

1938

Annual Report of the Town of Monson Maine by the Municipal Officers including Report of Superintendent of Schools for the Municipal Year 1938-1939

Monson (Me.)

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Mrs. A. C. Dutton

Annual Report
of the
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS
of the
Town of
MONSON
MAINE

For the year 1938 - 1939



Observer Publishing Company
Dover-Foxcroft, Maine

Annual Report
of the
TOWN OF MONSON, MAINE
by the
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS
Including
Report of Superintendent of School
for the
Municipal Year 1938-1939

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS, 1938-1939**Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor****PAUL A. JACKSON****A. L. BRAY****BERNARD F. SANBORN****Road Commissioner****THOMAS H. MOUNTAIN****Town Clerk****W. HARRY HUGHES****Town Treasurer****FRED M. HESCOCK****Tax Collector****CLARENCE C. BROWN****School Committee****MARTHA CRANE****GEORGE P. PULLEN****A. L. BRAY****Superintendent of Schools****CLAUDE L. SIDELINGER****Sexton****ARTHUR E. HAGGSTROM****Fire Chief****D. C. WEEKS****Health Officer****HARRY W. DAVIS****Sealer of Weights and Measures****FRED M. HESCOCK.****REPORT OF SELECTMEN**

TOWN OF MONSON

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VALUATION APRIL 1, 1938

Real Estate, resident	198,830.00	
Real Estate, non-res.	167,614.00	
		<hr/>
Total Real Estate		366,444.00
Personal Estate, resident	37,418.00	
Personal Estate, non-res.	15,475.00	
Total Amt. Personal Est.		52,893.00
		<hr/>
Grand Total Amount		419,337.00
Raised by Town at Annual Meeting		20,336.50
State Tax, 1938		3,048.78
County Tax, 1938		840.12
Overlay		695.23
Rate of Taxation	.057	
Polls taxed	339	
Polls not taxed	26	

PERSONAL PROPERTY—LIVE STOCK

35	Horses	3,785.00
116	Cows	4,140.00
5	Bulls	180.00
12	Three years olds	335.00
23	Two year olds	530.00
96	Poultry	48.00

EXEMPT LIVE STOCK AND POULTRY

40	One year olds	425.00
23	Sheep	69.00
48	Swine	414.00
1266	Poultry	633.00

RAISED BY TOWN MARCH 1938

Incidentals	2,000.00
Fire Department	450.00
Street Lights	500.00
Sewers	800.00
Highways, Roads and Bridges, Winter	
Plowing—apply Excise Tax	4,266.50
Town Poor	2,500.00
Mothers' Aid	125.00
Common Schools	4,100.00
Text Books	350.00
School Supplies and Equipment	350.00
Free High School	2,500.00

School Library and Laboratory	150.00
School Light, Power and Insurance	250.00
Supt. Schools Salary	345.00
School Repairs	150.00
Athletic Purposes, Monson Academy	100.00
School Nurse	150.00
School Physician	50.00
Monson Free Public Library	50.00
Monson Band	50.00
Interest	600.00
Town Debts	500.00

INCIDENTAL ACCOUNT

Appropriation	2,000.00	
Received:		
Victualers' License	5.00	
Hall Rent	6.50	
Burmah School House	75.00	
State Treasurer		
(Porcupine Bounties)	38.85	
Motion License	2.50	
Town Clerk (Dog Tax)	87.00	
Fire Insurance Refund	5.55	
Raymond Bjork	.75	
Finnish Farmers' Club	50.00	
State Treasurer		
(Public Library)	5.00	
State Treasurer		
(Bank Stock)	60.03	
Vital Statistics	1.00	
State Treasurer (Refund)	29.64	
State Treasurer		
(R. R. & Tel. Tax)	3.00	
Pool Room License	10.00	
Use of Sealers' Outfit	2.00	
Overdrawn, 1938	387.32	
		2,769.14

PAID:

Paul A. Jackson, Salary	300.00
A. L. Bray, Salary	150.00
Bernard F. Sanborn, Salary	125.00
F. M. Hescocck, Salary	95.00
W. Harry Hughes, salary	25.00

TOWN OF MONSON

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C. C. Brown, Collector's Com.	505.75
School Committee	60.00
Health Officer	20.60
Forest Fire Warden	6.25
Porcupine Bounties	103.75
Moderator	4.00
Postage	11.77
Printing (Town Reports)	61.50
Town Books	66.95
Transfers (Reg. of Deeds)	4.40
Light and Power (Town Bldgs.)	45.74
Night Watch	286.00
Ballot Clerks	32.00
Water (Town Bldgs.)	16.00
Insurance (Town Bldgs.)	27.75
Fuel (Town Bldgs.)	75.63
Legal Advice (Tax Liens)	125.61
Express on Federal Food	4.88
Vital Statistics	24.99
Public Library	5.00
Labor, (Town Bldgs.)	11.75
Materials (Town Bldgs.)	14.67
Storage	3.00
Barrows Falls Bridge Expense	343.57
Town Officers' Expense	29.89
Voting Lists	2.00
Dog Tax	87.00
N. Y. A. Expense	1.30
Bank Check Privilege	18.86
State Audit	73.53

2,769.14

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Balance from 1937	25.51
Appropriation	450.00
Received:	
Acme Manufacturing Co. (Refund)	1.80
Town of Abbot	57.00
Overdrawn 1938	92.14

626.45

PAID:

Firemen's Lunches	
(Abbot Fire)	5.45
Supplies	28.77
Payrolls	57.45
Hose	184.50
Doors for Fire-House	96.04
Gas and Oil	6.26
Coal	35.13
Insurance on Firemen	115.00
Chimney Fires	15.00
D. C. Weeks Care of Engine	
House	82.85

 626.45
Report of Fire Chief

There have been very few calls for the Fire Department in the past year. On March 3, 1938 we were called to Abbot on the Schoolhouse fire but the call was somewhat delayed so we were unable to save the building. The department was called to two grass fires, one small fire at the Portland Monson Farm Quarry, and twenty-six chimney fires.

We have continued to hold practice at our regular meetings once a month which have been well attended.

Some repairs which were needed on the engine-house have been tended to such as strengthening the floor under the machine. New doors have been purchased and installed. Three new pair of rubber boots have been procured. We have also purchased a pair of rubber gloves for high tension wires.

Many times here as in larger places, the fire department is called for service at drownings or other such emergencies. Two long grappling poles, grappling irons, and ropes have been procured, also a stretcher has been made. These are kept at the engine-house where they may be reached at short notice.

Respectfully submitted,

D. C. WEEKS, Fire Chief.

STREET LIGHTS

Appropriation	500.00
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TOWN OF MONSON

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Overdrawn, 1938	7.19	
		507.19
PAID:		
Monson Light & Power Co.	507.19	507.19
	SEWERS	
Appropriation	800.00	800.00
PAID:		
Labor	5.00	
Unexpended	795.00	
		800.00

HIGHWAYS, ROADS AND BRIDGES

Appropriation	3,950.00	
Received:		
State Treasurer,		
Equipment Rental	527.85	
Town Trucks (Local)	86.50	
State Treasurer (50-50)	50.00	
Sidewalk Account	50.00	
Excise Tax	1,012.00	
Tarring Streets	19.00	
Third Class Payroll No. 41	3.15	
State Aid Trucks	458.07	
Main. of Unimproved Roads		
Trucks	143.33	
Third Class Road Trucks	485.10	
Overdrawn	1,067.69	
		7,852.69
PAID:		
Payrolls	2,603.19	
Storage	48.00	
Materials	190.53	
Gas, Oil and Repairs	825.22	
Tools and Supplies	34.60	
Road Grader	750.00	
Insurance on Trucks	45.26	
Assessment on Leeman Bridge	46.48	
Patrol Maintenance	890.10	
Snow Removal	2,061.85	

ANNUAL REPORT

To Main. of Unimproved Roads	2,84
To 3rd Class Maintenance	354.62

7,852.69

SIDEWALK ACCOUNT

Appropriation	50.00
Transferred to Highway Account	50.00

STATE AID ROAD ACCOUNT

Balance from 1937	533.00
Appropriation	266.50
Received	
State Treasurer	1,581.65

2,381.15

PAID:

Payrolls	664.06
Materials	220.68
Trucks	181.77
Tarring	603.04
Shovel No. 7	253.50
Town Trucks	458.07
Error to Overlay	.03

2,381.15

Balance State's Apportionment Due Account \$17.35

THIRD CLASS ROAD ACCOUNT

Rec'd. State Treasurer	1,512.11
Maintenance, from Highway	354.62

1,866.73

PAID:

Payrolls	1,126.68
Materials	220.95
Board for State Operators	7.00
Compressor No. 19	27.00
Town Trucks	485.10

1,866.73

MAINTENANCE OF UNIMPROVED ROADS

Rec'd. State Treasurer	384.30
From Highway to Balance	2.84

387.14

TOWN OF MONSON

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PAID:

Payrolls	187.61
Materials	36.60
Trucks	19.60
Town Trucks	143.33

 387.14

POOR RELIEF

Appropriation	2,500.00
Received	
Leland Kimball	3.75
From Overlay	346.83
Overdrawn	548.27

 3,398.85

PAID:

Oscar Anderson	188.02
John Arnold	42.43
George Bigger Children	73.26
Marion Boulter	140.71
Albert Beatham	59.67
Dudley Girl	223.90
Alfred Akerson	74.37
Edward Kelley	46.17
Gertrude Kimball	177.03
Albert Lloyd	130.20
Florence Jackson	37.87
Mary Jones & Family	463.58
Maurice Johnson	282.84
Harding Child	153.86
Leland Kimball	110.00
Albert Kronholm	208.04
Tramps	11.40
Sam Nesbit	377.40
Rubie Lindie	7.60
Gloria Mattson	40.00
Guy Pratt	13.24
Edward Richards	239.06
Veterans Relief	51.62
Mary Spencer	182.35
Chester Simpson	64.23

 3,398.85

STATE POOR

Rec'd. from State Treasurer	785.28
From Overlay	1.99

787.27

PAID:

Aslek Hanson	319.55
Fred Kelley	6.11
Marshall Lovejoy	201.26
Martin Pack	232.10
Herbert Rose	28.25

787.27

MOTHERS' AID

Balance from 1937	181.00
Appropriation	125.00

306.00

PAID:

State Treasurer	144.00
Unexpended	162.00

306.00

MONSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Appropriation	50.00
Expended by Town	50.00

MONSON BAND

Appropriation	50.00
Expended by Town	50.00

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL TABLET

Unexpended 1937	50.00
Unexpended 1938	50.00

CEMETERIES

Balance from 1937	24.35
Rec'd. Sale of cemetery lots	94.00
Interest on Trust Funds	106.80
Overdrawn	69.48

294.63

PAID:

Labor	282.21
Materials	4.32

TOWN OF MONSON**11**

Making Deeds 8.10

294.63

INTEREST ACCOUNT

Appropriation 600.00
Received C. C. Brown 174.86

774.86

PAID:

Interest on Trust Funds 106.80
Common School Account 34.16
Disbursed on Notes 609.78
Unexpended 24.12

774.86

PAYMENT ON TOWN DEBT

Appropriation 500.00
Expended by Town (Nettie Pullen Note) 500.00

DISCOUNT ON TAXES

From Overlay 184.39
Discount Allowed 184.39

TEMPORARY LOANS

Received Guilford Trust Co. 4,000.00

PAID:

Guilford Trust Co. 3,000.00
From Note Account 1,000.00

4,000.00

STATE TAX

1938 State Tax 3,048.78
Expended by Town 3,048.78

COUNTY TAX

1938 County Tax 840.12
Expended by Town 840.12

OVERLAY ACCOUNT

1938 Overlay 695.23
Rec'd. F. M. Hescock 16.00
Error from Highway .03

711.26

PAID:

Errors in Assessment	33.21
Abatements	38.53
State Poor Account	1.99
Wood Account to Balance	42.58
Disbursement	49.02
To Accounts Receivable	14.71
Discounts on Taxes	184.39
To Poor Account	346.83

 711.26

WOOD ACCOUNT

Received:

Common school	262.50
Gertrude Kimball	13.13
Treas. Monson Academy	78.75
Incidental Account	56.38
Samuel Pennington	6.88
D. C. Weeks	60.00
From Overlay	42.58

 520.22

PAID:

Payrolls	199.50
Conveyance	38.00
Stumpage	107.00
Yarding	105.00
Hauling	70.72

 520.22

TRUST FUNDS FOR

A. F. Jackson	100.00
Carroll Pullen	50.00
A. W. Chapin	200.00
Elizabeth Pullen (Patten)	200.00
Harriet Crafts	70.00
John Randall	100.00
Charles Baker	100.00
Sarah Haynes	100.00
Sarah Pennington	200.00
B. M. Packard	100.00
Peter E. Johnson	100.00
Lovisa Chapin	100.00
Flora Varney	50.00
Mrs. F. J. Wilkins (Gates)	100.00
Mrs. Delia Steward	100.00
David Kervinen Est.	100.00
Sanfred Larson	100.00
Harry Daw Est.	100.00
Cora Roberts	100.00
Sam Ulman	100.00
Dr. Harry -W. Sampson	100.00
William H. Fogg	100.00
John L. Johnson	100.00
Mrs. Pearl Swanton (Crawford)	100.00
Mary F. Davis	100.00
	<hr/>
	2,670.00

CARE OF CEMETERY LOTS 1938

%	Int.	Bal. 1937	Total	Expended 1938	Bal. 1938
4	4.00	3.50	7.50	7.50	
4	2.00	—1.00	1.00	1.00	
4	8.00	6.00	14.00	7.50	6.50
4	8.00	5.50	13.50	7.00	6.50
4	2.80	1.02	3.82	3.00	.82
4	4.00	1.00	5.00	3.50	1.50
4	4.00		4.00	3.50	.50
4	4.00	3.00	7.00	4.00	3.00
4	8.00	8.50	16.50	7.00	9.50
4	4.00	3.50	7.50	4.00	3.50
4	4.00	1.50	5.50	4.00	1.50
4	4.00	4.00	8.00	3.00	5.00
4	2.00		2.00	2.00	
4	4.00	2.25	6.25	3.50	2.75
4	4.00	4.50	8.50	2.50	5.00
4	4.00	2.00	6.00	2.00	4.00
4	4.00	2.75	6.75	4.50	2.25
4	4.00	1.25	5.25	3.50	1.75
4	4.00		4.00	3.00	1.00
4	4.00	.50	4.50	4.00	.50
4	4.00	4.00	8.00	4.00	4.00
4	4.00	.50	4.50	3.50	1.00
4	4.00	1.50	5.50	2.50	3.00
4	4.00	.50	4.50	3.50	1.00
4	4.00		4.00	3.00	1.00
	<hr/> 106.80	<hr/> 56.27	<hr/> 163.07	<hr/> 97.50	<hr/> 65.57

TAX COLLECTOR'S ACCOUNT

To 1938 Tax Commitment	24,920.63
Supplementary	9.00

 Net Tax commitment to

C. C. Brown

24,929.63

Net Tax returned

C. C. Brown

23,075.57

Discount Allowed

184.39

Errors in Assessment

33.21

Resident Liens

August Anderson 20.91

Matilda Anderson 28.50

Carl Brasier 19.25

Carl & Harry

Brasier 29.93

James Bigger Heirs 12.15

Maurice Copeland 24.10

Will Conley 31.92

R. R. Drake 28.37

Harry Davis 361.67

Lyman Davis 42.05

Eastern Gum Co. 44.75

Mildred Heaney 7.13

Edward Kelley 20.96

Will A. Lindie 7.82

Arthur Nelson 14.36

Margaret Poole 24.93

Albion Utterstrom 8.99

 727.79

Resident Delinquent

Ira F. Bishop 5.85

Guy Brown 3.00

Cameron Brown 3.00

Alvin Cowan 3.57

C. E. Choate 3.00

Julius Carlberg 3.00

John Drugge 3.00

Ryna Erickson 3.00

William Erickson 4.53

Morrill Forbus 4.28

Ben Hanson 2.00

Aslek Hanson 12.98

TOWN OF MONSON

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Winnie Hewes	4.28
William Jacobson	3.00
Roy Lloyd	1.14
Raymond LaBree	6.99
Emil Mackie	1.14
William Mackie	6.71
Oscar Mackie	3.00
John Mackie	4.71
John B. Nelson	3.00
Herbert Packard	3.00
Frank Usitala	7.28
Leon Wilkins	6.71
Clair Sargent	18.68

120.85

Non-Resident Liens	
General Slate Co.	332.31
Harrison Davis	
Heirs	15.11
Delano & Evans	172.37
Mary D. Hurd	59.85
Robert Hall	16.25
Vinal S. Odlin	84.14
Ellen Spencer	29.93
Raphael Steward	9.12
Good Will Farm	
Asso.	23.94

743.02

Non-Resident Delinquent	
A. A. Brown, Heirs	1.43
Hugh Hall	1.14
Frank Hall	1.14
Joe Jardine	1.14
Howard Jardine	1.14
Frank Jardine	1.14
John Jardine	2.28
Wm. McDonald	1.14
American Oil Co.	8.55

	19.10
Abatements	25.70

24,929.63

To 1937 Commitment		967.20
Net Tax Returned	866.20	
Delinquents:		
Carl & Harry		
Brasier	30.00	
Earl Brasier	3.00	
Alvin Cowan	3.60	
George Carlson	3.00	
John Drugge	3.00	
Perry Frost	3.00	
Wm. Jacobson	3.00	
Fred Russell	3.00	
John B. Nelson	3.00	
William Mackie	7.20	
Emil Mackie	4.80	
Albert Lloyd	3.00R	
Rudolph Erickson	5.00	
Ryna Erickson	3.00	
Phil Shaw	7.50	
Harold Smith	9.00	
Leon Wilkins	6.90	
	<hr/>	
	101.00	
	<hr/>	
To 1936 Commitment		967.20
Net Tax Returned	9.57	43.13
Delinquents:		
Alfred Akerson	3.00	
Albert Beatham	3.00	
Leland Kimball	3.00	
Albert Lloyd	3.00	
John B. Nelson	3.00	
Edward Richards	3.00	
Fred Russell	7.28	
Carroll Smith	3.00	
Albert Kronholm	5.28	
	<hr/>	
	33.56	
	<hr/>	
To 1935 Commitment		43.13
Net Tax Returned	.68	53.65
Delinquents:		

TOWN OF MONSON

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Oscar Anderson	3.00	
Matilda Anderson	27.08	
Alfred Akerson	2.32	
John Drugge	3.00	
Perry Frost	3.00	
Albert Lloyd	3.00	
William Mackie	5.57	
John B. Nelson	3.00	
Edward Richards	3.00	
	<hr/>	
	52.97	
	<hr/>	
To 1934 Commitment		53.65
Net Tax Returned	3.00	34.41
Delinquents:		
Guy Brown	3.00	
Albert Beatham	3.00	
Albert Lloyd	3.00	
William Mackie	5.85	
John B. Nelson	3.00	
Edward Richards	4.71	
Phil Shaw	3.00	
Alton Wentworth	5.85	
	<hr/>	
	31.41	
	<hr/>	
To 1937 Liens		34.41
Net Returned	114.50	222.50
Uncollected:		
Edward Kelley	21.00	
Ellen Spencer	30.00	
Good Will Farm	48.30	
A. A. Brown Heirs	1.50	
Hugh Hall	.90	
Frank Hall	.90	
Joe Jardine	.90	
Howard Jardine	.90	
Frank Jardine	.90	
John Jardine	1.80	

Wm. McDonald	.90	
	<hr/>	
		108.00
		<hr/>
To 1936 Liens		222.50
Net Returned	53.93	112.87
Uncollected:		
Matilda Anderson	27.08	
Ellen Spencer	4.50	
Oscar Edfast	4.27	
Albert Kronholm	5.70	
A. A. Brown Heirs	1.43	
Hugh Hall	2.28	
Frank Hall	2.28	
Joe Jardine	2.28	
Howard Jardine	2.28	
Frank Jardine	2.28	
John Jardine	2.28	
Wm. McDonald	2.28	
	<hr/>	
		58.94
		<hr/>
		112.87
BALANCE SHEET TOWN OF MONSON		
Cash	55.07	
1938 Liens, Resident	727.79	
1938 Liens, Non-resident	743.02	
1938 Delinquent Taxes		
Resident	120.85	
1938 Delinquent Taxes		
Non-Resident	19.10	
1937 Taxes Uncollected	101.00	
1937 Liens	108.00	
1936 Taxes Uncollected	33.56	
1936 Liens	58.94	
1935 Taxes Uncollected	52.97	
1934 Taxes Uncollected	31.41	
Net Debt	15,100.07	
Monson Academy Loan		3,925.00
Common School Fund		854.00
Notes Payable		8,750.00
Common Schools		277.00
Text Books		79.53

TOWN OF MONSON

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School Supplies and Equipment		181.55
School Library and Laboratory		135.15
School Light, Power, and Insurance		72.36
Supt. Schools Salary		1.70
School Repairs		18.49
School Nurse		90.00
School Physician		47.00
Soldiers' Memorial Tablet		50.00
Due Trust Funds		2,670.00
Trust Funds	2,670.00	2,670.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	19,821.78	19,821.78

A sufficient number of the reports have been printed to furnish every interested citizen with a copy. Please bring your copy to Town Meeting with you.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL A. JACKSON,

A. L. BRAY,

BERNARD F. SANBORN,

Selectmen of Monson, Maine.

TREASURER'S REPORT

F. M. Hescock, Treasurer 1938

Cash on hand	1,295.75
Received	
Town clerk, dog tax	87.00
Use of Sealer's outfit	2.00
Cemetery lots	94.00
Hall rent	6.50
Sale of wood	150.13
Victualers' licenses	5.00
Moving picture license	2.50
Poolroom license	10.00
Sale of Burmah schoolhouse	75.00
Sale of Long district schoolhouse	50.00
Sale of Gravel	35.70
Tarring account	12.30
Dividend on fire insurance policy	5.55
F. M. Hescock error, 1937 check acct.	16.00
Mary Casley	1.00
Town of Abbot, Fire dept.	57.00
Acme Mfg. Co.	1.80
Mary Davis, interest to be used for care	

of cemetery lot.	100.00
Hired of Guilford Trust Co.	4,000.00
C. C. Brown Coll. 1936 taxes	8.00
C. C. Brown Coll. 1937 taxes	207.90
C. C. Brown Coll., 1938 taxes	23,970.06
C. C. Brown Coll., Int. on taxes	99.52
C. C. Brown, Coll., Excise tax	1,012.00
Received of State Treasurer	
Bank Stock	60.03
State Paupers	872.19
Use of Trucks	167.05
Highway	3,838.86
50-50 Payroll	50.00
State School Fund	1,766.66
Equalization Fund	705.00
Dog license refund	29.64
Free Public Library	5.00
R. R. & Tel. tax	3.00
Porcupine Bounties	38.85
	<hr/>
	38,840.99
CR.	
By Paid Warrants	38,785.92
Cash on hand to Balance	55.07
	<hr/>
	38,840.99

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS To the School Committee and Citizens of Monson:

I am submitting herewith my annual report as superintendent of your schools. In these annual reports it is possible to submit only briefly the condition and needs of the schools in the town. As citizens we are deeply interested in the matter of giving to our youth the highest type of educational opportunity consistent with financial resources.

TAX RATES AND EQUALIZATION

Tax rates in a measure determine the right of the several towns to participate in the equalization fund. The purpose of this fund is especially to improve educational opportunities beyond those made possible by local tax levies in towns where school maintenance and municipal rates equal or exceed the average of those rates for the state. This year the average of the

school rates for the state is .01270 while the average of the municipal rate is .05732. The school rate for the town is .01821 while the municipal rate is .057.

As intimated in the last annual report changes have been made in the manner of distribution of the equalization fund. It is the purpose of the law to allocate equalization to those towns where the tax rates in excess of the average of the rates for the state fail to produce a satisfactory minimum standard. The standard now being used by the Department is the one accepted in principle by the Legislature two years ago, namely, \$783 per elementary school unit, \$1305 per secondary school unit or secondary school tuition, and one half the cost of conveyance.

SCHOOL PROGRESS

During the past year there have been no radical changes or departures from our established school program. The same schools are being maintained with the same teachers assigned to the schools. The enrollment in the elementary schools for last year was 169 and the present enrollment is 163. Each school is furnished with a copy of the State elementary School Curriculum which we use as a guide for our school program. This curriculum is so written that it can be continually revised as revision is needed to meet the needs of the community and that of individual pupils.

During the last decade investigators of reading difficulties have brought into use a new term—**reading readiness**. They have demonstrated that in order for a child to read successfully he must possess certain abilities, otherwise any effort to read is bound to end in some degree of failure. This development in reading becomes of vital significance to all concerned with children just starting in school work. Early in the fall term this reading readiness program was started in the first grade room. While this procedure in most cases means postponing the introduction to reading it also means that each child will have a reasonable assurance of success in his later venture in actual reading.

The program of safety education in our schools has become very important. Highway safety is foremost in the minds of most people because of the rapid increase

in the use of highways for mechanized transportation. Perhaps the great stress on highway safety may be due to the large publicity being given to highway accidents. There should be a never-ending vigilance exerted to the end that the accidents and deaths with their accompanying burden of economic and personal loss may be reduced to the very minimum. In planning a safety program we must keep in mind that there are other dangers in our modern life which are exacting their toll from careless or unsuspecting victims. Due to the heavy teacher loads in our schools it is impossible to use full periods for safety teaching, but through integration we are doing some acceptable safety work.

During the present school year the Commissioner of Education called attention to the desirability of including the fine arts, such as music, drawing, painting, dancing, dramatics and the like, whenever possible in both elementary and secondary curriculums. Music has always been regarded as an essential subject in the school curriculums largely from its avocational possibilities. Very few students pursuing the subject of music will ever be engaged in professional music work as a livelihood but the knowledge they have gained in this subject will go with them through life. They will enjoy it as an avocation both for their own recreation and the enjoyment of their friends.

Although the other subjects, classified as the fine arts, have never had so strong a place in our curriculum as music, it is desirable and essential that these courses be made available for all our pupils. There was a time when these subjects were considered as "fads and frills" but that is past and now they are considered as necessary subjects in every well-ordered school curriculum. While most art subjects possess the same avocational possibilities as music the opportunity for the people to have knowledge of these subjects in the way of lucrative employment is becoming almost unlimited. It is maintained that it is not at all difficult for any community to make provisions for these courses.

SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRESS

Recent reports show that in Maine there are 285 accredited secondary schools. These schools are said to represent an excellent cross section of America's greatest institution, the secondary school. Legally

there are several types in the state. There are the class A high schools and the class A academies. These are four-year and six-year schools with courses of study leading to the high school diploma. There are a few junior high schools in the larger communities. Usually grades seven, eight and nine are found in these schools, which are organized to administer a special type of education especially suited to adolescent youth.

Within a very few years nearly every secondary school operated on a minimum length period of only forty minutes. However, in actual practice the teaching time was really much less. The remedy for this inefficient arrangement was sought, which results in the rotated schedule as a solution and making possible minimum length period of one hour. Some type of the rotated schedule has been adopted by both small and large schools in over one hundred communities. The results over a period of five years have exceeded expectation. This plan provides for regular activity periods which can be utilized in various purposes and may be varied from week to week.

In a majority of secondary schools there seems a trend towards better library equipment, multiple textbooks, and conference and committee work in classes. Students often have reports on interesting subjects to present to their class. Time is being found for debates and discussions. Class procedures that require time, such as the assignment, motivation, testing, and directed study, are given time allowance of satisfactory length.

SCHOOL FUNDS

The Commissioner of Education advises the school officials that the present distribution of the equalization fund is not to be considered in any way as a tax reduction measure. According to the wording of the law the purpose of the equalization fund is for the improvement of educational standards beyond those provided by current appropriations. School officials in towns which share in equalization should, as nearly as possible, attain the minimum educational program through the utilization of those funds beyond those provided by the tax rates of the town.

In planning the school budget for the coming year we are quite certain to receive quite a sum from the

equalization fund. We cannot, however, feel certain that the present method of equalization has become a permanent one. The present Legislature may take action to make it so. In planning the elementary school budget I think we should take in consideration the cost for certain changes which we may find it advisable to make during the year.

The present program for the Academy provides for four full-time instructors. The town should raise twenty-five hundred dollars as its part in carrying out that program. The appropriations recommended for textbooks and school supplies are the same as you have been making for those accounts. Unless some special work is planned about the school buildings, we usually need about one hundred fifty dollars for general repairs and the up-keep of the buildings. There is some extra work, such as new floors, which might be done, if there was money for that purpose. A small sum will be needed for renewing insurance on school buildings and on school pianos. Increase in appropriations may mean increase in efficiency. Decrease in appropriations may mean decrease in efficiency.

To the Superintendent of Schools:

I am pleased to submit my second annual report as Principal of Monson Academy.

Monson Academy opened its 91st year on September 6 with an enrollment of 71 students. Since that time, three new students have entered and one has left, making the present enrollment 73. Of the number enrolled 14 are Seniors, 19 are Juniors, 16 are Sophomores, and 25 are Freshmen, 38 boys and 36 girls have been in attendance. The average attendance has been lowered by extended illness of a few pupils. Thirty students did not miss a session during the fall term.

The only changes made in the Academy faculty this year have been in the position of French and Public Speaking teacher. Miss Charlotte LeClair replaced Mr. Wentworth at the beginning of school. Miss LeClair left after eight weeks of service to accept a position at Madawaska High School. Her place here has been filled by Miss Constance Goodwin, a graduate of Bates College.

There are 15 graduates of Monson Academy attend-

ing institutions of higher learning this year. Of this number 5 are at the University of Maine, 3 are at Bangor Maine School of Commerce, 2 are at Farmington Normal School, 2 are at the Junior College of Commerce in New Haven, Connecticut, and 1 each at Bryant and Stratton, Gray's Business College and Eastern Maine General Hospital. All the reports in regard to these graduates have been extremely good. Our graduates are accepted by the New England College Board without examination upon certification by the Principal.

Some more new science equipment has been added this year. Several valuable additions have been made to our library. We have the use of one of the State traveling libraries again this year, giving us a good variety of outside reading material. We have subscriptions to several magazines and a daily newspaper again this year.

Due to curtailment on the part of the N. Y. A. we have only two students receiving aid. These students assist in extra services to the school.

Our Athletic program has been somewhat increased. Last spring our girls' softball team won the county championship. A boys' baseball team was started with Mr. Sinclair as coach. The boys made a good showing for beginners. If a playing field can be obtained, it is probable that a team will be entered in the county league this spring. Our six-man football team played three games last fall. This sport is becoming more popular every year as it has great possibilities for small schools. The boys' basketball team, coached by Mr. Sinclair, has had a fairly successful season winning more than half its games. A girls' basketball team was organized for the first time in several years. Under the able coaching of Miss Goodwin the girls made a very creditable showing for beginners. Plans are underway for a second annual winter carnival, which we hope will be even more successful than the one held last year.

Many non-athletic activities have been carried on by the school. Assemblies have been held on Friday mornings in which a large number of students have participated. Students have, for the most part, had charge of these programs, thus giving them a certain amount of responsibility. The seniors presented a play

in the fall and have been active in many ways to raise money for graduation. The Freshmen and Sophomore speaking contests, held under the direction of Miss Goodwin, were very successful. The Dramatic Club is working on a one-act play which will be entered in the State Contest. The Pharetra will be published as usual this year. New clubs have been organized with the hope that they may stimulate new interests in both vocations and avocations.

There seems to be an increasing demand on the part of the students for some kind of vocational course in the Academy. Such a course would make it possible to serve our students more completely.

Through the cooperation of the Monson Woman's Club, the American Legion, and various church organizations we have purchased a sound film projector. This machine may be used for both recreational and instructional purposes. Visual education is becoming a very important part of the modern educational policy.

The money raised by the town has enabled us to carry on many activities which it would have otherwise have been necessary to do without.

In closing, I wish to thank the school officials, parents, teachers, and citizens of Monson for their faithful support which has contributed greatly to the continued success of the school.

Respectfully submitted,
LINDON E. CHRISTIE, Principal.

SCHOOL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS Elementary School Account

Estimate for Expenditures:

Teachers' wages	4,040.00	
School fuel	400.00	
Janitor purposes	500.00	
School Conveyance,	1,230.00	
Abbot and Guilford account	155.00	6,325.00

Estimate for receipts:

State School Fund	1,225.00	
Equalization Fund	1,000.00	
Town appropriation	4,100.00	6,325.00

High School Account

Estimate for Expenditures:

Teachers' salaries	4,670.00	
Fuel and janitor needs	430.00	5,100.00

Estimate for Receipts:

Academy:

State funds	1,800.00	
Tuition receipts	275.00	

Town:

State School Fund	525.00	
Appropriation	2,500.00	5,100.00

School Funds Recommended for 1939-1940:

Elementary School Account		4,100.00
High school account		2,500.00
Library and Laboratory Accounts		150.00
Free Textbook Account		350.00
School Supply Account	300.00	
School Equipment account	50.00	350.00
School Repairs Account		150.00
School Insurance Account	145.00	
Power and Light Account	55.00	200.00
School Nurse Account		100.00
Superintendence Account		320.00

You all know that a change had to be made in regard to the school nurse during the year. Mrs. Varney completed her work as the school nurse with the close of the school year in June. During the time Mrs. Varney was connected with the work she made frequent inspections in the school in an effort to detect trouble before it became too prevalent. She made a great many home visits in the interest of the school children, and she was always willing to have children come to her home for treatment for minor accidents.

Arrangements have been made for Mrs. Nichols to carry on the health work in the schools. Mrs. Nichols started with the work early in January, but she had to postpone going through all of the schools at the time because of sickness. I expect she will be returning to take up the work again very soon.

Under the heading of Financial Statements will be given information relative to funds raised by the town for school purposes, the amount of funds received from the state and applied to school accounts, together with

expenditures for school purposes for this municipal year.

Respectfully submitted,
C. L. SIDELINGER,
Superintendent of Schools.

February 15, 1939.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 1938-1939
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACCOUNT**

Receipts

Unexpended, 1937	426.30	
Raised by town	4,100.00	
State School Fund	1,241.66	
Equalization Fund	403.00	
Interest receipts	34.16	6,205.12

Expenditures

Teachers' salaries:		
Bernice E. Fogg	792.00	
Manda E. Mattson	666.00	
Esther Pennington	666.00	
Vivienne E. Bray	648.00	
Margaret LeClaire	612.00	
Kathleen M. Bryenton	525.00	3,909.00

School fuel:

Wood for Village Schools	262.50	
Coal for Village Schools	45.00	
Labor on wood	66.30	
Wood for Vinton School	18.00	391.80

Janitor purposes:

Erick L. Erickson	400.00	
John Sandberg	33.00	
Cleaning school buildings	24.70	
Supplies for janitor	8.62	466.32

School conveyance:

Arthur R. Day	1,008.00	
Town of Abbot	54.00	
Town of Guilford	27.00	1,089.00

School tuition:

Town of Abbot	36.00	
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TOWN OF MONSON

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Town of Guilford	36.00	72.00
Amount unexpended, 1938		277.00
		6,205.12

HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT

Receipts

Raised by town	2,500.00	
State School Fund	525.00	3,025.00

Expenditures

Treasurer Monson Academy		3,025.00
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LIBRARY AND LABORATORY ACCOUNTS

Receipts

Unexpended, 1937	95.62	
Raised by town	150.00	

Equalization Fund, Laboratory	25.00	270.62
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Expenditures

Library account:		
Papers and magazines	26.50	
State Library fee	2.50	
Book for library,	29.91	58.91

Laboratory Account:		
Combosco Scientific Co.	51.16	
Turttox Products	10.67	
Central Scientific Co.	14.73	76.56

Unexpended, 1938:		
For library purposes	43.76	
For Laboratory purposes	91.39	135.15

270.62

FREE TEXTBOOK ACCOUNT

Receipts

Unexpended 1937	103.51	
Raised by town	350.00	
Equalization Fund	125.00	578.51

ANNUAL REPORT

Expenditures

Elementary school purposes:

Textbooks and Workbooks	174.75	
Set Reference Books	71.32	
Desk Dictionaries	15.50	262.57

High school Purposes:

Textbooks and Workbooks	200.41	
Publications for class use	36.00	236.41
Amount unexpended, 1938,		79.53
		<hr/> 578.51

SCHOOL SUPPLY ACCOUNT

Receipts

Unexpended, 1937	43.58	
Raised by town	350.00	
Equalization Fund	75.00	468.58

Expenditures

Trucking	7.00	
Office, freight and express	38.00	
Dictionary, New International	18.29	
Workbooks and Posters	36.23	
School supplies and paper	213.17	312.69
Unexpended, 1939		<hr/> 155.89
		468.58

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT

Receipts

Unexpended, 1937	62.48	
Balance from Flag Account	4.93	
Equalization Fund	77.00	144.41

Expenditures

General equipment,	31.80	
Maps and globes	33.80	
Desk supplies	26.25	
Library equipment	26.90	
Unexpended, 1938	25.66	144.41

TOWN OF MONSON

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SCHOOL REPAIRS ACCOUNT

Receipts

Unexpended, 1937	32.10	
Raised by town	150.00	182.10

Expenditures

Material purchased	75.26	
Paid—labor and Material	88.35	
Unexpended, 1938	18.49	182.10

LIGHT AND POWER ACCOUNT

Receipts

Unexpended, 1937	49.75	
Raised by town	50.00	99.75

Expenditures

Monson Light and Power Co.	52.09	
Unexpended, 1938	47.66	99.75

INSURANCE ACCOUNT

Receipts

Unexpended, 1937	14.70	
Raised by town	200.00	214.70

Expenditures

Fred M. Hescock	95.00	
Jackson Insurance Agency	95.00	
Unexpended, 1938	24.70	214.70

SUPERINTENDENCE ACCOUNT

Receipts

Raised by town		245.00
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Expenditures

Overdraft, 1937	21.60	
C. L. Sidelinger	321.70	
Unexpended, 1938	1.70	245.00

SCHOOL NURSE ACCOUNT

Receipts

Raised by town		150.00
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Expenditures

Mrs. Laura Varney	50.00	
Bessie W. Hughes	10.00	
Unexpended, 1938	90.00	150.00

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN ACCOUNT**Receipts**

Unexpended 1937	25.00	
Raised by town	50.00	75.00
F. L. Varney, M. D.	5.00	
Wm. R. Kerr, D. O.	15.00	
State Treasurer	8.00	
Unexpended, 1938	47.00	75.00

ANNUAL TOWN WARRANT

To C. C. Brown, a Constable in the Town of Monson, in
the County of Piscataquis: **GREETINGS**

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the said town of Monson qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble in Town Hall in said town of Monson the 13th day of March A. D. 1939 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 see if the town will vote to accept the town report as printed.

ART. 4. To see if the town will vote to fix the compensation of the Board of Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor.

ART. 5. To elect three Selectmen for the ensuing year.

ART. 6. To elect a Fire Chief and to authorize him to form his department with complete authority over the same.

ART. 7. To choose all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 8. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the support of schools.

ART. 9. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the support of poor.

ART. 10. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges, and how the same shall be expended.

ART. 11. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to defray all incidental and town charges and for miscellaneous purposes.

ART. 12. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the care of sidewalks and how the same shall be expended.

ART. 13. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to pay interest on town debts.

ART. 14. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for free text books.

ART. 15. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the Superintendent of Schools Salary.

ART. 16. To see what sum of money the town will vote to 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. 17. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for high school library and laboratory.

ART. 18. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for school supplies and equipment.

ART. 19. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the repair of schoolhouses.

ART. 20. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for Memorial Day services.

ART. 21. To see what sum the town will appropriate 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, Chapter 28, Revised Statutes of 1930, or under the provisions of Section 3, Chapter 229, Public Laws of 1937.

ART. 22. To see if the town will vote to authorize the assessors to transfer any amounts appropriated by

the town for State Aid Highway construction in excess of the amount required to meet State apportionments, to the Highway account.

ART. 23. To see if the town will vote and raise a sum of money for the maintenance of the so-called "50-50" State Patrol Roads.

ART. 24. To see what sum, if any, the town would recommend to take from the Joint state aid account for the purpose of applying bituminous surface treatment to state aid roads, in excess of the requirements of Section 2, Chapter 132, P. L. 1935.

ART. 25. To see if the town will vote to allow a sliding scale of discount and how much on taxes prior to August 15, 1939.

ART. 26. To see if the town will vote to charge interest on all taxes remaining unpaid September 15, 1939, interest to begin on September 15, 1939, and what rate of interest shall be charged.

ART. 27. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen on behalf of the town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable, and to execute quit claim deeds for such property.

ART. 28. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for street lights for the ensuing year.

ART. 29. To see if the town will vote to raise a sum of money for the Monson Free Public Library.

ART. 30. To see if the town will vote to 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. 31. To see if the town will vote to raise a sum of money to be paid to Monson Band for evening concerts.

ART. 32. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the fire department.

ART. 33. To see if the people of the town will vote to charge \$25.00 for out of town calls including first hour and \$3.00 per hour thereafter for the fire pumper.

ART. 34. To see what action the town will take regarding the drainage on Wilkins Street.

ART. 35. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for School Health Nurse and authorize the Superintending School Committee to hire the same.

ART. 36. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the services of School Physician, in connection with Health officer and School Nurse, and authorize the Superintending School Committee to hire the same.

ART. 37. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for insurance on school buildings and for power and lights.

ART. 38. To see if the town will vote to authorize and instruct the Selectmen and Treasurer to hire money for town purposes.

ART. 39. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow money during the present municipal year in anticipation of, and to be paid out of, the taxes of the current year 1939 and 1940, and to execute and deliver the negotiable promissory note or notes of the town therefor.

ART. 40. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Sexton to collect payment of the sale of Cemetery lots and for making deeds of same.

ART. 41. To see what action the Town will take regarding the acceptance of money left in trust for perpetual care of cemetery lots.

ART. 42. To see what action the town will take in regard to the purchase of land for a new cemetery plot and make arrangements for payment of same.

ART. 43. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and pay on town debts.

ART. 44. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for Mothers' Aid.

ART. 45. To see what part of the winter roads the town will vote to have plowed and raise money for the same.

ART. 46. To see if the town will authorize and instruct the Selectmen to buy stumpage to provide fuel and labor for the town poor, if necessary.

ART. 47. To see if the town will vote to withhold sums of money due from the town until such time as

any indebtedness shall have been paid.

ART. 48. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the maintenance of improved section of third class road, or to be used in connection with third class apportionment made by the state for the improvement of third class roads.

ART. 49. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to work those receiving town aid, the same work to be credited to their indebtedness to the town.

ART. 50. To see what sum of money the town will raise to be used for Athletic purposes in Monson Academy, the same to be expended through the Academy Athletic Association under the direction of the Principal.

ART. 51. To see if the town will vote to purchase surety bonds for necessary Town officers, rather than to accept local bondsmen.

ART. 52. To see what action the town will take regarding a night watchman through the summer months and to raise money for the same.

ART. 53. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and appropriate for advertising our natural resources, advantages and attractions, under the provisions of Chapter 5, section 82 of the Revised Statutes of 1930, said sum to be expended under the direction of the State of Maine Publicity Bureau.

ART. 54. To see if the town will vote to accept the sum of two hundred (\$200.00) dollars, the same to be held in trust, the income to be used for perpetual care of the cemetery lot of Arthur Pennington, the money to be paid to the Town Treasurer by May 1, 1939. To see if the town will vote to accept the sum of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars, the same to be held in trust, the income to be used for perpetual care of the cemetery lot of Charles Smith, the money to be paid to the Town Treasurer by May 1, 1939.

ART. 55. To see if the town will vote to install another street light on the North Guilford road, near the Cemetery and raise money for the same.

ART. 56. To see if the town will vote to discontinue the so-called Mathews Quarry Road from the Monson-

Blanchard Road to the Blanchard-Moosehorn Road.

ART. 57. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hands at Monson, Maine this 1st day of March A. D. 1939.

PAUL A. JACKSON

A. L. BRAY

BERNARD F. SANBORN

Selectmen of Monson, Maine.

A true copy attest

C. C. BROWN, Constable of Town of Monson, Maine.

