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Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Aurora, Maine for the Year ending February 29, 1948

Aurora (Me.)

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State Highway

TOWN OF
AURORA
MAINE



ANNUAL REPORT
1947-48

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

OF THE TOWN OF

AURORA, MAINE

For the Year Ending

FEBRUARY 29, 1948

THE WARRANT

FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To I. G. Kemp, Constable of Aurora, in the County of Hancock,

State of Maine,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town of Aurora, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble in the Town Hall in said Town on Monday, the 31st day of March, A. D., 1948, at one o'clock in the afternoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

- Article 1 To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.
- 2 To see if the Town will accept the report as printed.
 - 3 To choose a clerk for the ensuing year.
 - 4 To choose a chairman of the board of Selectmen.
 - 5 To choose a second selectman.
 - 6 To choose a third selectman.
 - 7 To choose a Board of Assessors for the ensuing year.
 - 8 To choose a board of children's guardians for the ensuing year.
 - 9 To choose a Board of Overseers of the Poor for the coming year.
 - 10 To see what per cent the Town will pay for collecting taxes for the year 1948.
 - 11 To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
 - 12 To choose a Collector of Taxes for the year 1948.

- 13 To choose a member of the superintending school committee for a term of three years.
- 14 To choose a surveyor of wood, bark, and lumber for the ensuing year.
- 15 To choose a road commissioner for the ensuing year.
- 16 To choose a constable for the ensuing year.
- 17 To choose a chimney inspector for the ensuing year.
- 18 To see what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise for ways, highways and bridges.
- 19 To see what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise for Town charges.
- 20 To see what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise for the Contingent Fund.
- 21 To see what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise for support of schools.
- 22 To see what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise for maintenance of cemetery.
- 23 To see what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise for public health nurse.
- 24 To see what sum of money the town will appropriate and raise for superintendence account.
- 25 To see if the town will appropriate and raise \$37.00 for maintenance of third class highway.
- 26 To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen and treasurer to make temporary loans not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of \$2,000.00 for the municipal year 1948 and to issue the town's negotiable notes therefor.

- 27 To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen and treasurer to issue the town's negotiable notes or bonds for the purpose of renewing, refunding, or paying certain notes of the town during the year 1948.
- 28 To see what sum the town will appropriate and raise for State Aid road construction in addition to the amounts regularly raised for the care of ways, highways and bridges, under the provisions of section 19, chap. 28, Revised Statutes of 1930 or under the provisions of section 5, chapter 229, Public Laws of 1937.
- 29 To see what action the town will take in regard to our public school. A petition from the school committee to have the school remain open has been received in accordance with the laws regulating school under eight (8) pupils.
- 30 To see what sum of money the Town will vote to pay men horses and trucks per hour on the town roads, and on the state aid road.
- 31 To act on any other article or articles that may come before said meeting.

Given under our hand this 10th day of March, 1948.

A. R. MACE

O. L. JORDAN

O. S. PALMER

Selectmen of Aurora

ASSESSORS' REPORT

VALUATION

Real estate, resident	\$29415.00
Real estate, non-resident	43845.00
Personal estate, resident	2905.00
Personal estate, non-resident	190.00
	<hr/>
	\$76355.00
	<hr/> <hr/>

COMMITMENT

Rate .055; polls, 27 @ \$3.00; 7 exempt.

ASSESSMENT

Overlay		172.76
State tax		638.21
County tax		249.80
Support of schools		700.00
Town charges		600.00
Contingent fund		650.00
Cemetery		50.00
Superintendence account		95.00
Public health nurse		15.00
Third class maintenance		37.00
Roads and bridges		225.00
State-aid construction		300.00
Snow removal		547.75
Tax abated:		
Gordon Durham	3.55	
E. Wright	3.00	
	<hr/>	6.55
		<hr/>
		4273.97
Supplemental taxes		9.00
		<hr/>
		\$4282.97

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT

Assets

One used snow plow (Fruk)	\$ 400.00
Town Hall, school houses and Town Farm	2500.00
Permanent school fund:	
2 Series G, U. S. Govt. Bonds	1000.00
1 Series G, U. S. Govt. Bond	500.00
18 shares preferred stock, Union Trust Co.	360.00
Due from State:	
Snow removal	1196.94
Snow fence	194.75
Tuition	120.00
State aid anticipation, 1948	1917.27
Due from Social Security Adm.	100.00
Due from City of Bangor, Rufus Pinkham	19.50
Due from Town of Gouldsboro, Everett Newingham	30.00
Due from Town of Eddington, George Grant	25.51
Bal. Trust Fund, Andy E. Giles	35.00
Balance in treasury	1888.22
	<hr/>
	\$10286.19

Liabilities

Trust fund, A. E. Giles	35.00
Loan, Union Trust Co.	2000.00
	<hr/>
	\$2035.00

ADMINISTRATION

RECEIPTS

Appropriation	\$600.00
Check from State, bear bounties	60.00
Cash to Treas., sale fire pumps	67.50
Check, Town of Amherst	36.00
Transferred from excise taxes	264.60
	<hr/>
	\$1028.10

EXPENDITURES

S. N. Archer, ballot clerk	10.00	
E. A. Richardson, ballot clerk	10.00	
Furbush-Roberts, reports	51.75	
Loring, Short & Harmon, supplies	15.85	
O. W. Tapley Co., insurance	81.43	
Sears Roebuck Co., chairs	57.28	
A. R. Jordan, fire patrol	72.00	
Melvin MacFarland, auditor	50.00	
Frunk Snow Plow, Inc., parts	73.79	
A. R. Mace, bear bounty	15.00	
Ruper. Neally, Jr., bear bounty	15.00	
Chas. Gammons, bear bounty	15.00	
Benny True, bear bounty	15.00	
State Forest Service, fire pumps	81.00	
Chas. Vose, bread, Red Cross	6.00	
Union River Electric Coop., lights	18.00	
A. R. Mace, selectman	100.00	
O. L. Jordan, selectman	35.00	
O. S. Palmer, selectman	25.00	
Gladyce Mace, treasurer	50.00	
Gladyce Mace, clerk	35.00	
Gladyce Mace, collector	128.49	
Gladyce Mace, collector excise	8.20	
Leola Pinkham, school committee	3.00	
Beatrice Stillwell, school committee	3.00	
Emma Magoon, school committee	3.00	
A. R. Mace, insulation, etc., Hall	21.23	
Union Trust Co., interest	13.33	
Union River Tel. Co., telephone chgs.	12.75	
T. G. Kemp, constable	3.00	
		\$1028.20

SCHOOL ACCOUNT

Expenditures		\$1844.76
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SUPERINTENDENCE ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

Appropriation		\$95.00
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EXPENDITURES

Merle Goodwin		39.74
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Unexpended balance		\$55.26
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**UNIMPROVED STATE ROAD
RECEIPTS**

Check from State		\$228.07
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EXPENDITURES

E. A. Silsby	84.00	
Robert E. Silsby	85.00	
Ray Magoon	45.00	
T. S. Kemp	14.07	

\$228.07

**WELFARE DEPARTMENT
State, Linwood Check Account**

RECEIPTS

Checks from State Treasurer		\$131.26
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EXPENDITURES

A. R. Mace		131.26

**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
EXPENDITURES**

H. C. Austin Co.		\$100.00

**STATE AID
RECEIPTS**

Appropriation		\$ 300.00
Loan funds		2000.00
Transfer from excise tax		289.46

\$2589.46

EXPENDITURES

State Treasurer:		
1947 state aid	300.00	
1948 special R. anticipated	200.00	
1948 state aid anticipated	2089.46	

\$2589.46

**COUNTY TAX
RECEIPTS**

Tax commitment		\$249.80
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EXPENDITURES

County Treasurer		249.80

STATE TAX

RECEIPTS

Tax commitment \$638.21

EXPENDITURES

State Treasurer 638.21

ROADS AND BRIDGES

RECEIPTS

Appropriation \$225.00

Transfer from overlay 43.67

\$268.67

EXPENDITURES

E. A. Silsby \$80.00

B. Ware 6.00

Robert E. Silsby 3.00

Ray Magoon 41.25

I. G. Kemp 6.56

John Durham 3.00

R. B. Dunning Co. 38.25

O. L. Jordan 2.80

State Highway Commission 49.60

A. N. Giles, snow town ways 16.05

Harry Nelson, Jr. 4.12

Boyden Foster 9.80

Francis Treadwell 1.87

Pete Hitchcock 5.25

Lewis Abbott .75

Edgar McInnich .37

\$268.67

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

RECEIPTS

Appropriation \$15.00

EXPENDITURES

Public Health Association 15.00

THIRD CLASS MAINTENANCE

RECEIPTS

Appropriation 37.00

Transfer from overlay 2.00

\$39.00

EXPENDITURES

E. A. Silsby	24.00	
Ray Magoon	9.00	
I. G. Kemp	6.00	
	<hr/>	
		<u>\$39.00</u>

CONTINGENT FUND

RECEIPTS

Appropriation		\$650.00
Transfer from overlay		107.37
		<hr/>
		757.37

EXPENDITURES

State Highway Patrol		575.20	
Snow Fence:			
Union River Tel. Co., wire	4.00		
E. A. Silsby	66.50		
O. S. Palmer		9.00	
Ray Magoon	32.25		
I. G. Kemp	23.25		
B. Ware	23.25		
A. N. Giles	13.42		
Harry Nelson, Jr.	10.50		
	<hr/>		
		182.17	
		<hr/>	
			<u>\$757.37</u>

SNOW REMOVAL. 1946-47

A. N. Giles		\$129.60
Edgar McInnich		8.25
Harry Nelson, Jr.		3.75
Ardean Stillwell		24.00
Boyden Foster		29.32
Roy Foster		8.62
O. L. Jordan		20.60
		<hr/>
		<u>\$224.14</u>

**SNOW REMOVAL
RECEIPTS**

Appropriation	\$ 547.75
Amount due from State as of Mar. 9, 1948	1196.94
	<hr/>
	\$1744.69

EXPENDITURES

A. N. Giles	\$1068.45	
Harry Nelson, Jr.	291.74	
F. A. Silsby	69.00	
Robert Silsby	13.50	
B. Ware	19.87	
Boyden Foster	88.20	
Lewis Abbott	16.86	
Rufus Pinkham	10.50	
Walter Keefe	12.00	
Gordon Durham	5.25	
W. H. Shurtleff	51.45	
A. R. Mace	12.50	
Ardean Stillwell	27.00	
Edgar McInnich	12.75	
C L. Jordan	40.00	
Francis Treadwell	5.62	
	<hr/>	
		\$1744.69
		<hr/> <hr/>
Total warrants drawn on Treasurer		\$9898.37
		<hr/> <hr/>

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax commitment, 1947		\$4273.97
Supplemental taxes		9.00
		<hr/>
		\$4282.97
Uncollected Taxes:		
1945, none		
1946, none		
1947, none		
Received from excise taxes:		
1947	100.82	
1948	172.61	
	<hr/>	
		273.43
		<hr/>
Cash to Treasurer		<u>\$4556.40</u>

Respectfully submitted,
GLADYCE T. MACE
Tax Collector

March 10, 1948

REPORT OF TREASURER

Balance in Treasury, March 10, 1947		\$2651.39
	Receipts for Year	
1947 taxes	4282.97	
1946 excise taxes	100.82	
1947 excise taxes	172.61	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
		4556.40
Adminstration:		
Rent from Town Farm, 1 yr.	60.00	
Rent of office,		
R. E. A. Coop, Inc., 1 yr.	60.00	
Use of snow plow, A. N. Giles	134.70	
Bear bounties, State Treas.	60.00	
U. S. Treas., int on war bonds	12.50	
Town Amherst, 1/2 fire patrol	36.00	
Union Trust Co, temp. loan	2000.00	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
		2363.20
Accounts Receivable:		
State Treasurer:		
Lin Chick	130.54	
Snow removal & fence	994.59	
Imp. state road	228.07	
I. G. Kemp, stumpage logs	84.60	
I. G. Kemp, stump., pulpwood	72.82	
Union Trust Co., pre. stock	12.60	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
		1523.22
Education:		
State Treas., school fund	667.38	
U. S. Treas., int. govt. bonds	25.00	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
		692.38
		<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
Total Received		9135.20
Total Available		\$11786.59
Selectmen's warrants paid		9898.37
Bal. in Treasury		<u>\$1888.22</u>

Respectfully submitted,
GLADYCE T. MACE,
Treasurer

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Annual Report for Municipal Year Ending February 27, 1948

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Beatrice Stillwell, Chairman	Term expires March 1948
Leola Pinkham	Term expires March 1949
Erma Magoon	Term expires March 1950

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Edward L. McMonagle, Agent for Commissioner of Education
To the Superintending School Committee and Citizens
of the Town of Aurora:

I am pleased to present herewith the annual report for the Aurora School Department.

During the year, Mrs. Mary K. Archer was employed as teacher at the Caruso School. Enrollment has varied from eight pupils in the fall term to six pupils in the winter term. \$1529.76 was expended for elementary schooling during the municipal year 1947-48. With an average enrollment of seven pupils, this gives an annual-cost of \$218.53 per pupil.

There has been some discussion regarding the heater at the school. It is my belief that the present system of heating is superior to a wood burner in that school opens in a comfortable room where a fairly constant temperature is maintained. I consider too that the oil burner is as economical to operate as a wood burning stove and janitor service would be. Some saving might be effected if the school room was insulated.

In the early part of September, 1947, Merle S. Goodwin, who was superintendent of schools for School Union No. 89, of which Aurora was a part, resigned to take a larger superintendency. On the recommendation of the Committee on Regrouping of Towns for School Unions, Union 89 was dissolved and school affairs in each of the towns were placed under the direction of the Commissioner of Education. The law provides that

such an agent has the same duties and responsibilities as a superintendent of schools. There is no change in the duties and responsibilities of the town or of the superintending school committee. School administration and supervision is handled just as though Aurora were a member of a school union employing its own superintendent.

I take this occasion to announce the appointment of Mr. C. Everett Page of Bangor as local school agent. Mr. Page will take over on a part time basis much of the work which I have been attempting to do. In view of his training and experience in the field of elementary education and his record as superintendent of schools, I feel that the town of Aurora is fortunate in having his services.

In the financial report, I would point out, that, despite anticipated salary and other costs, the appropriation for 1947-1948, was not increased over 1946-1947. As a result, this year has been closed with an overdraft of \$395.50. This amount may be taken care of through an appropriation or through a vote of the town that it be charged to the town surplus account. If it is taken care of in either of these ways, the town's school tax will be affected. This in turn will effect the subsidy on teaching positions in the State school fund distribution in December, 1949. Towns having a school tax in excess of 15 mills on their State valuation receive an extra \$90.00 subsidy—on a position held by a certified teacher—for each 3 mills that the rate is over 15 mills. The State valuation on which this is currently figured is 88,000. The school tax rate for Aurora based on the 1947 appropriation was .00795. The average school tax rate for the State for 1947 was .02243.

I would also point out that the amounts recommended in the budget for 1948-1949 are minimums

which are based on present costs of operation. There is no guarantee, with the present changing price structure, that those minimums will be sufficient. The estimates of income are based on continued distribution of State funds at rates in use during the past year.

I wish to thank the school committee, town officers, teachers and all others who have helped to provide a school opportunity for the boys and girls of Aurora during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
EDWARD L. McMONAGLE,
 Agent.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Common School Account

RECEIPTS

Balance from 1946-1947		\$57.75
Town appropriation, 1947		700.00
Interest on ministerial and school fund		25.00
State School Fund:		
Teaching postions	\$400.00	
Enrollment	35.51	
Closed school	90.00	
Secondary tuiton	140.00	
		<u>665.51</u>
Total available for 1947-1948		<u>\$1,448.26</u>

EXPENDITURES

Teaching	\$1,327.46	
Fuel	101.96	
Janitor and cleaning	12.00	
Tuition	315.00	
Text-books	82.97	
Supplies	5.37	
		<u>\$1844.76</u>
Total expended		<u>\$1844.76</u>
Overdraft to 1948-1949		<u>396.50</u>

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STATE OF MAINE
COLLECTION

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1948

Snow removal	\$547.75
Support of schools	1,600.00
Town charges	600.00
Contingent fund, patrol and snow fence	650.00
Cemetery	50.00
Public health nurse	15.00
Roads and bridges	150.00
State-aid construction	450.00
	<hr/>
	\$4062.75

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

I hereby submit my report on vital statistics:

Births, three.

Marriages, two.

Deaths, two; also two former residents.

Respectfully submitted,

GLADYCE T. MACE.