates issued,	10
Master plumbers' licenses issued,	9
Employing plumbers' certificates issued,	2
Journeyman plumbers' certificates issued,	8
Journeyman plumbers' licenses issued,	12
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Total number issued, 1907,	41

Respectfully submitted,

H. P. CILLEY,
CHAS. H. COOK, M. D.,
W. B. HOWE,

Board of Examiners of Plumbers.

PUBLIC PARKS.

REPORT OF THE PARK COMMISSIONERS.

To the City Council:

The Park Commissioners present herewith their report for the year ending December 31, 1907 :

RECEIPTS.

General appropriation for parks,	\$3,500.00	
Appropriation for Penacook Park,	150.00	
Appropriation for Pecker Park,	16.00	
Appropriation to cover deficit for parks,	12.20	
		————— \$3,678.20

EXPENDITURES.

Salary of superintendent,	\$1,080.00
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WHITE PARK.

Paid for labor,	\$863.25	
cleaning ice,	89.80	
grain,	12.95	
shrubs, etc.,	63.43	
tools, etc.,	50.73	
water,	15.00	
incidentals,	102.15	
iron fence,	300.00	
		————— \$1,497.31

ROLLINS PARK.

Paid for labor,	\$454.55
trees, shrubs, etc.,	134.33
grain,	33.95

Paid for grade,	\$48.40	
tools, etc.,	29.28	
water,	10.00	
incidentals,	30.80	
	<u> </u>	\$741.31

BRADLEY PARK.

Paid for labor,	\$54.37	
shrubs,	10.00	
water,	4.00	
	<u> </u>	\$68.37

FISK PARK.

Paid for labor,	\$38.37	
shrubs, etc.,	13.52	
	<u> </u>	\$51.89

RIDGE AVENUE PARK.

Paid for labor,		15.93
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COURT HOUSE PARK.

Paid for labor,		44.62
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PECKER PARK.

Paid for labor,	\$12.62	
incidentals,	16.15	
	<u> </u>	\$28.77

PENACOOK PARK.

Paid for labor,	\$110.00	
incidentals,	5.74	
	<u> </u>	\$115.74

\$3,643.94

At White Park the iron fence has been extended two hundred and fifty-six feet on Washington Street to the entrance at the junction of Pine and Center Streets, and it

is hoped that in the coming year we can put up a suitable entrance, and from year to year extend the fence along Center Street to High Street. The playground has received one hundred and fifty loads of grade and more will be needed each year until the ground becomes firm and stable. The superintendent and his assistants have, during the year, removed a large number of moth nests from the trees in all the parks.

In Rollins Park the work has been carried on as usual and large beds of rhododendrons and kalmias and one rose bed have been put in during the year. During the winter the buck escaped from the deer enclosure and disappeared, but late in the fall another one was received from Corbin Park. They seem very tame and afford a great deal of interest to those who visit the park. Some lumber has been cut from the grounds and dead wood has been cleaned out.

The work on the smaller parks and enclosures has been carried on by the superintendent, and each year sees a marked growth in their development. Plans have been secured for the development of the park in rear of the court house, which the commissioners will hope to carry out this year.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. CORNING, Mayor, *ex-officio*,

WILLIS D. THOMPSON,

GARDNER B. EMMONS,

BENJAMIN C. WHITE,

WILLIS G. C. KIMBALL,

CHARLES P. BANCROFT,

WILLIAM P. FISKE,

Commissioners.

PARKS.	Year.	Appropriation.	Gifts.	Receipts from other sources.	Cost to Date.		Total.	Area.	Notes.
					Land.	Construction and maintenance.			
White Park, the gift of Mrs. Nathaniel White.....	1884	*\$37,550.70	\$2,250.00	\$1,022.50	\$2,100.00	\$49,186.07	\$51,284.07	23½ acres.	White Park has received the following gifts: Mrs. N. White . . . \$1,700.00 Mrs. C. H. Newhall . . . 500.00 Mr. C. H. Newhall, for bridge . . . 50.00 The city made addition to original gift, paying therefor \$2,100. Rollins Park. The city has made addition to original gift, paying \$6,557.50 therefor.
Rollins Park, gift in part of citizens of Concord.....	1892	*6,350.00	.....	192.50	{ 2,000.00 1,250.00 3,307.50 }	10,243.43	16,993.43	25 acres.	Penacook Park, on the shore of Penacook Lake, came under control of the park commissioners in 1895. City had charge before, and has spent from commencement of work in 1883, an additional sum of \$4,444.13.
Penacook Park.....	1883	1,820.84	.....	.....	.....	1,666.70	1,666.70	.....	A small piece of land in East Concord was developed and was paid for by a gift of \$200 from J. Eastman Pecker and named Pecker Park to which he has added \$160.96 for sum dial and other improvements.
Bradley Park.....	1886	*1,050.72	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,322.08	½ acre.	
Ridge Avenue Park, gift of the West End Syndicate.....	1898	*182.10	.....	.....	.....	289.28	289.28	½ acre.	
Fiske Park.....	1901	*230.00	.....	.....	.....	418.57	418.57	½ acre.	
Pecker Park.....	1905	200.00	331.08	.....	.....	384.48	384.48	.....
Court-House Park.....	1905	.....	.....	.....	.....	113.65	113.65	1 acre.	
		\$58,324.17	\$2,581.08	\$1,215.00	\$8,657.50	\$64,718.21	\$73,568.21		

*Appropriation for main system, \$3,500.00.

PUBLIC PARKS.

THE YEARLY APPROPRIATIONS.

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	*1903.
White Park.....	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,250.00	\$3,250.00	\$2,850.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
Rollins Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,000.00	1,000.00	750.00	650.00	400.00	400.00	800.00	600.00	750.00
Penacook Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	75.00	75.00	100.00	75.00	200.00	100.00
Bradley Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	550.00	175.00	75.00	25.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	45.00
Ridge Avenue Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Fiske Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200.00	.....	.....	30.00
GIFTS.																	
Mrs. N. White.....	1,700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mrs. C. H. Newhall.....	500.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mr. C. H. Newhall.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
INCIDENTAL RECEIPTS.																	
White Park.....	242.96	162.24	.....	.....	.....	70.00	120.20	116.95	.....	116.65	.....	122.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rollins Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	103.55	30.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
FOR LAND PURCHASED.																	
White Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,400.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rollins Park.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	\$3,442.96	\$1,162.24	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,570.00	\$5,120.20	\$3,116.95	\$4,203.55	\$5,097.15	\$4,275.00	\$5,172.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,140.00	\$3,640.00	\$2,865.00	\$3,450.00

*Appropriations, 1904: Main park system, \$3,500; Penacook Park, \$276.72; extra, Rollins Park, deer enclosure.

*Appropriations, 1905: Main park system, \$3,500; Penacook Park, \$200.

*Appropriations, 1906: Main park system, \$3,500; Penacook Park, \$125; Pecker Park, \$131.08; to cover deficit, \$159.43.

*Appropriations, 1907: Main park system, \$3,500; Penacook Park, \$150; Pecker Park, \$16; to cover deficit, \$12.20.

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

EXPENDITURES.	1889 to 1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
White Park.....	\$8,405.70	\$2,570.00	\$3,120.20	\$3,116.95	\$3,071.50	\$3,416.35	\$3,344.58	\$2,982.60	\$1,677.73	\$2,193.49	\$2,424.60	\$2,008.46	\$2,743.94	\$2,618.35	\$2,274.95	\$1,717.86	\$1,497.31
Rollins Park.....					942.35	1,092.86	983.94	636.60	387.09	385.04	764.87	739.25	755.54	1,159.05	1,004.93	650.85	741.31
Penacook Park.....					84.98	94.15	103.72	80.81	77.66	111.16	88.08	238.16	109.32	224.79	185.05	144.62	115.74
Bradley Park.....								78.25	44.50	39.52	34.72	42.14	44.07	55.29	89.05	57.44	68.37
Ridge Avenue Park.....						550.00	218.73			89.82	42.28	29.14	31.83	21.88	37.70	20.80	15.93
Fiske Park.....											199.61	*	28.89	47.15	44.75	46.38	51.89
Pecker Park.....															199.28	156.43	23.77
Court House Park.....																43.75	44.62
Land purchased.....																	
Superintendent†.....																	
Total.....	\$9,105.70	\$2,570.00	\$5,120.20	\$3,116.95	\$4,098.73	\$5,153.36	\$4,650.87	\$5,178.26	\$2,186.98	\$4,069.03	\$3,534.16	\$3,057.15	\$3,713.59	\$4,126.51	\$6,186.96	\$3,915.51	\$3,643.94
																1,080.00	1,080.00

* Fiske Park, completed by private contribution at an expense of over \$800.
 † The superintendent's salary heretofore has been added into general expenditures.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES.

To the City Council of Concord, N. H.:

The report of the librarian of the public library, herewith submitted, shows somewhat in detail the work this department has done during the past year. Under the circumstances, the results have been highly satisfactory and seem to prove that no appropriation of the public money of the same amount has been attended with more useful or more permanent benefits. The work the library is doing is one that the city government cannot overlook in the performance of its duty of promoting the public welfare. Its pressing needs are manifest; expert and careful examination is unnecessary to disclose them; and they have often been referred to in these reports. Time serves merely to emphasize the fact of their existence. The situation is constantly growing worse; and it must continue to do so while the policy of confining the library in its present cramped and inadequate quarters is pursued.

Respectfully submitted,

REUBEN E. WALKER,

President Board of Trustees.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN FOR 1907.

To the Board of Trustees of the Concord Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: A public librarian, even if she were sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth about the year's work, would not load her annual report with statistics which register neither her sins of omission and commission, nor the finer issues of her work; she would bethink herself that the public is becoming more intelligently aware that big figures do not mean exceptional output of brawn and brains, and, conversely, that small returns are not always the fault of feeble efforts. Yet it is customary to give tabulated accounts, and as we have a very good showing to make, in a year when we have done nothing special to secure large totals, we gladly submit the following figures:

The desk circulation of volumes taken home was 91,232, which is 200 more than last year.

As there was no summer branch of the library this year, and as by its omission we lost about 5,000 in circulation, our gain over 1906 was made by steady custom at the main building and by the returns from the five deposit stations.

This steady patronage is very different from the weekend rushes of a dozen years ago. Indeed, the change in the character of our custom is interesting to note. Because of cheaper theaters and more of them, cheaper magazines and more of *them*, trolley trips, Sunday excursions and the tendency to spend spare time out of doors, persons employed every week day do not now come, Saturday night, to get their inevitable novel for Sunday. Furthermore, the reading required of children in the public schools, by reducing their book-hunger or their leisure, decimates their daily invasion after school-hours for an *Optic* or a book about Indians. Yet, though the rush of life tends to lessen the

reading habit, we have registered 745 new patrons this year.

The opening of a subscription library by private enterprise on Main Street has taken away much of our call for the six best-sellers; yet our statistics report that Concord still reads of its public library books about 74 per cent. of fiction. Another library may report that its public reads stories only to the extent of 59 per cent. But circulations are not fairly comparable, while one library classes "The Jungle," "Our Little Swedish Cousin" and "Bullet and Shell" as fiction, and another library puts the first of these books in sociology, the second in travel and the third in Civil War history. From libraries which have made analyses of their statistics, it is ascertained that a very small per cent. of card-holders are responsible for a large per cent. of the fiction read.

We are pretty well satisfied with the variety of calls made by our customers. What we do not feel satisfied with is the large number of citizens who do not come to the library for *any* book. Concord may some day wake up to find itself papered with dodgers and posters spreading broadcast information as to our resources and an invitation to avail oneself thereof.

Our other statistics besides those of circulation are as follows:

Number of volumes added during 1907,	900
Of these:	
New volumes,	538
Bindery,	107
Duplicates,	57
Replacements,	198
Worn out,	450
Net gain,	450
Number of volumes now in library,	29,078

You will note that the net gain in volumes was very small; that was due to two causes which should be con-

sidered sufficient—lack of money and lack of room. The city appropriation was not reduced, and we have no complaint to make in that direction; but this year some of the \$5,000 was spent for two improvements, electric lights and a telephone. As our shelves are crowded, it seemed sensible to pause in acquiring volumes long enough to install these modern facilities. Your Board has always given kind and prompt assent to any suggestion tending to make the library service better for the public and easier for the staff. Certainly patrons come more frequently in the evening to reading and reference rooms because these are not so dim as they were, and the staff no longer dread the task of lighting up, or of hunting up references after dark in magazines stored in the basement. The telephone is an ever-present help, and our fear that it would be more of a bother than a comfort was unfounded.

Cautious outlay seemed desirable until we knew how these two items of expense, lights and telephone, would affect our expenses for the year; hence the chief reason of our reduction in buying. You may wonder that I do not mention as a reason for our purchasing fewer, the added cost of books, the price of even new novels having risen, in some cases, from \$1.50 to \$1.75. But this increase in the popular acquisitions only forces the librarian to even up her outlay by buying standard works from a second-hand catalogue—Halliwell-Phillips' Shakespeare, for example; and by waiting for some desirable books till they are listed in a mark-down sale—Moncure D. Conway's Autobiography, for instance. *Our* criterion in buying is well described by another librarian, who reports of his book committee: "They try to select from the great mass of new publications, such as would be of interest to the general reader and of practical value to the student, and to supply older publications of value which the library was found to lack."

Besides the check to our purchasing imposed by financial prudence, there was felt as never before, lack of shelf room. I do not wish my reports to become annual mes-

sages of but a single note, yet you should be told that we have been obliged to run shelves across all the windows of our upper stack room, thus shutting out air and light, and that we are filling the basement with books taken from the first floor stack room.

In no previous year have we discarded dilapidated volumes so freely, but after so ridding the shelves, still the wonder grows how one small library can hold a few more rows. The average circulation of a book in publisher's binding is estimated to be only fifty times before it needs rebinding; therefore that book cannot be long-lived, and discarding it becomes inevitable. The library does not really suffer thereby, for, as the Salem librarian says: "Volumes which have outlived their usefulness take the room needed for new publications; an antiquated book is often a positive disadvantage in a popular circulating library, as borrowers may read it without realizing that the information it contains is completely out of date."

Please understand that our affection for this Fowler building is profound and unqualified. We bridle with pleasure when the librarian of a recent big western Carnegie structure writes: "Your library from the picture looks so comfortable and usable; it seems a pity that so many of the modern libraries look so glaringly and uncomfortably new." We like it when visitors step into the sunny interior of this centrally located building and gazing at its bee-hive aspect of varied interests going on in this and that small corner say, "It does not look like an institution, but a social center." Several wants remain, however, such as a children's room, desirable for sound reasons and not urged because the librarian has a sentimental wish to run a kindergarten or a reformatory. In previous reports our needs have been dwelt upon, and there is nothing further to say except that in a few years we shall have to rent storage room for our less-used books.

You can readily see that we have been willing to relieve the congestion of this building by starting deposit stations

in remote parts of the city. Mast Yard was the last locality to establish a fortnightly exchange of a boxful of books, and this was undertaken at the unselfish instigation of Mrs. P. W. Richards, wife of the station agent at Mast Yard, and the books are under her excellent care.

The East Concord delivery was suspended in December, as Mrs. Grace Farnum did not wish to continue her two-years' oversight of the books. It will be difficult to find another custodian who will equal her in accuracy and amiability, but we are on the lookout for the right place in Ward 2 to which to commit our books, for the use of them has been encouragingly large and the appreciation of the privilege ample. Besides continuing the boxes to Penacook and West Concord, we now fill three boxes twice a year for the matrons at St. Paul's School to charge out to their large force of employées.

In hot weather, when residents are away, our shelves become unusually crowded, but this year we somewhat relieved that condition by featuring the vacation privilege, by which eight books could be charged to a person for all summer and taken to beach or mountains.

The exhibits in our School Street hall have been especially good the past year, including some of much local interest, such as Dr. Frederick L. Hill's on the "Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis," and the convincing display from the N. H. Agricultural College relative to the "Spread and Check of the Gypsy and Brown-tail Moths." The last four exhibits which have come from the Library Art Club have been photographs of Paris, Japan, Egypt, and Sicily. It is delightful to have borrowers who have come in for books linger over these pictures, pointing out places and saying, "I was there or there."

We had the pleasure of entertaining the New Hampshire Library Association when that body met in this building in November. Such a live conference leaves it an open question whether it is more blessed to get from some one else or

to pass along to somebody else, a helpful suggestion in library work.

At the desire of the president of the Woman's Club, we have arranged a hall-nook with chairs and light, and we place there each month reading matter pertaining to subjects suggested by the club program or by a civic meeting, such as Forestry, Juvenile Courts, The Town Beautiful, etc., etc. This Fowler building has become a meeting place of new interests since the directors of the Shakespeare room have allowed its fortnightly use by the scientific and literary departments of the Woman's Club. The end and aim of a public library has been said to be the dissemination of ideas among men; but judging from the clubs which gather under our roof, this library will cause a dissemination of ideas among women.

It was stated above that our summer branch was omitted this year; this was because we did not know how our expenses were coming out and because our spare hand who assists in this work was absent in the West. Omitting the hot, hard afternoons at the summer station made it possible to try a vacation story-hour, however, and once a week during July and August the librarian read aloud good stories to as many boys and girls as could be seated in the Reference room. If the little audience enjoyed the session as much as did the reader, well and good. On two mornings Miss Iyla Chamberlin kindly relieved the librarian as entertainer.

The assistants have served cheerfully and faithfully and as another librarian puts it, "the record of work accomplished speaks for itself in commendation of the efficiency of the staff." Though there is no ordained division of labor among our staff and though each young lady helps anywhere about the building and in any way she can, the work has naturally arranged itself so that Miss Brown supervises the reference department, Miss Dennett the desk circulation and Miss Clarke the branch boxes. Miss Crowell is

now on her third year as our extra helper, and we could not get along without her assistance.

The days at the library have become increasingly wearing to the assistants because duties have grown much more complex. Boxes for the exchange of books arrive very often; mending yearly becomes more incessant; new magazines to be cased now arrive by scores; telephone calls for information break in upon seated work; the doing away with red tape and the fitting of regulations to the exigencies of each borrower, demand increasing tact and judgment, and zealous oversight is needed in a dozen ways where formerly care was required in only one direction. The librarian can render now less manual help to the assistants because she is more absorbed in questions of administration, in inter-library work, in the perusal of mail, clearance lists and book reviews, and in ordering, classifying, cataloguing, etc.

The only work we were able to simplify during the year has been that of furnishing their supplementary reading to the pupils who flock in after school hours. We have placed these volumes on open shelves where the scholar can look them over and select the book which looks inviting to his particular temperament. Each child, in certain grades, is required to read four books a year, but we know that hundreds of boys and girls will have read thrice that number because they became interested in this array of wholesome reading from actually handling it and not merely from hearing an adult say he liked it when he was young.

Professor Griggs said here last fall that no one ever exhausted his opportunities. If that is true of an institution as well as of an individual, perhaps this library can think up some way by which to have the glory of going on in its work. But as there seems no roseate prospect, let me read a letter written exactly fifty years ago by Parker Pillsbury, so that we can thrill a little at the vision splendid which this city department once seemed to a poor boy. Mr. Pillsbury wrote in 1857: