

1950

# Annual Report, Bangor, Maine: 1950

City of Bangor, Maine

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# annual report

B A N G O R, M A I N E

1950

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*Bangor, the center of Maine—the Gateway to Maine's North  
Woods and Seashore Resorts*

JULIAN H. ORR

CITY MANAGER



*City of Bangor, Maine*

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Dear Councilors:

The 1950 Annual Report marks the nineteenth year of the council-manager form of government in Bangor. The year was marked by the resignation of City Manager, Oliver D. Comstock, effective June 1, 1950, the appointment of City Clerk and Auditor, Jay E. Alley, as acting city manager, followed by the appointment of your present city manager effective November 20, 1950.

Almost eleven months of the period covered by this report had passed before this last appointment. It has been necessary, therefore, in the preparation of this report to rely upon the material contained in the annual reports of the various departments. Credit must be given to Purchasing Agent, Stanley Yonkauski for writing this report and to Interne, James Leotsakos, for arranging the copy for publication.

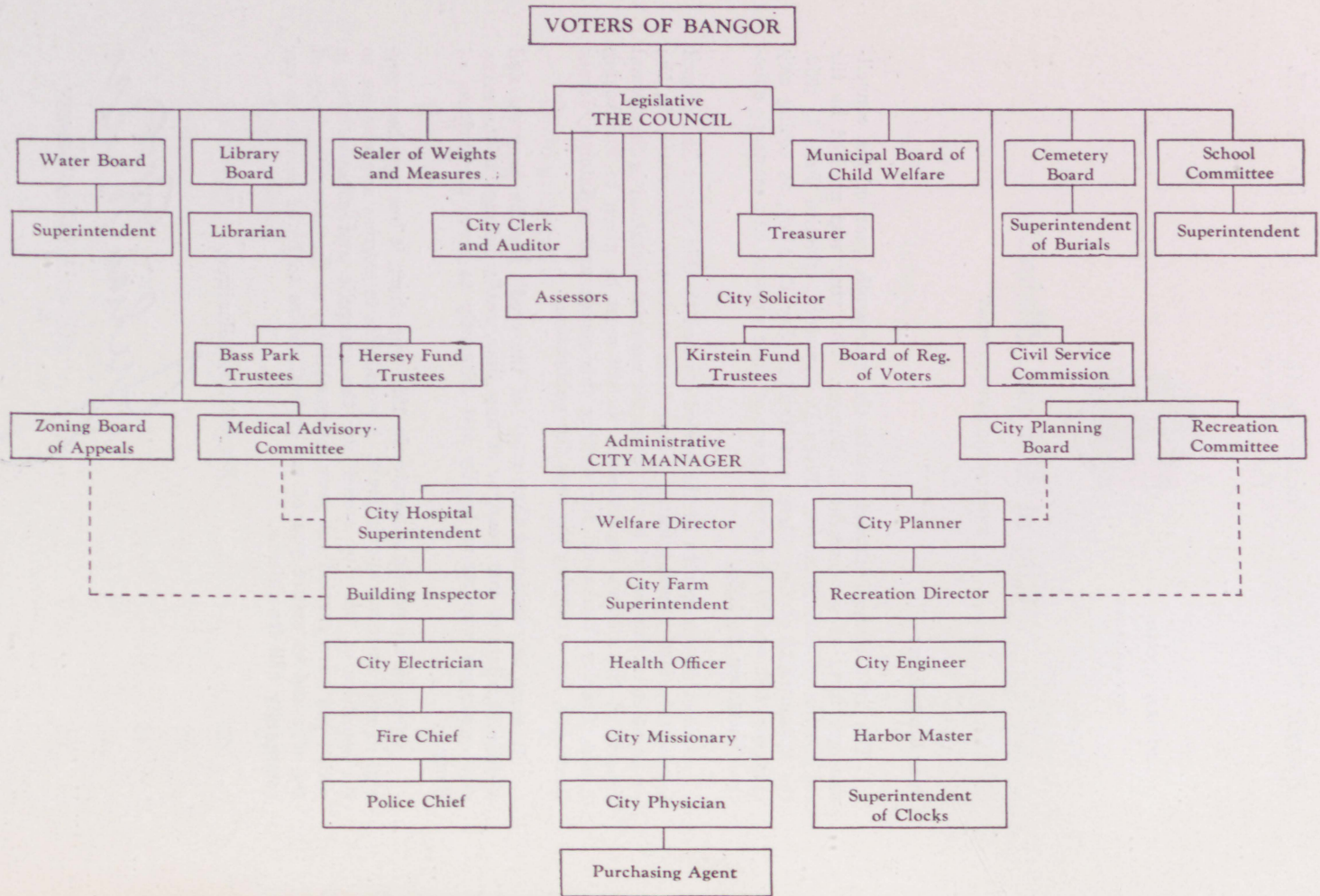
It must be recognized that much of the credit for the progress and accomplishments of last year, or of any year, really belongs to the many city employees who strive loyally and diligently to serve the citizens of Bangor.

Although my period of service in 1950 was short, it has now been several months since my appointment. I would like to express appreciation to the members of the city council for the energetic and effective way in which you have carried out your responsibilities as the governing body of the city and to assure you of my earnest desire to be of service to our community and its citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

*Julian H Orr*  
City Manager

# Municipal Organization





## 1950 CITY COUNCIL

*Seated:* James A. Hughes, Charles C. Morris, Chairman Charles E. Sheehan, Harold E. Kelleher. *Standing:* James C. Totman, John T. Barry, Jr., Hilton Humphrey, Frank F. Allen, Allan Woodcock, Jr.

## DIRECTORY OF CITY OFFICIALS 1951

## CITY COUNCIL

James A. Hughes, Chairman

Frank F. Allen  
Allan Woodcock, Jr.  
John T. Barry, Jr.  
Hilton Humphrey

James C. Totman  
John J. Flaherty, Jr.  
Doris C. Rosen  
James S. Stanley

## APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL

*Assessors*

Alec M. Wescott  
William J. Largay  
Harry E. Torrens

Dr. Lawrence M. Cutler  
Dr. Martyn A. Vickers  
William W. Tulloch

*Municipal Board of Child Welfare*

Ruth M. D'Amico  
Marie McLaughlin  
Rose M. Russell

(Appointed by Committee)  
Superintendent of Schools  
Roland J. Carpenter

*School Agent*

Lawrence H. Striley

*Superintending School Committee*

John P. Vose  
Grace A. Overlock

Attendance Officer  
Anne L. Fickett

*Water Board*

Clifford Patch  
 Dr. Manning C. Moulton  
 Alpheus C. Lyon  
 Ambrose H. White  
 Dr. Albert Fellows  
 George Hawkes, Jr.  
 James S. Stanley, Chariman

(Appointed by the Water Board)

Superintendent  
 Donald P. Johnston

*Trustees of the Hersey Fund*

Dr. Manning C. Moulton  
 John M. O'Connell, Jr.  
 William P. Newman  
 Donald S. Higgins  
 Treasurer of City of Bangor  
 Ex-Officio

*Trustees of Sophia Kirstein  
Student Loan Fund*

Robert N. Haskell  
 Abraham M. Rudman  
 Wilfred A. Finnegan  
 Superintendent of Schools  
 Ex-Officio

*Bangor Public Library Board and  
Trustees of the Hersey Fund*

Charles E. Bragg, 2nd.  
 George F. Eaton  
 Horace S. Stewart  
 Erwin S. Anderson

*Civil Service Commission*

William R. Ballou  
 Joseph H. Fleming  
 John E. Hess

*Board of Registration*

Ermine G. Kelly, Chairman  
 Mildred M. Merrill  
 Hazel M. McNamara

*City Planning Board*

E. Richard Drummond  
 Lawrence V. Jones  
 C. Parker Crowell  
 Kent S. Hassen  
 Paul F. Kruse

*City Planner*

Warkentin Schroeter  
 (Appointed by City Manager)

*Advisory Recreational Committee*

Priscilla E. Knowlton  
 Betty Berger  
 W. Weldon Dunnett  
 Edward L. McManus  
 James F. O'Connor  
 Frank F. Allen, Ex-Officio

*Zoning Board of Appeals*

John A. Vickery  
 Abraham J. Stern  
 Arnold Veague  
 (Associate Member)  
 Ballard F. Keith

CITY HOSPITAL  
MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Allan Woodcock  
Dr. Henry C. Knowlton  
Dr. Herbert Scribner

CITY OFFICIALS

City Manager.....Julian H. Orr  
City Clerk and Auditor.....Jay E. Alley  
City Treasurer and Tax Collector.....Ralph L. Waymouth  
City Solicitor.....Benjamin W. Blanchard  
Sealer of Weights and Measurers.....Bernard C. Constantine

APPOINTED BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Engineer.....James L. MacLeod  
Chief of the Fire Department.....John J. Nelligan  
Chief of the Police Department.....John B. Toole  
City Electrician.....Murray D. Gallupe  
Director of Public Welfare.....Ruth S. Lord  
Supt. of City Hospital and Home.....Oscar L. Modesto  
Recreation Director.....Bernard Campbell  
Building Inspector.....James M. Walsh  
Purchasing Agent.....Stanley Yonkauski  
City Physician.....Edward L. Curran, M. D.  
Health Officer.....Harry D. McNeil, M. D.



Meadowbrook Trunk Sewer under construction.

## PUBLIC WORKS

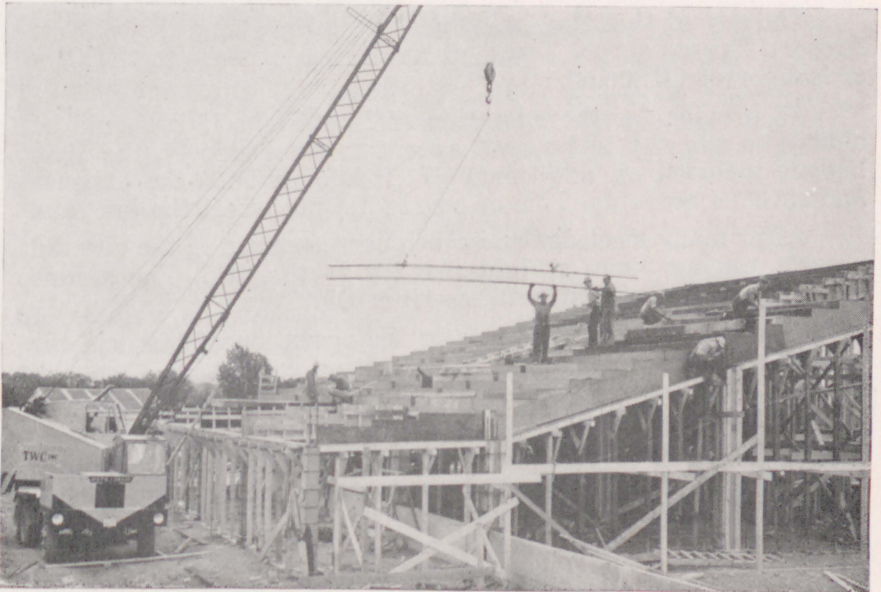
The construction at Bass Park of the new reinforced concrete grandstand with a structural steel frame roof is probably the outstanding project of the year. The plans, specifications, and contract forms were prepared by the department. The grandstand was completed in time for the Bangor Fair.

In addition to preparing the plans for the grandstand, the engineering division also established street lines and prepared plans for five new streets. Plans were prepared for a dental clinic at the Pine Street School and a fire station at Lane and Allen Streets. The construction of the dental clinic by a private contractor has been completed, but the City Council rejected the bids for construction of the fire station.

The highway division carried on an extensive program of street paving. Two sections of Main Street, totaling 4,320 feet, were resurfaced with hot asphalt. With the completion of this work, the entire surface of Main Street has been covered with a modern type paving. Hot asphalt paving was also placed on Pine and Hancock Streets.

New construction of city streets was completed on Middle and Columbia Streets and a length of Doane Street.

An extensive tarring program was carried out during 1950, with the result that nearly every street in the city was treated. A total of 275,365 gallons of tar was applied.



Placing forms for the new Bass Park Grandstand.

During the winter months, the city experienced 33 snow storms bringing a total snowfall of 108 inches. The demands for snow removal are increasing constantly, and this service is being expanded. Because of this expansion, snow removal costs are increasing constantly. In all, 2,958 tons of sand and 400 tons of salt were applied to the city's streets and sidewalks.

In line with the policy established in 1949 to try to improve the condition of the sidewalks, \$30,000 was made available for this use. As a result, 7.68 miles of sidewalks were resurfaced with hot asphalt.

An extensive sewer program was carried on throughout the year, and a total of 7,139 feet of new sewers were completed.

The spraying of city trees, which began in 1949, was completed with the result that all trees are relatively free from injurious insects. A considerable amount of tree maintenance work was carried out. This consisted of cutting down dead trees and limbs and cutting branches away from houses and roofs. In an endeavor to maintain tree growth and to replace old trees with young ones, orders were placed for forty new trees to be set out at various locations.

## AIRPORT

During the preparation of the 1950 budget, the city manager and members of the Council realized that the local air base, Dow Field, would be de-activated during 1950.

The city at that time was sponsoring the Bangor-Old Town Airport, located at Old Town, at an annual expense to the City of Bangor of \$2,800.00.

To provide for the operation of Dow Field, if it should be offered to the city to be used as a municipal airport, the 1950 budget included an additional \$71,160.00 in both the expense and revenue accounts. This of course did not affect the tax rate.

After many meetings and much correspondence, the city did receive, during June, a right-of-entry to the field. The airline immediately moved its facilities from Old Town to Bangor.

To assist the city manager in the operation of the field the council chairman appointed a committee composed of council members and interested citizens. A detailed study was made of possible revenues and expenses.

As a result of this study, many buildings were rented to local and other concerns for warehouse purposes, the Maine Air National Guard leased a large hanger and six additional buildings, a taxi and restaurant concession was granted, standing hay was sold, the airline agreed to increase the payment for

services rendered by the city, and forty apartments were made available and rented to local families.

On July the 10th, an airport manager was appointed.

The airport operations of the city for the year 1950 showed a profit of \$7,409.73. Dow Field made \$7,505.57 and the Bangor-Old Town Airport had a deficit of \$95.84.

## ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

The electrical department purchased 1,254,600 kilowatt hours of electricity from the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, and 1,969,400 kilowatt hours of electricity from the water department. Of this amount 919,603 kilowatt hours were used for lighting municipal buildings, and 2,185,812 kilowatt hours for street lighting.

The majority of the department's work on police traffic signals consisted of repair and maintenance. Lights were installed at Center and Cumberland Streets, and at Union and Fourteenth Streets.

The department handled 2,219 complaints and replaced 2,347 lights. Street lights were installed at 14 new locations, replaced at 33 other locations, and several transformers were installed.

The floodlighting system and the new electric scoreboard at Garland Street Athletic Field were wired by the department.

The department issued 701 permits for wiring, 636 of these permits requiring the installation of a meter by the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company. Seven hundred and twenty inspection visits were made in conjunction with the issuing of permits.

## HARBORMASTER

The government ice breaker "Yanktan" opened the river to the Bangor docks February 12, 1950, this being 12 days earlier than in 1949, and the first tanker arrived at the port on the same day. In 1950, the port was open 323 days.

Over 94,000,000 gallons of gasoline and fuel oils arrived at the port during the year. This was a slight increase in the amount arriving in 1949.

The services of the harbormaster were utilized on several occasions to recover several small drifting craft and to recover motor craft that were dragging their moorings. Two bodies were also recovered from the river.

## CEMETERIES

Many improvements have been made in the appearance of Bangor's cemeteries. The regular general care was given, such as mowing the grass on the new development, cutting the hay on ungraded lots and grass roads, scraping roads, care of water pipes, raking leaves, etc. On the perpetual care lots, the grass was kept mowed and all depressions filled. Some trees were also planted on these lots by the city.

There were 42 burials at Pine Grove Cemetery for 1950, five of them being out of state cases.

The available space at Mount Hope is decreasing. This limits the amount of space which may be used for planting. Poor resistance of the soil and frost heaving were some of the reasons why the plan to install fences and gates at Mount Hope Cemetery was abandoned.

## WATER DEPARTMENT

During 1950, there were laid out 5,533 feet of street mains of various sizes, ranging from four to twenty inches in diameter. Some of the mains were new and others replaced obsolete small mains. One of the new mains has been connected as far as the State Hospital. This will give the hospital a good supply of water, which had been inadequate for some time.

The water meter program has been progressing on schedule, and 1164 meters have been installed this year.

The pumping station engineer reported a daily consumption average of over four million gallons. The per capita use decreased from approximately 150 to 139 gallons per day. This should continue to decrease when more meters are added to the system.

The new carbon feed machine has been a great improvement over the old method. Repairs were made on the filter plant equipment, the dam, water wheels and the walls of the wheel pits.

The water department publishes their own annual report, and it may be obtained upon request at the water department office.

## EMPLOYEE SAFETY COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Employee Safety Committee is to identify and attempt to eliminate hazards and to help all employees become safety conscious.

1950 has been the most serious accident-injury year that has occurred in a long time. There were 121 accidents as compared to 87 for 1949. Two of the accidents resulted in death and three were permanent-partial disability accident injuries. These accidents ranged from being struck on the shin by a roller skate while inspecting the skating rink at the base to being struck by a freight train while driving a municipal truck, which resulted in death for one employee and serious injuries to another city worker.

The 1950 accidents resulted in 473 days lost time, amounting to \$5,000, as compared with 348 days lost time and nearly \$3,000 lost time wages in 1949.

The water, public works, and fire departments had the most injuries. The fire department had thirteen accidents, ten of which were caused at the Windsor Hotel fire.

## CITY HALL

The interior of city hall received a redecorating that improved the appearance of the hall and brightened the rooms. Ten offices, the council room, and all corridors and stairways were given new coats of paint. The floors of seven offices were covered with linoleum, and one corridor was covered with asphalt tile. The city hall auditorium floor and stage were sanded and re-finished. The office space of the public welfare department was increased by remodeling the first floor. The first floor ladies rest room was completed and furnished. Additional improvements will be carried out in the coming year.

## PLANNING

In order to fit the 1950 planning year into a complete planning picture it is necessary to briefly review the progress of 1949. The board's major objective is a master plan. When completed, this will be a coordinated plan for the future development of the city, and will include existing and desirable parks, playgrounds, schools, utilities, streets, off street parking areas, land uses, and sites for public buildings. In 1949, the "tools" and data for planning had to be prepared and collected. Some tentative plans were completed while other plans were outlined for completion in 1950.

Several sections of the master plan were developed during the year. A tentative street plan was completed, and a report on this plan was prepared and published. Included in this plan were proposals for several future streets and street widenings.

A preliminary report on a housing program was prepared by the staff. Several lines of action for improving housing and neighborhoods are included in this report.

A land use plan, one of the major sections of the master plan, was drawn up in tentative form. This plan designates the best future use of Bangor's land areas according to their physical characteristics, location, and the needs of the community. The land use plan will provide the necessary base for the future revision of the zoning map and ordinance.

During the course of the year several planning problems came before the board for their immediate study and recommendation. Among these were problems on a capital improvement program, a by-pass road, Dow Field, an indoor swimming pool, a new fire station, a rezoning proposal, parking, and a new street.

Three major tasks are planned for the coming year. They are the adoption of a master plan, the beginning of a new zoning ordinance and map, and the preparation of a capital improvement program and capital budget.

1949 was a year of preparing for the plan; 1950 was a year for drawing up the plan; 1951 will be a year for effectuating the plan.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the year, the fire department answered 711 alarms as compared with 524 in 1949 and 638 in 1948. Of the 711 alarms, 375 were building fires.

There were two two-alarm fires during the year. One was the Windsor Hotel fire, and the other was at Dresner's junk yard. Total losses amounted to \$410,065.00 for the whole year. The fire loss per capita was \$13.66 as compared with the per capita loss of \$19.00 in 1949.

A program of inspection, education, and training has been continually carried out. Officers of the department have carried out extensive inspections of property in the city as a check for fire hazards and to obtain other information that would aid in fighting any fire that might get started.

The education of the public is accomplished through the medium of local service clubs, the press, radio, window displays, and department demonstrations of technique and equipment.



Fire Department in action at the Windsor Hotel fire.

Daily training classes have been started as a part of the training program. The indoor work consists of methods of operating pumps and aerial ladders, and the techniques of fire fighters. Effective training is seriously hampered by the lack of a drill tower.

The auxiliary group of fire fighters has been revitalized as an aid for any large-scale fires that may be encountered. The chief value of the auxiliary will be the assistance they can provide for relieving regular men from outside duty at fires so that they may go inside and fight the fires.

	<i>No. of Alarms</i>	<i>Insurance Paid on Fire Losses</i>
1941	741	\$59,882
1942	675	96,160
1943	699	86,950
1944	737	90,200
1945	735	173,214
1946	708	126,131
1947	592	100,045
1948	638	218,964
1949	524	484,245
1950	711	247,027



Summer visitors receive courtesy tickets.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The number of arrests for the year totaled 2,343. Eighty-eight new traffic signs were erected throughout the city. Parking meters were installed in Pickering Square, and a parking lot was made available to automobiles in Stetson Square.

Five Bangor women were appointed as school crossing guards. The guards are replacing policemen who formerly saw to the safety of children crossing to and from school. Many letters of recommendation have been received from the public for the fine work being done by these women. This arrangement permits better police service in the downtown area throughout the day.

The juvenile inspector and the policewoman have very capably handled the trying problem of juvenile delinquency. A total of 533 juveniles were investigated during the year, of which 48 were girls. Most of the cases handled were of a minor nature, and police officials feel that there is no serious juvenile delinquency problem in the city.

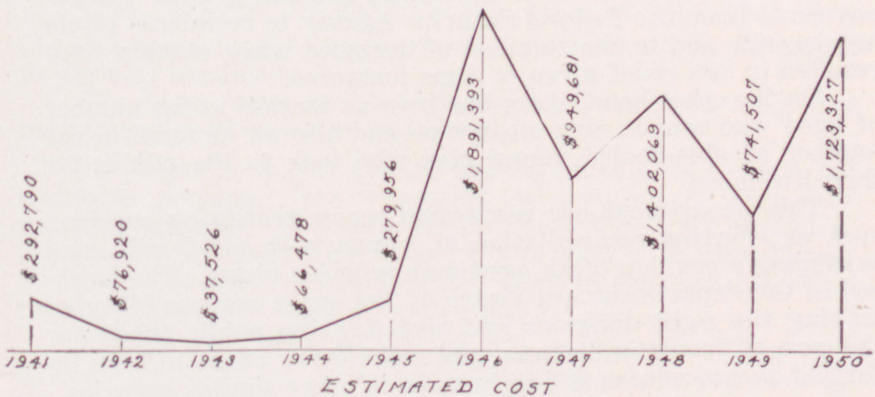
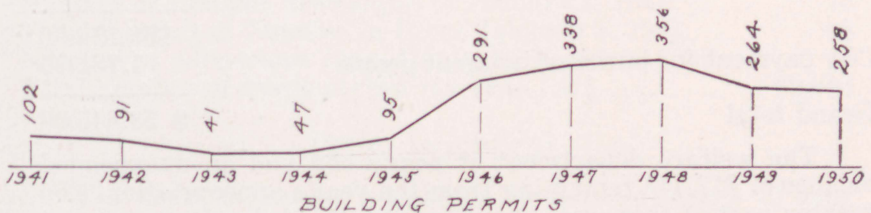
The internal defense activities and responsibilities have increased considerably during the year. The auxiliary police are of great value in emergencies, and they are training continuously to prepare themselves for any disaster. They can be put into immediate action should the occasion require it. These men are carefully chosen and properly trained, and they are a permanent part of the department disaster mobilization plans.

## BUILDING INSPECTION

During the year, \$2,143 was collected from permit fees and advertising costs. There were 13 new family units in additions and alterations, and 25 family units were demolished. Eleven non-residential buildings were also demolished.

Sixty-five permits for new single family residences were issued as compared with 66 in 1949. A total of 258 building permits were issued at an estimated cost of \$1,723,327.

The Board of Appeals held meetings on 42 applications and petitions. Of these, 38 were granted, 3 were denied and one was withdrawn by the applicant.



## SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

It is required by law to have all weights and measures used by business in buying or selling merchandise to the public inspected at least once a year.

During 1950, the sealer of weights and measures tested and sealed 525 sets of scales, 152 gasoline pumps, 52 fuel pumps, 12 measuregraphs, 19 bulk plant meters, 10 tank trucks calibrated for capacity, and 12 kerosene pumps.

## PUBLIC WELFARE DEPARTMENT

In 1950 the citizens of Bangor invested \$56,894 in the health and the welfare of 198 of their less fortunate neighbors in this manner:

Private hospital care .....	\$ 3,950.00
State Sanitorium .....	217.00
Basic needs, rent, food, clothing.....	32,901.00
Total for above .....	\$ 37,068.00
Bangor's share—Aid to Dependent	
Children .....	13,476.00
Allowances to local private agencies.....	5,050.00
City Physician .....	1,300.00
	\$56,894.00
City payment for burial of indigent people	1,751.00
Grand total	\$ 58,645.00

The welfare department at year's end had an unexpended balance of \$12,445 remaining from the year's appropriation. The greater part of this came about because the federal government increased its share of aid to dependent children grants. Larger payments from the Federal Security Agency to recipients of old age benefits and to the families of deceased wage earners have resulted in less relief given in some instances.

On the other hand, there has been an increase in the number of aged who cannot earn an income and also an increase in the number of able-bodied young men who look to the public for their livelihood.

This department has performed many gratifying services, such as effecting reconciliation of a man with his family, and arranging a reunion of an aged man with his sister. The workers in the department are aware of the great responsibility of making the right decisions and spending the public funds for the care of people in distress, and make every effort to keep informed on procedures and techniques in other similar agencies.

## CITY FARM AND HOME

This year has seen continued expansion of farm equipment, including a small farm tractor, a paint sprayer, disc harrow, silage cutter, and a gasoline tank and pump.

The city farm herd of grade Holsteins were listed on the rolls of the Dairy Improvement Association, and the farm was again honored by the Green Pastures Program of the State of Maine by being awarded a certificate for "production of pasture feed in order to conserve grain, reduce feed cost and maintain the dairy industry."

An extremely dry season reduced the amount of garden products available, but enough was raised to provide an adequate supply of fresh vegetables and still provide some for canning.

Improvements to the home included the installation of a ventilating hood in the kitchen and a complete sprinkler system as a protection against fire.

Number of Inmates in Home—January 1, 1950.....	23
Number of Inmates admitted—to January 1, 1951.....	70
	<hr/>
	93
Number of Inmates discharged to January 1, 1951.....	75
Total Number of Inmates in Home January 1, 1951.....	18
Number of admissions from Municipal Court in 1950.....	18
Total number of meals served for year 1950.....	63,764

## CITY HOSPITAL

The doors of Bangor's hospital for the chronically ill open two ways:

They "open in" for sufferers seeking relief from pain, cure, improvement of crippling illness, or in overcoming or adjusting to physical handicaps.

The doors "open out" too for men and women on their way back to useful labor and normal living.

No longer is a hospital for the chronically ill a home for incurable persons. New resources are coming to hand and scientific findings offer new possibilities. The city physician, the Medical Advisory Board, and the privileges of consultation at Eastern Maine General Hospital, provide skill and attention for the medical problems of each patient.

The Bangor City Hospital now has thirty-one beds for care of the chronically ill. The bedside nursing care is provided by ten licensed nursing attendants under the supervision of a grad-

uate registered nurse administrator. The physical equipment is modern.

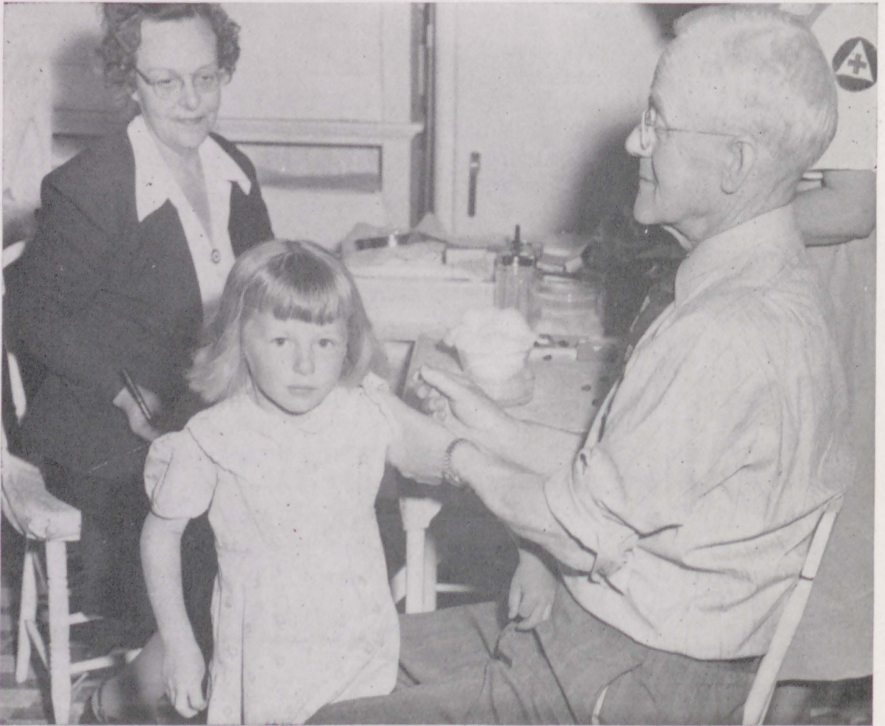
Today, the hospital is equipped and staffed to heal wherever possible, to help always; to extend its services through the community.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

During the year, there were 723 births in Bangor as compared to 344 deaths. The six leading causes of death were diseases of the heart, cancer, cerebral hemorrhage, pneumonia, accidents, and tuberculosis.

There were no major epidemics in the city, although some difficulties were encountered. Only one case of typhoid fever was encountered and one death resulted from polio.

The program of inoculation for diphtheria is proving to be of great value to the school children. This has been a program



An ounce of prevention.

of education in conjunction with school nurses, principals, and teachers, and now nearly 100% of the families approve this means of prevention.

Approximately 98% of the school children have been successfully protected against smallpox through vaccinations. This was made possible through the co-operation of the superintendent of schools, the principals of the parochial schools, and the school nurses.

The dental clinic has been moved from city hall to the Pine Street School where there is more space to install the necessary equipment. This will give the clinic a better opportunity to work on dental defects. The Dental Committee has met regularly and plans are being made to increase the efficiency of the clinic. Dental decay affects 95% of the people and it is felt that the eventual fluoridation of water supplies will result in a decrease in the amount of tooth decay.

The plumbing inspector had a busy year in answering 268 complaints, making 1,525 inspections, and issuing 1,470 permits.

The meat inspector also performed admirable work in safeguarding the health of the city's citizens. He performed 500 inspections as well as investigating numerous cases where dogs had bitten people.

The rat extermination program at the Essex Street dump has again been quite successful with the estimated kill reaching 85%.

The health department nurse assists the health officer in making the various inoculations, vaccinations and blood tests, as well as performing the necessary clerical work. In addition to this, the nurse carries out the nursing program at the parochial schools and makes home calls where needed.

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The city recreation program has shown its popularity in the attendance figures. Attendance for the year at the playgrounds reached 100,000, in comparison to an attendance of 72,000 in 1949, and 35,000 in 1948. The increased attendance is partly due to use of more and better equipment, improvement in the program and supervision, and the opening of a new playground.

Basketball is a very popular part of the recreation program. In fact, the popularity of the game taxes all the avail-



Keeping cool.

able facilities. Softball has become so popular that it overshadows the popularity of baseball. There were 32 baseball teams and 34 softball teams playing in various leagues throughout the summer.

Some of the highlights of the recreation activities for 1950 include the March of Dimes Basketball Jamboree, the band concerts at Davenport Park, the summer street dances, and the Hallowe'en celebration.

In 1950, Bangor spent for recreation only 66¢ per capita, about one-half the national average. There is still much to be done in the nature of providing recreation for the city's young people.

### GARLAND STREET ATHLETIC FIELD

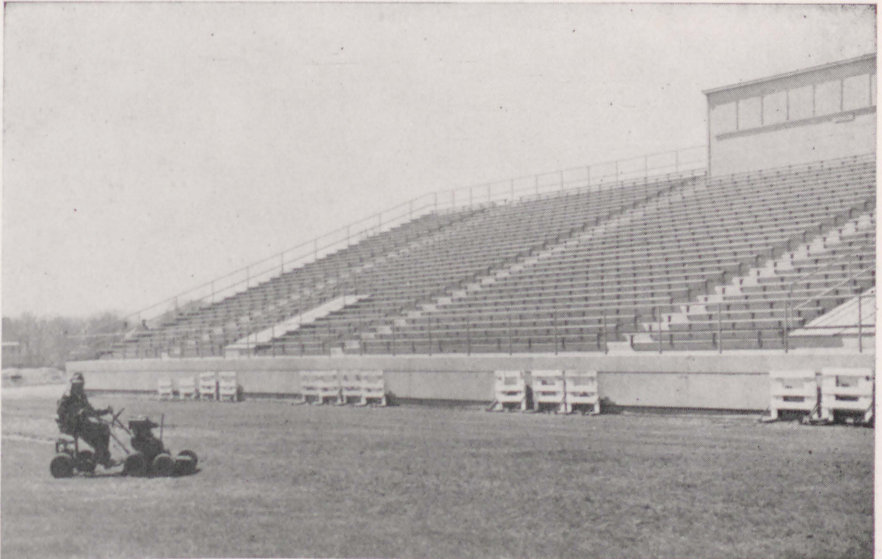
The work on the Garland Street Athletic Field began in 1948 and was completed in 1949 at a cost of about \$100,000. Most of this work was carried on by contract under the supervision of the Public Works Department. The field has a new steel grandstand, a field house, and floodlights for night games.

1950 was the first year the field was put into full operation. The football field was used by the high schools of Bangor, John Baptist and Old Town for all their home games. During the spring

season, the baseball diamond was used for all of the Bangor and John Bapst high school games. Bangor High School occupied the field exclusively for all practice work and the intramural program during the fall and spring. About 100 boys used the dressing room, showers, and field for track, 75 during the football season, and 30 for baseball. The Garland Street Junior High School also used this field for their outdoor physical education sports program.

During the fall, the boys used one section of the field, while the girls occupied the other part for field hockey. In the spring, it was used for softball and other such sports. During the summer season, the softball diamond was used by the Recreation Department several nights per week for softball games. The regular baseball diamond is reserved for hardball and is used by town groups, on a cost basis.

All requests by outside groups for use of any part of the field during the summer are made by writing to the Superintendent of Schools at least two weeks in advance of the requested date of use.



New grandstand at Garland Street Athletic Field.

## SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

During the past year considerable progress has been made in carrying out the long-range building program. Plans were completed for the new elementary school building on Vine Street, and it is in the process of construction. This building should be ready for use by September, 1951. The original plan called for remodelling the Abraham Lincoln school in 1951, but with the uncertainty of obtaining building materials, this may not be possible.

At present, plans are being made to determine the allocation of pupils to the new school building. Spot maps are being prepared indicating the location of every pupil in the city. The P. T. A. groups have volunteered to assist in making a complete census of all pre-school children. The residences of all of next year's pupils will be spotted on maps. Then it can be determined accurately what facilities will be needed in 1951-52. It may be possible to close Hannibal Hamlin and another small school; but they will be kept for future use to take care of increased enrollment in case the complete building program cannot be carried out on schedule.

Considerable repair work has been done during the past



The Public Library offers music too.

year. Painting was done in the first floor rooms of both junior high schools and a corridor of the high school. A new heating line was installed in the high school plant, resulting in a saving of about \$4,000 on fuel.

There were thirty personnel changes in the teaching staff at the beginning of school. With a distinct scarcity of trained elementary teachers, it has been difficult to find replacements. The department hopes to set up minimum standards of at least three years post high school training, and two years of successful experience for teachers entering the system for the first time. The school system already has an excellent group of teachers who are anxious to improve. The teachers continually strive to improve their work by attending summer school, doing extension work, and having periodic meetings to discuss improved teaching methods.

## PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Bangor Public Library now contains a total of 271,168 books, or about 8.61 books for each person in the city.

The operation of the library in 1950 cost \$112,460, 21% of which is obtained from city appropriation. About 75% of the operating expense is obtained from the income of various trust funds set up by generous friends.

The library has made available a collection of phonograph records in the music department. The collection now contains 107 albums and is constantly being increased.

One of the biggest problems of the library is finding more shelf space where the public may inspect and browse through the books before borrowing them. Plans have been made for a book room to occupy the basement space which has been used for the Bangor Historical Society weapons collection.

The Bangor Public Library offers many services that are not too well known by the public at large. Many reference books are provided for use in the city's schools. Other reference books are furnished to various city departments for use by their personnel. The Reader's Digest in braille is available for use by blind readers.

The inauguration by radio station WLBZ in January of a Tello-test program created an entirely new job for the library, the answering of 11,051 telephone calls. On one occasion 52 calls were answered in the first fifteen minutes of the day. New telephone equipment had to be ordered. Although much time was given to answering these inquiries, they were welcomed, since it is the duty of the library to help the people in finding what they want to know.

## CITY CLERK

This department has been successful in obtaining better service for the public and other departments of the city, improving public relations, and keeping down the operating costs. Operating expenses for the coming year (1951) are expected to be lower than during any of the recent years.

The vital statistics reported for 1950 are as follows:

Births .....	1,883
Deaths .....	722
Marriages .....	464

In addition to the recording of these vital statistics, this office performed many services for the general public. Numerous licenses were issued and mortgages were recorded. Records were made of all regular, special, and adjourned council meetings. During the year 18 amendments to the city ordinances were passed by the City Council, as well as several orders and resolves.

## LEGAL DEPARTMENT

There isn't a department which hasn't required the aid of the city solicitor during the year. It is his duty under the ordinances to advise all departments, draft all bonds, defend and prosecute all city cases, and to furnish the council and municipal officers his professional advice. The city solicitor also has to attend committee and board meetings when required, and advise the city manager when requested.

From June until December of 1950, more than two hundred entries were made in the solicitor's record book. Much time was also spent attending meetings and taking care of the legal problems involving Dow Field. Collections for unpaid taxes and charges over the year amounted to a considerable sum, and small claims of the city against persons doing damage to city property were handled with success.

## BOARD OF REGISTRATION

The total number of registered voters in the city in 1950 was 12,502, a small increase over the number registered in the previous year, when 12,429 were listed. This small increase does not reflect the task with which the board is faced in keeping the lists up-to-date. During the year, 595 names were dropped from the lists and 668 names were added.

It is essential that the voting lists be maintained correct and up-to-date in order to facilitate the voting procedure at elections. New citizens are urged to come in and register for voting. Ward lists are prepared for the city clerk thirty days before election and are posted. Voters who do not find their name on the list should go to the Board of Registration of Voters and make the corrections.

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Taxes assessed for 1950 amounted to \$1,986,835.27, which was \$40,562.98 less than in 1949. A reduction in the budget for the year enabled the tax rate to be reduced \$1.00 per thousand, making the rate \$53.80 per thousand dollars of valuation.

The following is a summary of the city's tax division:

Real Estate	7,098 parcels with resident owners
Real Estate	567 parcels with non-resident owners
Personal Property	2,209 parcels with resident owners
Personal Property	136 parcels with non-resident owners
Polls	8,523 individuals

Almost 1,000 real estate transfers were recorded in the Penobscot Registry of Deeds in 1950. This requires copying each deed and changing the records to conform with the new owners. For each building permit taken out, the assessors must make a personal inspection and in the case of new construction, measurements and appraisals must be made. About 225 new photographs of buildings have been taken and added to the present files. The assessors have land maps showing the size and shape of each piece of property in the city as well as photographs of each building.

## TREASURY

The tax commitment for the year 1950 was \$1,986,835.27, which was about \$40,000 less than the commitment for 1949.

Revenue received from the motor excise tax was \$119,701.69, or about \$5,500 less than was collected in the previous year. The average per car was \$10.71.

During the year the city collected \$52,912 from parking meters, this being just \$12 more than was collected the previous year. The summer tourist month of August saw the greatest collection, while the smallest amount was obtained during the month of January.

## PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Nearly 7,000 purchase orders were issued by this office during the year. Contracts and price agreements were also arranged providing the various city departments with items for which there is a continual need such as tires, incandescent and fluorescent lamps, coal, oil, and water purification chemicals.

The aim of this department is to obtain supplies and equipment of a high quality for the lowest price possible. The sudden turn of world events during the year created a situation where many materials were being channeled into defense preparations leaving very little for civilian use. Shortages of goods also brought on sharply rising prices.

The close of the year saw plans under way to attempt to overcome the supply and price problem by placing emphasis on anticipating the city's needs in advance.

## AUDITING DEPARTMENT

The aim of this department is to operate as a successful business organization; that is, to properly record all transactions, furnish the necessary reports required, and to keep the expenses of this department and the city at a minimum. The 1950 expenditures for the department were \$13,386 or about \$1,123 less than in 1949.

The following financial statements are from the report of Graffam's Accounting Service, which is employed by the city council to post-audit the financial transactions of the city.

### STATEMENT OF DEBT LIMIT

December 31, 1950

Assessed Valuation, April 1, 1950.....	\$36,454,766.00
Debt Limit (5% of Valuation).....	\$1,822,738.30
City of Bangor Liabilities:	
Bonded Indebtedness .....	\$1,296,000.00
Notes Payable .....	43,000.00
	<hr/> 1,339,000.00
Net Borrowing Capacity in Dollars	<hr/> \$483,738.00

# STATEMENT OF BONDED DEBT

Year Ended December 31, 1950

<i>Description</i>	<i>Date Issued</i>	<i>Interest Rate</i>	<i>Outstanding 12/31/49</i>	<i>Redeemed During Yr.</i>	<i>Added During Yr.</i>	<i>Outstanding 12/31/50</i>
Armory Construction .....	6/1/32	4 %	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$	\$ 24,000.00
Mary Snow School .....	7/1/34	4 %	4,000.00	2,000.00		2,000.00
Mary Snow School .....	7/1/35	2½ %	8,000.00	2,000.00		6,000.00
Mary Snow School .....	7/1/36	2½ %	12,000.00	2,000.00		10,000.00
Mary Snow School .....	7/1/37	2¾ %	16,000.00	2,000.00		14,000.00
Refunding .....	8/1/39	1¾ %	22,000.00	2,000.00		20,000.00
Refunding .....	8/1/40	1¾ %	20,000.00	2,000.00		18,000.00
Serial for Junior High School and Municipal Garage	1/2/41	1¾ %	288,000.00	18,000.00		270,000.00
P W A Projects .....	1/2/41	2 %	36,000.00	4,000.00		32,000.00
P W A Projects .....	1/2/41	1¾ %	6,000.00	2,000.00		4,000.00
P W A Projects .....	1/2/41	1¾ %	48,000.00	3,000.00		45,000.00
City Hospital Construction .....	9/1/49	1½ %	108,000.00	12,000.00		96,000.00
Fairmount School Addition .....	9/1/49	1½ %	238,000.00	17,000.00		221,000.00
Permanent Public Improvements .....	9/1/49	1½ %	90,000.00	6,000.00		84,000.00
Serial for Elm West Side School.....	12/1/50	1⅜ %			450,000.00	450,000.00
Totals .....			\$922,000.00	\$76,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$1,296,000.00

## BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 1950

## ASSETS

Cash on Hand and Deposit.....	\$ 153,607.05	
Postage Fund .....	500.00	
Accounts Receivable .....	35,565.85	
Taxes		
Uncollected Taxes .....	\$ 60,207.78	
Less Overlay .....	38,299.59	
		21,908.19
Uncollected Taxes Secured by		
Tax Deeds .....	10,751.92	
Uncollected Taxes Secured by		
Sewer Deeds .....	5,529.60	
State Aid Road Grant .....	5,873.16	
		<u>\$233,735.77</u>
Due from Other Funds:		
Garland Street Field Fund.....		1,019.00
Deferred Charges:		
Prepaid Insurance .....		31,192.65
		<u>\$ 265,947.42</u>
Total General Fund Assets .....		
Tax Deed Property .....	6,669.60	
Municipal Property .....	8,583,109.18	
		<u>8,589,778.78</u>
Total Capital Fund Assets.....		366,852.99
Trust Fund—Investments .....		
		<u>\$9,222,579.19</u>

Note: The Water Department Accounts are not reflected in the Balance Sheets.

## BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 1950

## LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND SURPLUS

1950 Encumbrances Outstanding.....	\$ 28,861.58	
Accrued Interest .....	831.22	
Due Water Department .....	2,822.58	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 32,515.38
Deferred Credit:		
Prepaid 1951 Motor Excise Taxes.....		9,856.24
Reserves:		
Larkin Street School—Sprinkler .....	\$ 1,344.00	
Hospital Construction .....	532.97	
Fairmount School—Additions .....	482.11	
Future State Aid Road Construction.....	5,873.16	
	<u>          </u>	8,232.24
Unappropriated surplus .....		215,343.56
Total General Fund Liabilities, Reserves and Surplus .....		<u>\$ 265,947.42</u>
Municipal Bonds Outstanding .....	\$1,296,000.00	
Notes Payable .....	43,000.00	
	<u>          </u>	\$1,339,000.00
Surplus: Investment in Fixed Properties.....	7,250,778.78	
Total Capital Fund Liabilities and Surplus.....		<u>\$8,589,778.78</u>
Trust Fund—Principal .....		366,852.99
Total Liabilities and Surplus.....		<u>\$9,222,579.19</u>

## STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS

Year Ended December 31, 1950

*Amended*

<i>Accounts</i>	<i>Appropriations</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>Overdrawn</i>	<i>Unexpended</i>
<b>General Government:</b>				
Legislative .....	\$ 498.04	\$ 267.21		\$ 230.83
Executive .....	12,230.28	10,378.04		1,852.24
Auditing .....	14,667.40	13,417.46		1,249.94
Treasury .....	16,110.19	15,055.98		1,054.21
Assessors .....	17,226.88	16,319.51		907.37
Legal .....	4,123.96	4,146.86	22.90	
City Clerk .....	11,084.46	8,870.14		2,214.32
Registration .....	6,419.60	6,126.52		293.08
Elections .....	2,653.00	2,533.36		119.64
City Hall .....	31,074.44	27,099.40		3,975.04
Auditorium .....	9,607.49	6,708.13		2,899.36
Planning Department .....	5,973.58	5,339.33		634.25
Purchasing Department .....	7,205.40	6,849.19		356.21
<b>Public Safety:</b>				
Health Department .....	36,957.47	34,410.99		2,546.48
Police Department .....	187,895.79	177,349.98		10,545.81
Fire Department .....	194,261.08	186,766.80		7,494.28
Building Inspection .....	7,009.29	6,528.17		481.12
<b>Charities and Welfare:</b>				
Welfare Department .....	83,116.75	69,671.86		12,444.89
City Farm Department .....	32,920.63	37,911.86	4,991.23	
City Hospital .....	25,449.96	18,894.27		6,555.69
<b>Education:</b>				
School Department .....	706,409.68	702,946.58		3,463.10
<b>Public Service:</b>				
Public Works Department .....	474,079.07	472,169.58		1,909.49
Electrical Department .....	66,696.58	68,650.89	1,954.31	
Water Department .....	262,408.27	276,274.54	13,866.27	
<b>Unclassified:</b>				
Miscellaneous Services .....	3,249.63	2,152.25		1,097.38
Recreation Department .....	21,460.80	21,248.71		212.09
Cemeteries .....	6,990.12	6,461.31		528.81
Trust Fund Beneficiaries .....	7,238.00	7,322.39	84.39	
Unclassified .....	166,129.97	86,560.40		79,569.57
Interest .....	27,318.00	23,523.30		3,794.70
Bond Maturity .....	76,000.00	76,000.00		
Note Redemption .....	21,000.00	21,000.00		
Public Library .....	23,226.56	23,226.56		
Bass Park .....	26,674.05	25,138.92		1,535.13
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>\$2,594,366.42</b>	<b>\$2,467,320.49</b>	<b>\$20,919.10</b>	<b>\$147,965.03</b>
Appropriation Accounts Unexpended .....				\$147,965.03
Less: Appropriation Accounts Overdrawn .....				20,919.10
Net Credit to Unappropriated Surplus .....				\$127,045.93

## STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REVENUE

Year Ended December 31, 1950

<i>Source</i>	<i>Estimated Revenue</i>	<i>Actual Revenue</i>
State Grants:		
Railroad and Telegraph Tax.....	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,717.60
State Bank Stock Tax.....	22,000.00	23,540.17
Library .....	200.00	200.00
Taxes:		
Automobile Excise .....	120,000.00	138,254.93
Supplemental .....	3,000.00	2,439.92
Licenses and Permits:		
City Clerk's Fees .....	11,000.00	14,652.84
Electrical Department .....	250.00	277.64
Building Inspector .....	2,400.00	2,023.40
Public Safety:		
Health Office .....	1,900.00	1,489.92
Police Department .....	82,100.00	77,473.96
Fire Department .....	4,537.00	4,240.64
Public Works Department.....	22,736.00	23,600.72
Public Service:		
Water Department .....	235,000.00	248,866.27
Charities and Welfare:		
Welfare Department .....	16,933.00	14,927.52
City Farm .....	18,050.00	15,742.18
Education .....	122,250.00	150,233.07
Other:		
U. S. Housing Project.....	2,400.00	7,488.00
Interest on Taxes and Tax Deeds.....	2,500.00	4,331.43
City Hall Rental .....	2,500.00	2,817.58
Auditorium .....	2,500.00	3,859.50
Bangor-Old Town Airport.....	74,560.00	30,071.95
Sale of Cemetery Lots.....	1,400.00	1,571.01
Bass Park .....	1,500.00	1,947.99
Miscellaneous .....	3,450.000	579.12
	<u>\$773,166.00</u>	<u>\$790,347.36</u>

## ASSESSORS' VALUATION AND COMMITMENT

Year Ended December 31, 1950

## VALUATION

## Real Property:

Resident .....	\$24,805,770.00	
Non-Resident .....	3,571,450.00	
	<u>                    </u>	\$28,377,220.00

## Personal Property:

Resident .....	\$ 6,467,406.00	
Non-Resident .....	1,610,140.00	
	<u>                    </u>	8,077,546.00

Total Valuation .....	\$36,454,766.00
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Rate: \$53.80

Total Assessed on Property.....	\$ 1,961,266.41
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Polls	9,048	
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Less: Exempt	525	
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<u>          </u> 8,523 @ \$3.00	
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25,569.00
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\$ 1,986,835.41
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Deduct Due to Fractions.....	.14
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Total Assessment of Taxes.....	\$ 1,986,835.27
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## ALLOCATION OF ASSESSMENT

Municipal Functions .....	\$ 1,680,187.57	
State Tax .....	231,527.43	
County Tax .....	63,846.00	
Overlay 1950 .....	11,274.27	
	<u>                    </u>	\$ 1,986,835.27

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR MUNICIPAL  
GOVERNMENT

Taxes 1950 .....	\$ 1,680,187.57
Estimated Revenue .....	773,166.00
Appropriated from Surplus.....	96,229.43
	<u>                    </u>
Total Appropriation .....	\$ 2,549,583.00

## ABOUT BANGOR

### HISTORY

Bangor's first settler was Jacob Buswell who built a log hut in 1769 near the present site of St. John's Catholic Church. In 1791, Pastor Noble was delegated to appear before the General Court of Massachusetts to petition this growing frontier town under the name of Sunbury. On the long journey to Massachusetts, the pastor whiled away his time by singing his favorite tune, "Bangor". When the petition to the court was made, he asked that the new town be designated "Bangor" instead of Sunbury. The incorporation was allowed on February 25, 1791.

### COMMERCE

Bangor is the financial and commercial center for the northern and eastern sections of Maine. It is the center of one of the most important hydro-electric systems in New England and also serves as the center for motor-bus service to all points in Maine, and New Brunswick, Canada. Bangor is also known as a center for recreation, conventions, and tourists.

### FACTS

The population of Bangor is over 31,000, and it has an area of 32.9 square miles. There are 121 miles of streets, 112 miles paved and 9 miles gravel, 80 miles of paved sidewalks, 69 miles of sewers, 51 miles of gas mains, and 78 miles of water mains. Bangor has four theatres, a golf club, 32 churches, 8 libraries, one public and one parochial high school, two junior high schools, 11 public schools, two parochial schools, four hospitals, and three institutions. There are 110 wholesale establishments, 460 retail stores, 54 industrial plants, and two independent newspapers. The national bank and two trust companies, with their branches, have total deposits of about \$61,359,000 as of December 31, 1950, and total assets of nearly 68 million dollars. There are two savings banks and a building and loan association. The total deposits for all six institutions are about \$91,061,000 and total assets are over \$103,000,000.

