

1916

Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Monson for the Year 1916-1917

Monson (Me.)

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Annual Report, Monson, Maine,
Year 1916



Annual Report

OF THE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

OF THE TOWN OF



MONSON



FOR THE YEAR

1916 - 1917



FOXCROFT:
Fred D. Barrows, Printer,
1917



MUNICIPAL OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF
MONSON, 1916.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF POOR

W. A. BRAY W. W. PULLEN E. H. FLINT

TOWN CLERK

W. HARRY HUGHES

TREASURER

F. M. HESCOCK

TAX COLLECTOR

W. L. JOHNSON

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

A. L. BROWN L. A. THOMAS A. L. BRAY

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

H. M. PULLEN

AUDITOR

P. W. KNIGHT

ROAD COMMISSIONER

E. H. FLINT

BOARD OF HEALTH

E. T. HESCOCK DR. H. W. SAMPSON

DR. F. L. VARNEY

SEALER

F. M. HESCOCK

Annual Town Warrant.

*To W. L. Johnson, a Constable of the Town of Monson, in
the County of Piscataquis,* GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Monson, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at Masonic Hall, in said town of Monson, the twelfth day of March, A. D. 1917, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:—

Art. 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2. To choose a town clerk for the ensuing year.

Art. 3. To choose all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

Art. 4. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the support of schools.

Art. 5. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the support of poor.

Art. 6. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the repairs and maintenance of roads and bridges and how the same shall be expended.

Art. 7. To see what sum of money the town will raise to defray all incidental town charges and for miscellaneous purposes.

Art. 8. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the care of sidewalks and how the same shall be expended.

Art. 9. To see what sum of money the town will raise to pay interest.

Art. 10. To see what sum of money the town will raise for free text books.

Art. 11. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the superintendent of schools' salary.

Art. 12. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for free high school and how the same shall be expended, and to authorize the school committee to make a contract with the trustees of Monson Academy.

Art. 13. To see what sum of money the town will raise for apparatus and supplies.

Art. 14. To see what sum of money the town will raise for repairs on school houses.

Art. 15. To see what sum of money the town will raise for Memorial Day services.

Art. 16. To see if the town will vote "yes" or "no" on the question of appropriating and raising the money necessary to entitle the town to State aid, as provided in Section 20, of Chapter 130, of the Public Laws of 1913.

Art. 17. To see if the town will appropriate and raise the sum of \$533 for the improvement of the section of State aid road as outlined in the report of the State highway commission, in addition to the amount regularly raised for the care of ways, highways, and bridges; the above amount being the maximum which the town is allowed to raise under the provisions of Section 19, of Chapter 130, of the Public Laws of 1913.

Art. 18. To see whether the town will vote to raise money, and what sum, for the maintenance of State and State aid highways during the ensuing year, within the limits of the town, under the provisions of Sections 9 and 18, of Chapter 130, of the Public Laws of 1913.

Art. 19. To see if the town will charge interest on all taxes remaining unpaid Sept. 15, at 6 per cent.

Art. 20. To see if the town will collect all poll taxes before July 15, 1917.

Art. 21. To see what sum of money the town will raise for street lights for the ensuing year.

Art. 22. To see if the town will vote to raise a sum of money for the Monson Free Public Library.

Art. 23. To see if the town will authorize the superintending school committee to use their discretion in regard to maintaining schools in those districts where there are less than the required number of scholars.

Art. 24. To see if the town will raise a sum of money to be paid the Monson Band for evening concerts.

Art. 25. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the fire department.

Art. 26. To see if the town will vote to erect and install more lights on Morton Street.

Art. 27. To see if the town will vote to raise money for a part of the overdraft on the toilet rooms in the village school buildings.

Art. 28. To see if the town will raise a sum of money to build a sidewalk from Forest Street down on Water Street a short distance.

Art. 29. To see what action the town will take in regard to moving the Vinton school house or changing the location of the school in that neighborhood.

Art. 30. To see if the town will vote to buy a road machine and raise money for the same.

Art. 31. To see if the town will vote to buy a snow roller and raise money for the same.

Art. 32. To see if the town will vote to replace stove, seats and blackboards that were moved from the Vinton schoolhouse, and to maintain a school in the Vinton schoolhouse.

Report of Selectmen.

VALUATION APRIL 1, 1916.

Real estate, resident,	\$143,555.00	
Real estate, non-resident.	126,375.00	
		\$269,930.00
Total real estate,		\$269,930.00
Personal estate, resident,	\$47,200.00	
Personal estate, non-resident.	27,970.00	
		\$75,170.00
Total personal estate,		\$75,170.00
		\$345,100.00
Grand total valuation,		\$345,100.00
Raised by town at annual meeting.	\$10,293.00	
State tax for 1916,	1,775.00	
County tax for 1916,	308.23	
Overlay,	167.00	
		\$12,543.23
Total amount,		\$12,543.23
Number of polls, 385, at \$3.00.		
Rate per cent., .033.		

RAISED BY TOWN MARCH 22, 1916.

Common schools,	\$1,900.00	←
Support of poor,	500.00	←
Roads and bridges,	2,500.00	←
Incidental,	1,300.00	←
Interest on town debt,	300.00	←
Free text books,	250.00	←
Salary of superintendent of schools,	185.00	←
Free high school.	1,000.00	←

Apparatus and supplies,	175.00	←
Repairs on school houses.	150.00	←
Memorial Day,	35.00	←
State aid road,	533.00	←
Street lights,	425.00	←
Public library,	100.00	←
Monson band,	25.00	←
Fire department,	200.00	←
Sidewalk,	100.00	←
	—————	\$10,293.00

OFFICERS' BILLS AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Raised by town,	\$1,300.00
Unexpended, 1915,	183.15
	—————\$1,483.15

W. A. Bray, 1st selectman,	\$125.00
W. W. Pullen, 2d selectman,	85.00
E. H. Flint, 3rd selectman,	60.00
W. Harry Hughes, clerk,	10.00
F. M. Hescocck, treasurer,	40.00
L. A. Thomas, school committee,	25.00
A. L. Brown, school committee,	25.00
Arthur Bray, school committee,	10.00
F. J. Wilkins, school committee,	15.00
F. M. Hescocck, sealer,	5.00
A. L. Brown, moderator,	2.00
F. J. Wilkins, fire warden,	50.00
George D. Loring, town books,	7.50
Fred D. Barrows, printing reports,	30.00
H. E. Morrill, agent, hall rent,	5.00
Straw and Martin, insurance,	4.24
Thomas W. Burr, blanks,	4.00
George D. Loring, town books,	.25

E. T. Hescok, truant officer services,	1.00
W. H. Fogg, night watch,	5.00
W. H. Fogg, ballot clerk,	2.00
John Douglass, night watch,	5.00
Stanley Stevens, night watch,	5.00
Frank Libby, night watch,	5.00
H. E. Smith, night watch,	5.00
Eugene Vielle, night watch,	5.00
David Cowan, night watch,	5.00
E. T. Hescok, collector of dog taxes,	2.00
W. A. Bray, bed for lock-up,	3.00
Mrs. Ellen Spencer, hall rent,	20.00
Leon Thomas, cleaning cemetery,	63.50
D. C. Weeks, repairing voting booths,	3.80
W. H. Fogg, ballot clerk,	6.00
Oscar Peterson, ballot clerk,	8.00
L. A. Thomas, moving voting booths,	4.50
W. R. Hughes, ballot clerk,	8.00
E. R. Haines, making deeds,	4.00
Edw. Johnson, ballot clerk,	8.00
E. H. Flint, meeting state assessors,	3.00
W. W. Pullen, meeting state assessors,	3.00
W. A. Bray, meeting state assessors,	3.00
J. F. Sprague, election papers,	1.50
Jas. Davison, office supplies,	4.78
W. L. Johnson, commission,	313.48
F. L. Varney, board of health,	5.00
F. L. Varney, vital statistics,	7.50
Straw and Martin, insurance,	21.20
W. Harry Hughes, recording births and deaths,	15.80
H. W. Sampson, board of health,	6.50

H. W. Sampson, vital statistics,	4.75
J. L. Potter, vital statistics,	.25
W. A. Bray, election services,	8.00
E. H. Flint, election services,	5.00
W. W. Pullen, election services,	5.00
E. T. Hescok, truant officer,	4.00
E. T. Hescok, board of health,	3.50
P. W. Knight, auditor,	6.00
C. C. Towne, watering tub,	3.00
Unexpended,	387.10
	<hr/> \$1,483.15

TOWN POOR.

Raised by town,	\$500.00
Unexpended, 1915.	106.54
	<hr/> \$606.54
Mar. 28. Walter Johnson,	\$ 2.45
Apr. 18. George Brown, for Walter Johnson,	7.18
Apr. 18. A. C. Gilbert, for Walter Johnson,	32.60
Apr. 24. Swanson family,	25.79
May 5. Mary Douglass, care of tramps,	6.00
June 13. Swanson family.	20.05
Aug. 14. Monson Railroad, ticket for Mary Winfrey,	6.71
Aug. 15. Swanson family,	22.03
Aug. 26. Mary Douglass, for tramps,	4.00
Sept. 13. Rent for Swanson family,	32.50
Sept. 14. Goods to Swanson family,	12.07
Feb. 20. Hospital bills of Chas. Grover,	171.90
Feb. 21. Cora Roberts, care of tramps,	8.00
Feb. 21. David Cowan, care of tramps,	2.50

Feb. 23. Rent for Mrs. Morton,	60.00	
Unexpended,	132.76	
	<hr/>	\$606.51

SIDEWALKS.

Raised by town,	\$165.00	
Unexpended, 1915,	35.40	
	<hr/>	\$200.40
Expended, 1916,	\$137.95	
Unexpended, 1916,	62.45	
	<hr/>	\$200.40

STREET LIGHTS.

Raised by town,	\$425.00	
Unexpended, 1915,	63.54	
	<hr/>	\$488.54
Expended, 1916,	\$467.99	
Unexpended, 1916,	20.55	
	<hr/>	\$488.54

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Raised by town,	\$200.00	
Unexpended,	53.47	
	<hr/>	\$253.47
Expended,	\$198.93	
Unexpended,	54.54	
	<hr/>	\$253.47

MEMORIAL DAY.

Raised by town,	\$35.00	
Expended in 1916,		\$35.00

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Raised by town, 1916,	\$100.00	
Expended in 1916,		\$100.00

MONSON BAND.

Raised by town, 1916,	\$25.00	
Expended in 1916,		\$25.00

State Aid Road.

Raised by town, 1916,	\$533.00	
Received from state, 1916,	399.60	
	<hr/>	\$932.60
Expended in 1916,		\$937.55

HIGHWAYS.

Raised by town, 1916,	\$2,500.00	
Unexpended, 1915,	138.82	
	<hr/>	\$2,638.82
Overdraft, 1916,		96.14
		<hr/>
		\$2,734.96

F. H. LaBree,	\$ 6.00
Chas. Erickson,	9.00
Otto Matson,	4.00
Otto Christenson,	7.60
Otto Matson,	7.00
M. O. Wyman,	8.10
M. A. Bragdon,	13.00
O. S. Arnold,	24.00
F. H. LaBrec,	3.50
Frank Lombart,	18.00
Henry Knox,	20.00
P. A. Johnson,	16.00
George Graffam,	17.20
Chas. Weeks,	5.60
F. P. Steward,	8.20
W. W. Crocker,	2.40
Chas. Bennett,	5.10

G. B. Fogg,	1.00
W. S. Macomber,	16.40
D. C. Weeks,	12.00
Harry Kirk,	16.00
J. W. Tarr,	29.25
Estate of A. W. Chapin,	8.00
E. H. Flint,	125.00
Frank Libby,	27.00
George Graffam,	22.05
Chas. Erickson,	8.50
C. E. Shaw,	17.00
J. W. Tarr,	27.00
Otto Christenson,	6.00
C. S. Pullen,	8.00
E. A. Orr,	7.00
W. A. Evans,	13.50
C. E. Shaw,	13.00
W. L. Dauphina,	34.35
E. H. Flint, orders,	14.70
D. C. Weeks,	1.00
R. R. Drake,	18.00
Frank Libby,	2.25
Nathan Huff,	23.00
Albert Huff,	39.00
Edw. Copeland,	27.00
W. A. Evans,	6.50
George Graffam,	10.00
Otto Matson,	18.00
C. S. Pullen,	12.00
Frank Lombart,	10.00
Portland Monson Slate Co.,	6.00
Carl Draper,	7.60

A. W. Farrar,	15.75
Frank T. Flint,	15.75
Chas. Erickson,	14.00
F. H. LaBree,	13.25
M. O. Wyman,	12.30
Harry and Carl Brasier,	13.00
Chas. Erickson,	12.00
George Graffam,	15.75
Arthur Heggstrom,	6.00
C. M. Conant,	20.00
Swan Nelson,	6.00
J. W. Tarr,	39.35
John Daraghue,	12.00
Frank Libby,	47.00
I. E. Bodge,	90.00
W. R. Thombs,	12.00
George Graffam,	8.00
Gardner Hilton,	5.65
W. W. Pullen,	26.60
Chas. Sanborn,	14.00
Chas. Jackson,	39.80
R. J. Jones,	17.50
Frank Libby,	18.00
Willie Thomas,	33.50
W. R. Thombs,	18.00
George Graffam,	6.00
I. E. Bodge,	97.50
Richard Williams,	4.00
J. W. Tarr,	94.50
P. A. Johnson,	17.00
Edw. Frost,	8.00
E. H. Flint,	230.00

Albert E. Huff,	14.00
Albert and Nathan Huff,	24.00
George Graffam,	15.00
Chas. Sanborn, Jr.,	5.00
Nils Nelson,	9.55
W. J. Champion,	3.00
Albert Degestrom,	6.00
R. R. Drake,	27.00
State of Maine for patrol,	349.28
C. M. Conant,	6.00
P. W. Knight,	15.50
J. W. Tarr,	29.25
C. E. Shaw,	1.00
E. H. Flint,	75.00
A. Bolduc,	18.00
R. J. Jones,	30.50
I. E. Bodge,	90.00
Wallace Homer,	5.00
Jud Lord,	9.00
General Slate Co.,	15.00
R. R. Drake,	25.88
Monson Maine Slate Co.,	8.55
F. P. Steward,	42.20
Will Champion,	39.80
W. W. Pullen,	19.60
George E. Howard,	19.60
W. A. Evans,	4.40
W. C. Kirk,	5.00
H. Grover,	9.60
Chas. Erickson,	15.25
Chas. A. Jackson,	18.50
C. C. Towne,	36.00
	<hr/> \$2,734.96

TOILET ROOM FOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL HOUSE.

Raised by town,	\$500.00	
Received for pump,	10.00	
Overdrawn, 1916,	982.32	
		—————\$1,492.32
Expended, 1916,		\$1,492.32
Raised by town for lock-up,	\$50.00	
Unexpended,		\$50.00

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Incidental,	\$900.00
Town poor,	300.00
Street lights,	475.00
Public library,	100.00
Monson band,	25.00
Memorial Day,	35.00
Fire department,	100.00
Interest,	300.00

INTEREST ACCOUNT.

Raised by town,	\$300.00	
Received from W. L. Johnson,	58.69	
		————— \$358.69
Overdrawn in 1915,	\$ 23.82	
Expended in 1916,	299.21	
Unexpended in 1916,	35.66	
		————— \$358.69

ABATEMENTS.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

To W. L. Johnson,	\$64.31
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LIABILITIES.

22

Monson Academy loan at 4%,	\$3,925.00
School fund at 4%,	854.10
Order No. 521 (1913), S. L. Greeley,	500.00
Order No. 533 (1913), Mrs. Nettie F. Pullen,	1,250.00
Order No. 94 (1917), W. W. Pullen,	700.00
	—————\$7,229.10

RESOURCES.



Cash in hands of treasurer,	\$2,079.42
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TOWN PROPERTY.

Estimated value of engine house and lot,	\$1,300.00
Estimated value of old engine,	100.00
Estimated value of new engine,	2,000.00
Estimated value of hearse,	200.00
Estimated value of road tools,	200.00
Estimated value of hose pipe and hydrants,	900.00
Estimated value of two safes,	200.00
Estimated value of hose tower,	400.00
	<hr/> \$5,300.00

TOTAL RESOURCES.

Total resources,	\$7,379.42
Total liabilities,	7,229.10
	<hr/>
Resources in excess of liabilities,	\$150.32

Respectfully submitted.

W. A. BRAY,

W. W. PULLEN,

E. H. FLINT,

Selectmen of Monson.

F. M. HESCOCK, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH

 THE TOWN OF MONSON, Me.

Dr.

Mar. 1, 1917	
To cash on hand,	\$1,978.65
Town clerk, account dog taxes,	59.00
Andrew Peterson estate, lot in cemetery,	12.00
W. C. Jackson, lot in cemetery,	20.00
Mrs. Chas. Greeley, lot in cemetery,	12.00
Fred Jarvis, pool room license,	10.00
Edw. Johnson, bowling alley license,	5.84
Pero Morris, moving picture license,	10.00
Town of Willimantic, use of scaler's outfit,	1.00
Sale of school pump,	10.00
Supt. of schools, sale of books,	2.50
Guilford Trust Co., int. on deposits,	18.66
Hired of W. W. Pullen,	765.17
State Treas., acct. pension for blind,	200.00
State pensions,	210.00
Damage to animals,	15.00
Burial of soldiers,	35.00
Support of paupers,	61.07
Free Public Library,	10.00
Dog tax refunded,	48.68
R. R. & Tel. tax,	20.00
Highways,	45.00
State roads,	399.60
Equalization fund,	390.00
S. F. & M. fund,	1,260.46
Common school,	791.64
F. H. S.,	500.00
Interest on common school account,	34.16
W. L. Johnson account, 1916 taxes,	12,603.43
	<hr/>
Total,	\$19,528.86

CR.

By Paid orders,	\$14,896.50
State pensions,	210.00
State Treasurer, account State tax,	1,775.71
State Treasurer, dog tax,	59.00
Arthur Kronholm, account blind pension,	200.00
County Treasurer, account County tax,	308.23
In bank to balance,	1,822.18
In safe to balance,	257.24
	<hr/>
Total,	\$19,528.86

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

*To the Superintending School Committee and Citizens of
Monson:*

I am pleased to submit to you for your consideration my third annual report of the conditions of your schools.

Excellent progress has been made in the schools during the past year and the work has been marked by a spirit of hearty coöperation of teachers, school officials, parents, citizens and pupils. Teachers have shown a keen interest in maintaining a high standard of efficiency in their schools, and this efficiency has been greatly increased by their willingness to always help the individual pupil.

During the spring term a "Go to School Week" was arranged and the number of visits made and the interest manifested by parents and citizens greatly exceeded our expectations. About 160 visits were made during the week. As a result of that week's program it is very evident to those connected with the schools that visitation in the schools and a general desire by parents to gain a first hand knowledge of the work actually being done in the school rooms has been greatly increased. We hope that this spirit of co-operation may continue even to increase in the future.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

It has been necessary to make but one change in the teaching corps of the village schools during the year. At the close of the spring term Miss Bertha Steward resigned in order that she might take advantage of the One Year Course at Castine Normal. Miss Beatrice Gordon, a graduate of Castine Normal, was elected to fill this vacancy. I doubt if in any town you will be able to find a better corps

of teachers than the present corps in Monson.

In the rural schools good work has been accomplished. The teachers have been Miss Helen Arnold at Burma, Hildred Race at the Long, and Pearl Crozier at the Vinton school. At the end of the fourth week of the winter term it was necessary to close the Long school as the attendance had decreased to four pupils. On account of difficulty in securing conveyance of pupils to the Vinton school and other unsettled matters it has been necessary to close this school until after town meeting. The Burma school has been closed for a few weeks due to sickness of teacher.

I am sorry that the rural schools have been somewhat broken during the winter but in order that they may have as many weeks of school as in the village the spring term will continue latter into the summer.

ACADEMY.

The same teachers have been retained for another year and under their directions the school has profited by another very successful year. At the present time Miss Flora Norton, a senior at Colby, is substituting in the English Department for Miss Pullen, who is absent due to illness. An excellent spirit is shown by teachers and pupils toward the school work and all school activities.

At the present time there is a great need for improvements to be made in the arrangement of the Academy building. I believe that for a reasonable sum the building could be remodelled and so arranged as to adequately fulfill the needs at the present time. The light in the building is very poor and the need of a water system is great.

MUSIC AND DRAWING.

At the close of the spring term it was voted by the committee that the work in music and drawing should be con-

ducted by the regular teachers and that the amount paid to the special music teacher should be used to increase the wages of the regular teachers.

Under their direction excellent work has been accomplished as has been clearly shown thru the entertainments given and regular work in the schools.

MONSON, ME., Feb. 26, 1917.

To Mr. H. M. Pullen, Superintendent of Schools:

I herewith present to you, and thus indirectly to the citizens of Monson, my third annual report as principal of Monson Academy.

The curriculum remains the same as last year except that physics is being offered instead of chemistry and book-keeping instead of commercial arithmetic.

The point system which was started last year is, I think, working out well. Several pupils are carrying an extra subject, as by doing this they can complete the work in less than the four years usually required.

The attendance has been exceptionally good this year. There are 43 pupils enrolled: 18 boys and 25 girls. Of this number, 9 are seniors, 9 juniors, 10 sophomores and 15 freshmen. The average attendance for the fall term was 42.6.

A class of 9 was graduated last June and several of these have been teaching this year. If a teachers' training course could be added to our present curriculum it would be of great benefit to a large per cent. of our pupils who, with no further preparation than that which our regular

English course offers, are sure to attempt this vocation after graduation.

The standard of scholarship is being steadily advanced and is now for the most part very good. The students, generally, are doing their best to improve their opportunities and are always willing to cooperate with the teachers in anything which tends to raise the standard of the school.

Miss Pullen and Miss Mansfield are both working very hard, not only in their class rooms, but on outside activities as well. I believe that you will agree with me in the statement that both students and teachers are *working together*, with no lack of interest, for the highest advancement of the school.

I wish to call especial attention to the difficulty which a large per cent. of the pupils have in doing anything like satisfactory work during their first year in the Academy. It might appear to be out of place for me to state here what I believe to be the reason for this, so I will simply say that I am satisfied that this trouble will disappear if the town will authorize the school officials to carry out your recommendation of two years ago. Allow me to again call the attention of the voters to this recommendation, which is as follows:

"There has been some dissatisfaction expressed in regard to the present system in our village schools. After observing the work and consulting with the teachers I am satisfied that there is too great a break between the work of the grades and that of the Academy. This may be gradually *lessened* as the lower grades which were started with this system are advanced. I have observed that the elementary branches in which scholars are usually most deficient upon entering secondary schools are arithmetic and grammar.

"My recommendation for the solution of the problem which exists here would be to have the grades remain as they are at the present time, allowing a class to enter the Academy at the beginning of the ninth year, but during this year have instruction given in those elementary studies in which the pupils are deficient. Generally the class would be able to do some secondary school work so that many could complete the work of the Academy during the three following years.

"I would further recommend that a special teacher be employed to instruct this class in their elementary work who was a graduate of a Normal school and recommended by the State superintendent of public schools in order that she might give a part of her time to work in the Academy and conduct a teachers' training course. I believe that such a course would be very profitable and popular to introduce at the present time.

"By the above arrangement the town would be obliged to bear only a part of the expense created by this special teachers' salary, we would be preparing the boys and girls better for secondary school work, and at the same time be giving the graduates of the Academy who wish to teach some preparation for that vocation."

Something should be done, at once, to improve both the appearance and the working conditions of the interior of the Academy. The laboratory is too small to accommodate the science classes, and the lack of a water system makes the work in this department of very much less value than it ought to be. The outbuilding arrangements are at present hardly excusable, and a water supply would enable us to make some much needed improvements in these.

Some attempts are being made to make the appearance

of the main room more attractive by the addition of pictures, but the condition of the walls and ceiling render these attempts almost futile.

I feel confident that if this matter can be presented to the citizens in the right way, that their keen interest in this school, which is so often manifested, will prompt them to take immediate action and furnish the pupils and teachers in the Academy with as clean and sanitary surroundings and with as good working conditions as are enjoyed by other secondary schools of our class.

I wish to thank all who are coöperating for the improvement of Monson Academy.

Respectfully submitted,

MAURICE C. FOSS, *Principal.*

GIFTS.

During the past year several gifts have been made to the schools by citizens and by the schools with the money which they have raised thru entertainments.

Mr. Stubbs of Dover presented the Academy with a clock which has been much appreciated. The grade schools have made the final payment on the piano in the grammar school room. The 7th and 8th grades gave to their room four pictures and a flag. The present freshman class in the Academy gave to the grammar room last spring a library table and a set of Encyclopedias. The 5th and 6th grades have bought a flag for their room. At the present time the lower grades have a sum with which they are planning to purchase a Victrola for their rooms.

An art exhibit has recently been displayed in connection with the schools. From the public entertainment a goodly sum was received, which is to be used in purchasing pictures for school rooms.

Mrs. Chapin recently presented the grammar school with the picture "Baby Stuart", for which we are very grateful.

At the close of the spring term I presented to the school having the least amount of tardiness during the term a silver cup. This gift was won by the 5th and 6th grades. The same plan is in effect at the present time and the school maintaining the best record for non-tardiness during the year will be granted the cup to be held by that school until won by another. This has greatly improved the tardiness question but pupils should be impressed with the value of promptness without having a special reward offered.

WATER SYSTEM.

The water system installed by your committee during the summer in the grade building has been a decided success, and I believe has been fully appreciated by all those connected with the schools. The need of a similar system in the Academy building is more evident than ever.

NEEDS.

Some of the needs for the coming year will be: water system in the Academy and a remodeling of the building, if possible; tinting of walls and ceilings in rooms of grammar school building; jacketing of stoves in rural schools, this work greatly improves the heating and ventilating conditions; a large number of reference books in all schools, and other minor repairs.

FINANCES.

Most of the school accounts show a slight overdraft or small unexpended balance. In the common school account the large overdraft of previous years shows a decrease of about \$80. But had the rural school continued thru the winter as planned and next year's fuel been paid for there would necessarily have been an overdraft.

The increased cost of maintaining schools is proportional to that in all industries and business. Supplies and books have increased in cost from 25% to 300% above the cost of the same a year and a half ago. In making appropriations for the coming year this fact should not be overlooked.

In conclusion I wish to express my appreciation for the financial support that the citizens of Monson always give to the school and for your hearty coöperation in everything connected with the school. With such support we can even make the schools better than they are now. A very large portion of the success of schools is due to the teachers.

I have carefully gone over the probable expenses for the coming year and wish to submit to you for your consideration the following recommendations for school purposes:

Common schools,	\$2,100.00
High school,	1,200.00
Text-books,	300.00
Supplies,	250.00
Repairs,	200.00
Superintendent of schools,	200.00

FINANCIAL REPORT OF SCHOOLS.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

CR.

Appropriation,	\$1,900.00
State Mill Fund,	1,260.46
Common School Fund,	791.64
Equalization Fund,	225.00
Interest,	34.16
Overdraft Feb. 23, 1917,	754.63
	<hr/> \$4,965.89

DR.

Paid teachers,	\$3,062.50
Paid janitors,	315.05
Paid for fuel,	209.47
Paid for conveyance,	388.00
Paid for tuition,	110.40
Paid for pupils' board,	43.00
Overdraft March 1, 1916,	837.47
	<hr/> \$4,965.89

HIGH SCHOOL.

CR.

Appropriation,	\$1,000.00
Received from State,	500.00
	<hr/> \$1,500.00

DR.

Paid Treasurer Monson Academy,	\$1,500.00
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TEXTBOOK ACCOUNT.

	CR.	
Appropriation,		\$250.00
Unexpended March 1, 1916,		65.52
Books sold,		2.50
Overdraft Feb. 23, 1917,		9.00
		————— \$327.02
	DR.	
Paid for Books,		\$327.02

REPAIR ACCOUNT.

	CR.	
Appropriation,		\$150.00
Equalization Fund,		165.00
		————— \$315.00
	DR.	
Paid for labor and material,		\$312.30
Balance unexpended Feb. 23, 1917,		2.70
		————— \$315.00

SUPPLY ACCOUNT.

	CR.	
Appropriation,		\$175.00
	DR.	
Paid for supplies,		\$171.22
Balance unexpended Feb. 23, 1917,		3.78
		————— \$175.00

SUPERINTENDENT'S ACCOUNT.

CR.

Appropriation,	185.00	
Unexpended March 1, 1916,	23.22	
	<hr/>	\$208.22

DR.

Paid H. M. Pullen,	\$191.93	
Balance unexpended Feb. 23, 1917,	16.29	
	<hr/>	\$208.22

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AUDITOR'S REPORT.

MONSON, ME., FEB. 26, 1917.

I have audited the accounts of the Collector and Treasurer of the Town of Monson for the year 1916 and find them correct.

P. W. KNIGHT, *Auditor.*