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# Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Belmont For the Municipal Year 1949

Belmont (Me.)

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1949/50



# OF THE

# MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

# OF THE

# TOWN OF BELMONT MAINE

For the Municipal Year 1949

Hutchins Brothers, Thorndike, Maine

# OF THE

# MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

# OF THE

# TOWN OF BELMONT MAINE

For the Municipal Year 1949

Hutchins Brothers, Thorndike, Maine

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## TOWN OFFICERS

Selectmen and Assessors

W. A. Shevis

Charles L. Thomas John B. Eaton

Collector F. A. Schofield

### Treasurer

F. A. Schofield

Clerk Lenora Wellman

School Committee Clark Hodges Muriel Thorpe Viola Morse

#### Superintendent of Schools

Elliott A. Diggle

## Health Officer

W. A. Shevis

## Town Fire Warden; State Forest Fire Warden John B. Eaton

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### State of Maine STATE DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT Augusta

November 16, 1949

Board of Selectmen Belmont Maine Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 16, Section 3, of the Revised Statutes of 1944, and at your request, the records of the Town of Belmont have been audited by the State Department of Audit for the period February 3, 1948 to February 1, 1949 inclusive.

The examination was made by Auditor Carl G. Hawes in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards applicable in the circumstances, and included all procedures which were considered necessary.

Insofar as could be ascertained within the scope of the examination, the financial transactions of the Town appear to have been appropriately handled, with such exceptions as may be noted in the accompanying Comments.

Exhibits and Schedules incorporated in this report present the result of the financial operations of the Town for the period designated.

Recommendations are also offered which are believed to be worthy of your consideration.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very truly yours, FRED M. BERRY State Auditor

#### COMMENTS

#### February 3, 1948 to February 1, 1949 ASSETS

The cash balance amounted to 6.641.71 at February 1, 1949, which amount reconciled with the bank statement of the First National Bank of Belfast. This amount differed with the Treasurer's records by .22¢ due to an error made in the deposit of April 8, 1948.

From an analysis of the receipts which were issued by the Treasurer and the deposits, it was ascertained that all cash recorded as received with the exception of  $.22\phi$ had been deposited in the bank. It was noted that deposits had not been made promptly. Expenditures were made by check and it was ascertained that all warrants had been paid in full and were properly approved by the Selectmen.

The taxes receivable totaled \$51.47 at the year end which represented the current year's uncollected taxes. The warrant of commitment ,which was properly signed, was added and found to differ with the amount committed by \$2.58 which had been adjusted. There were no prior years' taxes receivable.

The Tax Collector had secured all unpaid 1947 and 1948 taxes which had been assessed against real estate by tax liens. All unredeemed tax liens on file with the Treasurer were examined. Requests for verification were mailed to a representative number of taxpayers whose accounts were unpaid at the year end. If any variations are noted as a result of these verifications, the proper Municipal Officials will be notified.

One parcel of tax acquired property was sold during the year and a loss of \$9.59 on the sale was charged to unappropriated surplus.

#### LIABILITIES

Accounts payable amounted to \$2.50, which was due the Tax Collector, due to a duplicate deposit of 1948 excise tax receipt number 103.

#### **RESERVE AND SURPLUS**

The reserve for authorized expenditures represents the unexpended balances of the appropriation accounts for various purposes which have been carried to the ensuing year for expenditure. The balances carried forward in these accounts represent an increase of \$1,867.20 over those carried forward a year ago.

The unappropriated surplus revealed a decrease of \$1,728.95 at February 1, 1949. The factors causing this decrease are shown in detail on Exhibit C.

#### TRUST FUNDS

The time deposits representing the Cemetery Perpetral Care Funds were examined. The income withdrawn was properly accounted for and paid over to the Sexton of the Cemeteries.

#### **REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES**

A statement of revenue and expenditures is presented on Exhibit B of this report, which presents an analysis of the result of the operations for the current year. This statement reflects a net loss from operations of \$375.01.

#### GENERAL

A test check was made of the invoices and pay rolls. All so examined appeared to be reasonable and proper charges and correctly recorded in the distribution book but had not been posted to the Selectmen's ledger.

The 1948 excise tax receipts numbered 17 to 106 and

those for 1949 numbered 1 to 4 were verified by adding the copies of the receipts retained by the Tax Collector.

The following corporate surety bonds were found on file:

Treasurer	\$3,000.00
Peerless Casualty Company	No. S-16,379
Tax Collector	\$3,000.00
Peerless Casualty Company	No. S-17,292

A net overdraft in the amount of \$378.01 has been charged to the surplus account. The Attorney General has rendered an opinion on this point and it is included for the benefit of the municipal officers.

> "The municipal officers are bound by the terms of the articles in the warrant calling the meeting providing for the expenditure of money. The officers should not spend more than the taxpayers appropriated at town meeting, unless the statute expressly authorizes an expenditure in excess of the appropriation."

The provisions of Chapter 84, Section 81 of the Revised Statutes of 1944, however, relate to expenditures of monies for highway purposes and permit overdrafts in cases of emergencies to the extent of 15% of the appropriation.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations appear to be worthy of consideration by the municipal officials:

 That, the majority of the school committee approve all school invoices before being presented for payment. (Chapter 37, Section 78, Paragraph 2, of the Revised Statutes of 1944.)

#### TOWN OF BELMONT

(2) That, the Treasurer make bank deposits more promptly and in accordance with Chapter 225, of the Public Laws of 1947.

#### COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

	EXHIBIT A	
	February	February
	1, 1949	2, 1948
General Fund	l	
ASSETS		
Cash	\$6,641.71	\$6,476.18
Accounts Receivable (Sch. A-1)	.22	44.15
Taxes Receivable (Sch. A-2)	51.47	731.25
Tax Liens (Sch. A-3)	821.61	38.08
Tax Acquired Property (Sch. A-4	575.92	660.51
TOTAL - General Fund	\$8,090.93	\$7,950.17
TRUST FUND	os	
ASSETS		
Time Deposits (Schedule A-6)	\$703.50	\$703.50
TOTAL - Trust Funds	\$703.50	\$703.50
	February	February
	1, 1949	2, 1948
	1, 1040	2, 1940
General Fund	I	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable (Schedule A-5) RESERVE	\$ 2.50	
Reserve for Authorized Expendi-		
tures (Ex. D)	2,550.55	<b>\$ 6</b> 83.35

SURPLUS

Unappropriated (Exhibit C)	5,537.88	7,266.82
TOTAL - General Fund	\$8,090.93	\$7,950.17

#### TRUST FUNDS

LIABILITIES Principals (Sch. A-7) Unexpended Income (Sch. A-7)	700.00 3.50	\$700.00 3.50
TOTAL - Trust Funds	\$703.50	\$703.50
		·

#### EXHIBIT B STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

Year Ended Februar	y 1, 1949
REVENUE:	
Tax Commitment	\$9,119.77
Supplemental Taxes	83.44
Excise Taxes	617.95
State of Maine	4,619.78
Cost and Interest - Tax Account	its 56.23
Refund	5.04
TOTAL REVENUE	\$14,502.26
ADD:	
Transferred from Surplus	1,365.34
TOTAL	\$15,867.60

LESS:		
Revenue Applicable to Appropr Carrying Balances	riation 1,867.20	
TOTAL		\$14,000.40
EXPENDITURES:		
General Government	\$1,333.37	
Protection	11.00	
Highways and Bridges	4,042.35	
Charities	715.34	
Education	6,532.30	
Cemeteries	141.73	
Special Assessments	1,232.58	
Insurance	8.80	
Abatements	281.85	
Discounts	79.09	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$14,378.41
NET LOSS FROM OPERATIONS		\$378.01

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#### **Resources for the Year**

Cash Balance, February 2, 1949		\$6,641.93
1949 Town Taxes	\$6,750.50	
1949 Interest on Taxes	11.85	
1949 Supplementary Taxes	98.02	
1949 Excise Taxes	839.56	
1948 Town Taxes	49.53	
1948 Tax Liens \$167.95		
1948 Tax Mortgage Liens 190.18		
1948 Recording and Filing 45.28		
	403.41	
1947 Taxes Interest and Charges	102.02	
Sale of Town Property	125.00	
Interest on Trust Funds	10.50	
Town of Morrill, Share running to	wn	
line	12.00	
Accounts Receivable	8.90	
City of Bath, Refund	21.77	
-		\$8,433.06
Received from the State-		
State Aid Account	\$2,808.08	
Highway Account	424.74	
Snow Removal	1,274.55	
School Fund	2,477.97	
Equalization Fund	1,017.00	
Health and Welfare	75.42	
Bank Stock Tax	6.75	
Forest Fire Refund	8.03	
Dog Tax Refund	7.38	
		\$8,099.92
Total Collections	-	\$92 174 01

**Total Collections** 

\$23,174.91

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Total Disbursements on Selectmen's Baance on Hand February 2, 1950	s Warrants	17,422.52 5,752.36
Town Property	\$1,465.00	,
School and Town House	1,400.00	
Available from State:		
on E. J. Hills Bridge Special		
Resolve	500.00	
Balance due on Town Ways Imp.	191.19	
TOTAL RESOURCES as of Februar	ry 2, 1950	\$9,308.55

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. SHEVIS

CHARLES L. THOMAS

JOHN E. THOMAS B. ZAT ON

Selectmen, Town of Belmont

# SELECTMEN'S REPORT

## February 2, 1950

Value of Real Estate, Resident Value of Real Estate, Non-Resident Value of Personal Estate, Resident Value of Personal Estate, Non-Resident	\$67,000.00 31,450.00 19,800.00 1,470.00
	\$119,720.00
Basis of Assessment of Money Tax.061Number of Polls Taxed71Number of Polls, Not Taxed13	
Appropriations	
Miscel. Charges, from Surplus\$1,500.00Highways and BridgesSupport of SchoolsSupport of SchoolsThird Class MaintenanceThird Class Maintenance, available from 1948 Excise Tax175.00Care of CemeteriesSnow PlowingSnow Plowing, No. 3 HighwaySupport of PoorState Aid Road Construction450.00Toward Building E. J. Hills Farm BridgeCutting Bushes on Town WaysAid to Dependent Children (at Special Meetin	\$ 300.00 3,500.00 125.00 150.00 700.00 137.20 150.00 50.00 g) 500.09

TOWN OF BELMO	ONT	13
Public Health Nurse		15.00
Town Taxes	-	\$5,627.20
State Tax		870.65
County Tax		648.60
Overlay		120.99
	_	\$7,303.44
Poll Taxes Assessed	_	213.00
Total Sum Raised		\$7,516.44
Miscellaneous Cha	rges	
Appropriation (from Surplus) Printing and Supplies:		\$1,500.00
Hutchins Bros.	\$75.41	
Marks Printing House	18.50	
Branham Printing	4.12	
Journal Office Supply Co.	75.55	
W. A. Shevis	2.10	
Telephone and Postage:		
Lenora Wellman	3.65	
W. A. Shevis	20.00	
Fred Schofield	36.70	
Town Officers:		
W. A. Shevis	85.52	
W. A. Shevis, Overseer of Poor	22.60	
W. A. Shevis, Assessor	68.10	
Charles Thomas	48.17	
John B. Eaton	20.40	
Charles Thomas, Assessor	41.41	
John B. Eaton, Assessor	32.71	
School Committee:	0.00	
Clark Hodges	8.00	

Viola Morse	8.00	
Muriel Thorpe	8.00	
Constable:		
Clarence Morse	4.00	
Treasurer and Tax Collector:		
F. A. Schofield	283.91	
Town Clerk:		
Lenora Wellman	35.00	
Carleton Doak Lawyer's Fees	3.00	
Maine Municipal Association	20.00	
Dept. of Audit	124.18	
Town Line Survey	24.00	
Forest Fire Control	59.60	
Fire at Belmont Corner:		
City of Belfast	96.00	
Clinton V. Brown	9.00	
Joseph V. Boudreau, Jr.	1.50	
Theron Brown (Damage to		
Well Cover)	9.37	
Town Light	12.00	
Insurance	3.30	
Accounts Payable	3.16	
- Total Expended		\$1,258.18
Balance	\$242.82	+-,-00120
Refunds:	Ŧ	
Town of Morrill (Share Town		
Line Survey)	12.00	
State, Forest Fire	8.03	
- Total Balance		\$262.85
State Aid Constr	uction	

Transfer	from	Surplus	\$	<b>450.00</b>
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## TOWN OF BELMONT

Credit from '	Third	Class	Account	150.00
Credit from S	tate			2,715.40
Credit from S	state			92.68

\$3,408.08

Charles Thomas, Foreman	\$161.50	
James E. Jackson, labor	97.12	
Clinton V. Brown, labor	45.00	
Calvin Waters, labor	14.62	
Clarence Morse, Jr., labor	8.50	
Norman Withee, labor	21.00	
Gilbert Cobb, labor	37.12	
Edwin Cross, trucking	176.00	
Clare Gurney, trucking	246.08	
Hale Sparroy, trucking	230.78	
Clinton Briggs, trucking	176.00	
Donald Lucas, trucking	107.10	
Frederick Lucas, trucking	109.65	
Arthur Buck, trucking	184.00	
Harold Jackson, Jr. trucking	191.25	
Wade & Hurd, trucking	96.00	
Richard Blood, trucking	19.00	
Bancroft & Martin, culvert	207.86	
Treasurer of State	390.92	
Ralph Jacobus, gravel	294.66	
Treasurer of State	323.52	
Alton Prock, bulldozer	646.00	
Total Expended		\$3,863.68
Credit from Third Class	Maintenance	132.00
Deficit		\$323.60
State Tax, Appropriation	\$870.65	
Treasurer of State	870.65	
County Tax, Appropriation	\$684.60	. •
	•	

Fuller C.	Wentworth	(County	
Treasu	rer)		684.60

#### **Care of Cemeteries**

Appropriation	\$150.00	
<b>Trust Fund Interest</b>	10.00	
-		\$160.50
Bill Whipple, Sexton	\$140.85	
Bill Whipple, Trust Fund Interest	10.50	
Diamond Match Co.	5.25	
Hall Hardware Co.	2.00	
-		
Total Expended		\$158.60
Unexpended Balance		*\$1.90

\*To this amount should be added an overcharge of \$12.00 paid to Sexton; the difference between a labor charge of .82 paid through oversight and the State Wage of .75. 17134 hours at .07, difference equals \$12.00

Snow Removal

Show Kemoval		
\$ 700.00		
1,274.55		
	\$1,974.55	
\$1,469.65		
\$150.00		
*28.08		
*46.72		
64.50		
**36.76		
	1,274.55 $$1,469.65$ $$150.00$ $*28.08$ $*46.72$ $64.50$	

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#### TOWN OF BELMONT

State Sand and Gravel	71.20	
Ted Tenney	12.00	
Walter Cobb	12.00	
Charles Thomas	28.00	
Gilbert Cobb	4.50	
A. L. Thomas	12.00	
	<del></del>	
		\$465.76
Balance		\$39.14

\*We collected overcharges on these items to the amount of \$8.68 and \$2.47 on this\*\*item since books closed.

## Third Class Maintenance

Appropriation From Surplus	125.00 175.00	
	<u></u> <del>-</del>	\$300.00
James E. Jackson	\$ 6.00	
Clarence Morse, Jr.	6.00	
Clinton V. Brown	6.00	
Charged to State Aid to Get Full		
Allowance	150.00	
Transferred to State Aid Account	132.00	
Total Expended		\$300.00
Cutting Bushes on T	'own Ways	
Appropriation	\$50.00	
Charles Thomas	6.00	
James E. Jackson	15.75	
Charles Bragdon	9.75	
Willard Morse	12.00	

Clinton V. Brown	6.00	
Total Expended		\$49.50
Balance		.50
Highways and E	Bridges	
Appropriation		\$300.00
Charles Thomas	77.17	
Arthur Buck	15.00	
Ralph Smith	9.00	
W. A. Shevis	2.97	
Willard Morse	9.00	
Walter Cobb	3.00	
State Sand and Gravel	13.95	
Total		\$130.09
Transfered to Battle Bridge	Account	169.91
Total Expended		\$300.00
Battle Creek Bridge - En	nergency Con	st.
From Highways and Bridges	\$169.91	
From State, Highways Account	424.74	
		\$594.65
Bancroft & Martin	\$602.60	,
State Sand and Gravel Co.	8.10	
Charles Thomas	15.30	
Treasurer of State	98.74	
Total Expended		\$724.74
Deficit		\$130.09

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## Public Health Nurse

Appropriation Balance from 1948	\$15,00 15.00	
Balance from 1948	15.00	
		\$30.00
To Treasurer of State		30.00
Aid To Dependent	Children	
Appropriation		\$500.00
Treasurer of State (Case No. 2A)	\$52.00	,
Treasurer of State (Case No. 4)	76.00	
Treasurer of State (Case No. 2A)	14.00	
Total Expended		\$142.00
Balance		\$358.00
Bridge at E. J.	Hills	
Appropriation	\$150.00	
Available from Surplus	350.00	
From State Special Resolve Fund	500.00	
		\$1,000.00
Town Ways Impre	ovement	
Available from State, 1949	\$618.10	
Available from State, 1948	19.95	
		\$638.0 <del>5</del>
Treasurer of State	\$26.96	
Ralph Smith	11.25	
C. V. Brown	3.00	
Hale Sparrow	10.20	

Edwin Cross	8.00	
Frederick Lucas	10.20	
Clinton Briggs	8.00	
Clare Gurney	24.66	
Arthur Buck	56.00	
Harold Jackson, Jr.	10.20	
Richard Blood	8.00	
Charles Thomas, Foreman	35.00	
Merrill Weymouth	60.00	
Walter Cobb	48.00	
Ted Tenney	48.00	
Gilbert Cobb	3.75	
Willard Morse	3.75	
Bancroft & Martin	32.14	
State Sand and Gravel	85.80	
Total Expended		\$492.91
Balance		145.05
Support of	Poor	
Available from Surplus		\$300.00
Case No. 3	53.42	
Case No. 2A	247.76	
Case No. 5	21.77	
Total Expended	<u> </u>	322.95

A full return from State of \$75.42 on Case No. 3 has been made. This includes \$22.00 paid by us in the previous year.

The amount of \$21.77 has been repaid by City of Bath on Case No. 5.

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## School Department

Appropriation	\$3,500.00	
State School Fund	2,477.97	
Equalization Fund	1,017.00	
Balance, 1949	1,005.02	
Total Available		\$7,999.99
Teaching	\$3,132.10	
Transportation	1,698.00	
High School Tuition	997.50	
Superintendent	180.66	
Supplies (including textbooks)	228.28	
Repairs	106.83	
Fuel	179.36	·
Janitor	22.87	
Total Expended		\$6,545.60
Balance	-	\$1,454.39

# TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

#### 1949

Tax Commitment Supp. Tax Abatements	7,516.44 98.02 14.81	
Charged to Collector		\$7,629.27
Credits to Collector:		
Cash to Treasurer	\$6,750.50	
Uncollected Taxes	863.96	
Abatements	14.81	

\$7,629.27

## **Resident Taxes Uncollected**

	Real Estate	Personal	Poll
Austin Bryant	<del></del>	\$33.86	
Floyd Dyer	17.70		
Harry N. Eaton	85.40		
Arthur Fairbrother, H	Ieirs <del>~ 61.00 ~ _</del>	-	
Frederick & Charlotte	9		
Fenwick	73.81		
E. J. Hills, Heirs	<del>- 37.22</del>		
Herbert Morse	24.34		
George King			\$3.00
Laurence McKinney		+	•
E. R. Pierce	-40.57-		
Berlin Philbrook	21.35	4.58	3.00

.

#### TOWN OF BELMONT

	Real Estate	Personal	Poll
Delvin Philbrook	-56:43		
Linwood Philbrick		4.58	
L. T. Tenney	67.10		
Calvin Waters	79.30	2.72	
P. Tower, Heirs	1.53		
	\$622.18	\$70.45	\$6.00

### Non-Resident Uncollected

Ruby Braley	\$ 1.83	
Leon Callahan		<del>-\$7.63</del>
Arthur Fairbrother, He	irs 13.42	
Floyd Littlefield	22.88	
Chas. Philbrook	2.14	
E. H. Miller	<del>70.15</del>	-
Carl Robinson	3.05	
Dan & Chas. Robinson	21.35	
Elizabeth Seglar	<del>-1.53</del>	
Selma B. Walch	21.35	
	\$157.70	\$7.63
	Summary	
<b>Resident Uncollected</b>		\$698.63
Non-Resident Uncollector	ed	165.33
		\$863.96

.

Respectfully submitted,

FRED A. SCHOFIELD, Collector

# TREASURER'S REPORT

#### 1949

\$6,641.93

Dalance Forward		φ0,041.00
Received from State:		
Snow Removal, 1948 - 1949	\$1,274.55	
Equalization Fund	1,017.00	
Forest Fires	8.03	
Battle Creek Bridge	424.74	
Bank Stock Tax	6.75	
Dog Tax	7.38	
Welfare, State Aid	75.42	
School Fund	2,477.97	
Highway, State Aid	2,808.08	
		\$8,099.92
Sale Town Property	\$125.00	
Interest Trust Funds	10.50	
Town of Morrill - Share running	line 12.00	
Accounts Receivable	8.90	
1947 Tax Liens Collected, Interes	st	
Chgs.	102.02	
1948 Tax Liens Collected, Interes	st	
Chgs.	403.41	
1948 Tax Collected and Interest	Chgs. 49.53	
1949 Excise Tax	839.56	
1949 Commitment Collected	6,750.50	
1949 Interest	11.85	
1949 Supp. Tax	98.02	

**Balance** Forward

#### TOWN OF BELMONT 25

City of Bath, Refund, Poor Acct.	21.77
	\$8,433.03
Paid Selectmen's Warrants	\$23,174.88 17,422.52
Balance Feb. 2, 1950	\$5,752.36

Cemetery Trust Funds

Ada Morton	\$200.00
W.S.Foss	100.00
Miles Pease	100.00
Daniel Greer	100.00
C. H. Meader	100.00
Kate Meader	100.00

\$700.00

Respectfully submitted,

FRED A. SCHOFIELD, Treasurer

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

#### 1949

The Public Health Nursing Program has been very limited this year because of the existing shortage of available Public Health Nurses in the area.

19 Audiometer tests to determine the percentage of hearing ability were done in the school. There were no pupils with defective hearing.

Specialized services made available to the community were Crippled Children's Clinics, Pediatric Clinics, Mental Hygiene Clinics and Chest X-ray diagnostic Clinics.

The coming year, through a re-distribution of towns assigned to the Nurse, each town will have a Public Health Nurse responsible for services offered to the community. This should mean that your town, with cooperation of the local Health Officer and other interested citizens, can have a program that will more nearly meet the needs of the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Town Officials, School Personnel, and Health Officer for their assistance in making this program available to the community.

> Respectfully submitted, EMMA CREAMER Public Health Nurse

#### BELMONT SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

## Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending Jan. 31, 1950

	Balance Feb.	Balance Appropriated State		Total	Total	
		by Town	Fund	Receipts	Expended	Balance
Teachers	\$336.08	\$1,400.00	\$2,344.97	\$4,081.05	\$3,161.30	\$919.75
Janitor	17.00	50.00		67.00	22.87	44.13
Textbooks	46.62	50.00	50.00	146.62	96,39	50.23
Supplies	114.42	50.00	150.00	314.42	128.86	185.56
Conveyance	52.85	1,400.00	200.00	1,652.85	1,698.00	-45.15
Fuel	109.44	75.00	150.00	334.44	179.36	155.08
Tuition	237.62	225.00	600.00	1,062.62	997.50	65.12
Repairs	75.46	130.00		205.46	109.86	95.60
Superintendent	15.53	120.00		135.53	152.65	-17.12
	\$1,005.02	\$3,500.00	\$3,494.97	\$7,999.99	\$6,546.79	\$1,453.20

STATE OF MAINE

352 B418 1948/49

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#### ANNUAL REPORT

The major task of public education has always been the building of tomorrow's citizens. Education takes on added significance when one reflects on the state of the world in 1950. How many citizens honestly feel that they are doing all in their power to enable our future citizens to succeed where we of an older generation have apparently failed? The future of our local community, state and nation rests with the ability of the public schools to teach our young boys and girls the principles of democracy and also the understandings that will enable them to give the world 'leadership'

Perhaps one of the most pressing problems facing education in Belmont is the lack of adequate school housing. the facilities of our present school leaves much to be desired. Our single session program will impose a serious handicap on the boys and girls when thew enter high school. It becomes increasingly important that the citizens of Belmont study thoroughly our school housing needs.

You will note from the Financial Report that the unexpended balance in the school account will permit a reduction in the town appropriation this year. For the past three years our school tax rate has qualified the Town of Belmont for State equalization money. A reduction in the school appropriation this year means that we will not receive equalization in December 1951.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Belmont for their fine spirit of cooperation during the past school year.

Respectfully submitted,

#### ELLIOTT A. DIGGLE

Superintendent of Schools

# RESTRICTED CIRCULATION INQUIRE AT DESK