

1922

Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Peru for the Year Ending February 13, 1922

Peru (Me.)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs>

Repository Citation

Peru (Me.), "Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Peru for the Year Ending February 13, 1922" (1922). *Maine Town Documents*. 5402.

<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs/5402>

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Town Documents by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF PERU

FOR THE

Year Ending February 13

1922

THE MAINE FARMER COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

Town Officers, 1921

Moderator

E. G. CHILD

Town Clerk

HOWARD TURNER

Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor

E. G. CHILD

E. B. KNOX

JOHN BURGESS

Treasurer

HENRY R. ROBINSON

Collector of Taxes

GEORGE H. CONANT

Constables

E. S. NEWTON

C. H. ROBINSON

W. T. HILL

Superintending School Committee

CLEMENTINE WALKER

D. C. CHENERY

MABELLE ROBINSON

Superintendent of Schools

H. W. COBURN

Truant Officer

E. S. NEWTON

Board of Health

E. S. NEWTON O. T. WOODBURY W. B. KIDDER

Sealer of Weights and Measures

H. LOWELL SHAW

Road Commissioners

E. W. STURTEVANT A. G. WALKER

Sextons

WALTER CUNNINGHAM A. W. KNIGHT

O. O. Tracy

Fire Warden

E. S. NEWTON

Surveyors of Wood and Lumber

D. C. CHENERY W. B. KIDDER

C. S. LUCE G. L. ROWE

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The Selectmen of the Town of Peru submit the following report for the year ending Feb. 12, 1922.

VALUATION

Real estate, resident	\$203,422 00	
Real estate, non-resident	84,309 00	
Total real estate		287,731 00
Personal estate, resident	93,244 00	
Personal estate, non-resident	12,375 00	
Total personal estate		105,619 00
Total valuation		<hr/> \$393,350 00

LIVE STOCK

	No.	Av. Val.	Total Val.
Horses	208	\$105 01	\$21,860 00
Colts, 3 to 4	4	67 50	270 00
Colts, 2 to 3	3	60 00	180 00
Colts under 2	8	51 87	415 00
Cows	441	37 58	16,573 00
Oxen	10	79 00	790 00
Three-year-old	115	32 32	3,717 00
Two-year-old	110	23 48	2,583 00
Sheep (over 35 in number)	5	6 00	30 00
Total amount of taxable live stock			<hr/> \$46,418 00

EXEMPT LIVE STOCK

	No.	Av. Val.	Total Val.
One-year-old	109	\$13 33	\$1,453 00
Sheep (to 35 in number)	185	6 47	1,197 00
Swine (to 10 in number)	102	13 12	1,338 00
Total amount of exempt live stock			<hr/> \$3,988 00

ALL OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY

Electric light property	\$1,200 00	
Bridge stock	1,450 00	
Stock in trade	15,000 00	
Logs and lumber	10,151 00	
Wood and bark	1,070 00	
Carriages—8	155 00	
Automobiles—87	24,200 00	
Musical instruments—50	4,395 00	
Material in stock	175 00	
Other property	1,405 00	
		<hr/>
Total amount		59,201 00
Taxable live stock brought forward		46,418 00
		<hr/>
Total amount taxable personal property		\$105,619 00

APPROPRIATED AND ASSESSED

State tax	\$2,208 55
County tax	701 98
For support of common schools	3,200 00
Support of poor	1,300 00
Summer roads and bridges	3,000 00
Winter roads	1,500 00
Miscellaneous town charges	300 00
Town Officers' bills	800 00
Memorial purposes	10 00
Interest on school fund	34 38
High school tuition	500 00
Text books and supplies	225 00
Repairs on schoolhouses	100 00
Maintenance of State road	15 60
Maintenance of State Aid road	64 20
State Aid road construction	533 00
Fencing unprotected cemeteries or removing bodies	50 00
Purchase of filing cabinet	250 00

Construction of Bridge at outlet of Worthley Pond	600 00
Dixfield and Peru ferry	250 00
Preparing Patrol road	50 00
Care of cemeteries	30 00
Salary of Supt. of Schools	278 00
Special repairs at Centre School	50 00

Total appropriation	\$16,050 71
Overlay	397 29
Supplementary	22 52
Total amount committed to Collector	\$16,470 52

Number of polls taxed, 238
 Number of polls not taxed, 19
 Poll tax, \$3.00
 Rate of taxation .04

POOR ACCOUNT

Appropriation	\$1,300 00
Overdrawn in 1920	140 82

Available	\$1,159 18
-----------	------------

Paid for support of Herbert Bowker:

J. G. Tyler, rent and supplies	\$101 80
Maud Tyler, board, washing and eggs	12 43
C. A. Lane, supplies	9 80
J. M. Sturtevant, M. D.	8 00
H. W. Stanwood, M. D.	12 00
H. B. Marsh, undertaker's services and supplies	77 50
E. G. Child, for digging grave	4 00

Paid for support of Horace Clark:

Mrs. Fred Cunningham, board and care	310 56
---	--------

Fred Cunningham, care	10 25
Roscoe V. Robinson, care	15 00
J. M. Sturtevant, M. D.	30 00

Paid for support of Chas. Andrews:

Mrs. Sylvester Searles, board and care	507 00
J. S. Sturtevant, M. D.	14 00
H. B. Marsh, undertaker's services and supplies	75 00
D. C. Chenery and B. C. Putnam, for digging grave	6 00

Paid for support of Andrew J. Hall:

Mrs. Elmer Knox, for board and care	\$346 00
--	----------

Paid for support of F. J. Wing and family:

Town of Leeds for supplies	40 20
----------------------------	-------

Expenditures	<hr/>	\$1,579 54
--------------	-------	------------

Overdrawn		\$420 36
-----------	--	----------

Poor belonging to other Towns:

Paid for support of Raleigh Corson:

C. L. Knox, board	\$27 50
C. A. Lane, supplies	4 75

Expenditures		\$32 25
Rec'd from Town of Bethel		32 25

Paid for support of Emma Morris:

Glenna O'Connor, for board	\$25 00
----------------------------	---------

Expenditures		\$25 00
Due from City of Lewiston		25 00

Poor belonging to State:

Paid for board, care, clothing and professional services rendered Frank F. Bartlett	\$459 86	
Expenditures		\$459 86
Rec'd from State		427 76
Due from State		\$32 10

CEMETERY ACCOUNT

Appropriation	\$30 00	
Unexpended balance from 1920	7 86	
Available		\$37 86
Paid A. W. Knight, for care of Knox cemetery	3 00	
Walter Cunningham, for care of East Peru and Worthley Pond yards	12 00	
E. G. Child, care of Franklin Annex	3 00	
O. O. Tracy, care of Dickvale, Cote, Small and Burgess Hill yards	12 00	
Expenditures		\$30 00
Unexpended balance		\$7 86

Hollis Turner Cemetery Account

Interest available in 1921	\$29 58	
Unexpended in 1920	23 24	
Available		\$52 82

Paid A. W. Knight, for care of Waite Cemetery	3 00	
H. R. Robinson & Son, for care of old Knight Cemetery	4 80	
	<hr/>	
Expenditures		\$7 80
		<hr/>
Unexpended balance		\$45 02

Cushman Cemetery Lot Account

Interest available in 1921	\$1 67	
	<hr/>	
Available		\$1 67
		<hr/>
Paid E. G. Child for labor on lot	1 67	
	<hr/>	
Expenditures		\$1 67

Fencing Unprotected Cemeteries or Removing Bodies

Appropriation	\$50 00	
Unexpended in 1920	35 85	
	<hr/>	
Available		\$85 85
		<hr/>
Unexpended		\$85 85

Memorial Purposes

Appropriation	\$10 00	
Unexpended in 1920	34	
	<hr/>	
Available		\$10 34
Paid E. B. Knox for flags	11 00	
	<hr/>	
Expenditures		11 00
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		\$ 0 66

PURCHASE OF FILING CABINET

Appropriation		\$250 00
Paid Loring, Short and Harmon, for Filing Cabinet	\$243 72	
E. B. Knox, for freight on same	6 28	
	<hr/>	
Expenditures		\$250 00

DIXFIELD AND PERU FERRY ACCOUNT

Appropriation	\$250 00	
Overdrawn in 1920	94 76	
	<hr/>	
Available		\$155 24
Paid Abel Farrington, for running ferry	\$352 50	
Kidder Bros. for material	10 38	
Clough & Pillsbury, for oars and row-locks	5 38	
E. B. Knox, for labor	12 00	
H. R. Robinson, for labor	6 24	
A. W. Knight, for labor	5 00	
Elmer Brown, for labor for 1920-21	11 50	
Rec'd from Town of Dixfield		\$201 50
		<hr/>
Total receipts		\$356 74
	<hr/>	
Total expenditures		403 00
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		\$46 26

SUMMER ROADS AND BRIDGES AND BUSH
ACCOUNT

Appropriation	\$3,000 00	
Unexpended balance, 1920	78 46	
Amount available		\$3,078 46
Patrol allowance		467 40
Available for unpatroled roads		\$2,611 06
Western section allotment		1,824 55
Paid E. W. Sturtevant, road com- missioner	422 62	
M. M. Farrar	272 20	
Kidder Bros., for plank	120 39	
Gerald Knox	134 18	
Fred Lovejoy	94 34	
Geo. Ford	29 17	
U. G. McIntire	57 95	
Geo. Rowe	1 17	
Chas. Porter	1 67	
Isaac Searles	3 50	
B. C. Putnam	1 56	
Wilbur Chenery	2 50	
C. B. Knox, cutting bushes	8 00	
Arthur Eastman	17 50	
Fred Eastman	22 62	
D. C. Chenery	174 59	
Vernon Farrar	259 78	
W. H. Howard	9 55	
Sylvester Searles	17 45	
Nelson Lufkin, cedar posts	30 00	
Nelson Lufkin, cutting bushes	15 00	
Walter Knox	4 50	
Linus Libby	1 85	
Theodore Mansley, cutting bushes	20 00	
Thomas Saunders	35 67	
E. G. Child, plank and labor	2 10	

C. J. Tracy, bridge stringers	4 00
R. J. Tyler, plank	112 94
Stanley Hammond	2 73
E. S. Newton, sharpening drills	4 95
A. M. Curtis, 1920	1 80

Expenditures	\$1,886 32
--------------	------------

Overdrawn	\$61 77
-----------	---------

Eastern section allotment	\$786 51
---------------------------	----------

Paid A. G. Walker, road commissioner	\$353 73
W. C. Morse	7 00
Daniel O'Connor	88 26
Lovell Oldham	43 61
Henry Hussey	12 75
M. H. Oldham, plank	35 00
Emerson Oldham	18 50
P. K. Child	5 25
William Johnson	5 25
A. S. Hazelton	9 33
A. L. Harlow	12 50
E. E. Howard, plank	9 20
Dana Russell	26 00
J. C. Oldham	36 13
W. S. Haines	10 50
E. E. Cox	13 23
Maurice Oldham	49 50
Fred Russell, cutting bushes	12 00
Carroll Oldham	22 50
Daniel Phelps	6 00
James Irish, 1920 account	10 50

Expenditures	\$786 74
--------------	----------

Overdrawn	\$ 0 23
-----------	---------

Total expenditures by the two Road Commissioners	\$2,673 06
	<hr/>
Overdrawn	\$62 00

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE AT OUTLET OF
WORTHLEY POND

Appropriation		\$600 00
Paid W. J. Bryant, for fitting lumber	\$4 00	
Linwood Knox, for labor	337 83	
Thomas Cunningham, for lumber	45 00	
Jacob Bronstein, for iron	39 00	
E. E. Howard, lumber and labor	28 54	
Chas. Towle, for cement	7 50	
Kidder Bros., lumber and labor	24 13	
A. G. Walker, for labor	55 20	
E. G. Bassett, for labor	5 50	
Maurice Oldham, labor	6 00	
Daniel Phelps, labor	7 00	
A. L. Harlow, labor	5 33	
Jas. H. Kerr, cement	150 00	
W. T. Hill, for oil and care of lanterns	2 00	
	<hr/>	
Rec'd of Kidder Bros. for bags		7 80
Due from E. L. Knox, for lumber		26 00
		<hr/>
Total receipts		633 80
Expenditures		717 03
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		83 23

STATE AID ROAD ACCOUNT, 1921

Appropriated by town	\$533 00	
Appropriated by State	708 89	
Balance, 1920	145 00	
	<hr/>	
Joint fund		\$1,386 89
Expended by State	\$9 80	
Expended by town	1,320 46	
	<hr/>	
Cost of road		\$1,330 26
		<hr/>
Unexpended balance		\$56 63

THIRD CLASS ROAD ACCOUNT

Appropriated by State	\$785 57	
	<hr/>	
Amount available		\$785 57
Expended by State	\$10 60	
Expended by town	777 77	
	<hr/>	
Cost of road		\$788 37
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		\$2 80

TO PREPARE PATROL ROAD FOR PATROLMAN

Appropriated by Town and State	\$100 00
Expenditures	\$100 00
	<hr/>

PATROL MAINTENANCE

STATE ROAD

Appropriation	\$15 60
Paid State for .56 mile	\$33 60
	<hr/>
Cost of maintenance	33 60
	<hr/>
Overdrawn	\$18 00

STATE AID ROAD NO. 1

Appropriation		\$48 60
Paid State for 1.65 miles	\$49 50	
	<hr/>	
Cost of maintenance		49 50
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		\$ 0 80

UNIMPROVED ROAD

Appropriation		\$467 40
Paid State for 7.79 miles	\$467 40	
	<hr/>	
Cost of maintenance		467 40
		<hr/>

STATE AID ROAD NO. 2

Not Patroled

Appropriation	\$15 60	
Appropriated by State	15 60	
	<hr/>	
Available		\$31 20
Expended		\$31 50
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		\$ 0 30

SNOW BILLS

SPRING OF 1920

Appropriation	\$1,500 00	
Overdrawn in 1920	730 40	
	<hr/>	
Available		\$770 60
Paid E. W. Sturtevant	\$6 12	
Alfonse Chabot	13 65	
Ira Gammon	6 30	
E. E. Howard	9 00	
E. E. DeMerritt	7 00	

E. P. Burgess	6	47
Walter Knox	2	45
L. O. Babb	9	00
E. E. Cox	2	45
B. J. Roberts	4	20
N. B. Lufkin	6	50
P. C. Charland	3	90
E. G. Child	2	10
Thos. Cunningham	2	80
A. S. Hazelton	1	22
C. J. Tracy	1	75
Theodore Mansley	1	75
Richard Gill	11	20

WINTER OF 1921-22

A. G. Walker	32	28
Dennis O'Connor	29	15
H. E. Knox	10	35
Carl A. Hoar	25	46
Chas. Frost & Son	9	13
W. F. Downs		90
C. L. Knox	6	60
E. W. Sturtevant	5	03
S. R. Gill	1	50
J. G. Tyler	11	70
R. J. Tyler	30	75
Thos. Richards	35	33
John Burgess	7	49
Isadore Dragoon, Jr.		60
G. H. Conant	9	57
A. L. Harlow	2	00
Fred A. Russell	4	22
Henry O'Hussey	2	00
B. D. Packard	3	80
A. M. Johnson		90
J. C. Oldham		90
W. J. Bryant	12	27

A. S. Holman	8 72
E. B. Knox	5 34
H. R. Robinson & Son	6 54
L. E. Irish	1 80
Leon Estes	6 15
E. G. Child	1 33
J. C. Morrill, 1920-21-22	26 28
A. W. Knight	8 08

Total expenditures		\$404 03
Unexpended balance		\$366 57

DELINQUENT TAXPAYERS

Chas. Hotham	\$8 00
Silas Hotham	15 00
Walter Knox	5 00
Duncan Law	6 00
Peter Potvin	3 00
Perley Potvin	31 00
Archie Phelps	16 00
Mrs. Frank Lamb	15 00
Eastman Bros.	26 20
W. H. Cox	3 00
E. C. Irish	266 20

\$394 40

ABATEMENTS

On 1921 tax:

Fred Dube, unable to locate	\$3 00
Alfred Elliott	3 00
Ceylon Putnam, paid in Rumford	20 00

\$26 00

MISCELLANEOUS TOWN CHARGES

Appropriation	\$300 00	
Unexpended in 1920	276 24	
Available		\$576 24
Paid F. W. Sanborn for printing 1920 report	\$75 95	
A. E. Stearns, counsel on bridge hearing	35 00	
Holt Bros., Supt. supplies	16 79	
O. R. Burgess, return envelopes	1 45	
A. B. McIntire, use of water tub 1920	3 00	
Loring, Short & Harmon, town books	10 00	
C. M. Conant Co., rd. mch. repairs	24 60	
Dr. J. S. Sturtevant for recording births and deaths, 1920-21	5 25	
E. G. Child, express on rd. mch. repairs	1 08	
E. W. Sturtevant, repairs on rd. mch.	4 05	
W. J. Bryant, labor and material for fencing highway on River Rd.	27 17	
Maurice Oldham, for conveying mem- bers of School Board to Weld	5 00	
Merle B. Knox, trip to Livermore Falls	3 60	
Kidder Bros., use of truck	5 00	
Fred Lane, making danger signals and guide-boards	10 00	
W. J. Bryant, rd. mch. poll	1 50	
Geo. H. Libby, gravel for third class road	10 00	
E. S. Newton, for chemicals	6 50	
Shaw Walker Co., Supt. supplies	1 22	
E. D. Cram, damage to automobile on Worthley Pond road	48 00	
Loring, Short & Harmon, order book	3 75	
E. G. Child, Peru's proportional part for moving watch-tower to top of Mt. Zircon	3 00	
Fairbanks Co., Sealer's supplies	4 55	

Maine Central R. R. Co., gravel	3 00
E. G. Child, Bridge light bill	1 88
B. D. Packard, use of water tub, 1920-21	5 00
H. W. Coburn, Supt. supplies	13 86
E. S. Newton, chemicals and labor	9 50
Howard Turner, making deed, express on ballots and incidentals	4 36
H. R. Robinson, incidentals	2 60
H. R. Robinson, use of water tub	5 00
J. C. Wyman, use of water tub	5 00
C. M. White, use of water tub	5 00
G. H. Conant, use of water tub	3 00
James Irish, use of water tub	3 00
E. G. Child, incidentals	3 25

Total expenditures	<u>\$370 91</u>
--------------------	-----------------

Unexpended balance	<u>\$205 33</u>
--------------------	-----------------

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS

Appropriation	\$800 00
Overdrawn in 1920	154 92

Available		\$645 08
Paid E. G. Child, selectman	\$169 00	
E. B. Knox, selectman	150 00	
John Burgess, selectman	98 00	
H. R. Robinson, treasurer	70 00	
Howard Turner, clerk	50 00	
Geo. H. Conant, tax collector	192 60	
Clementine Walker, member of Sc. Board	31 50	
Mabelle Robinson, member of Sc. Board	18 75	
D. C. Chenery, member of Sc. board	10 50	
E. G. Child, services as moderator	3 50	

E. S. Newton, member of Board of Health, 1920 & 1921	17 50	
Geo. W. Oldham, ballot clerk	4 00	
A. S. Holman, ballot clerk	4 00	
	<hr/>	
Expenditures		\$819 35
Overdrawn		<hr/> \$174 27

FINANCIAL STANDING OF TOWN

Feb. 13, 1922

Resources

Cash in hands of treasurer	\$1,844 61	
Tax deeds on hand	327 67	
Due on tax bills of 1919	210 17	
Due on tax bills of 1920	273 59	
Due on tax bills of 1921	394 40	
Due from State, Frank Bartlett Acct.	32 10	
Due from Lewiston, Emma Morris Acct.	25 00	
Due from East Livermore, overpaid Pauper Acct. of 1920	20 50	
Land in Thompson's Grant, Lot 9, Range 10, 100 acres	300 00	
	<hr/>	
Total resources		\$3,428 04

Liabilities

Loan from Rumford Falls Trust Co.	\$1,100 00	
Loan from John Burgess	2,000 00	
Outstanding orders	1,195 69	
Total liabilities	<hr/>	\$4,295 69
		<hr/>
Liabilities over resources		\$867 65

Respectfully submitted,

E. G. CHILD,
E. B. KNOX,
JOHN BURGESS,
Selectmen of Peru.

TREASURER'S REPORT

H. R. ROBINSON, *Treasurer*

DR.

To cash on hand Feb. 12, 1921	\$1,520 81
Tax deeds on hand	362 36
Due on tax bills of 1917	8 00
Due on tax bills of 1919	210 17
Due on tax bills of 1920	298 19
Commitment of 1921	16,448 00
Supplementary of 1921	22 52
State High School fund, 1920	500 00
Support of State pauper	643 51
City of Lewiston pauper	116 00
Loan from Rumford Falls Trust Co.	650 00
Town clerk, dog licenses	175 00
Loan from Rumford Falls Trust Co.	1,400 00
Ginn & Co., error on school acct.	10 00
Loan from Rumford Falls Trust Co.	400 00
Loan from Rumford Falls Trust Co.	1,800 00
Loan from John Burgess for purchase of Dixfield Bridge	2,000 00
Town of Bethel, pauper	32 25
Lot in East Peru cemetery	10 00
State, third class road	774 97
State school and mill fund	604 39
State common school fund	768 82
State equalization fund	282 00
State Tel. & Tel. tax	09
State road maintenance	15 60
State High School fund, 1921	500 00
State, State aid road construction	781 96
Kidder Bros., stove	5 00
Town of Dixfield, ferry acct.	201 50
Kidder Bros., cement bags	7 80

 \$30,548 94

CR.

By paid Interest on notes	\$207	74
Revenue Stamps		85
Town of Dixfield, Peru's part of		
Bridge	2,000	00
State dog licenses	175	00
County tax, 1921	701	98
State tax, 1921	2,208	55
Principal on note	1,800	00
For patrol road	600	50
Principal on note	400	00
Principal on notes	2,050	00
Tax deeds on hand	362	36
Town orders turned over	17,306	89
Due on tax bills of 1919	210	17
Due on tax bills of 1920	285	89
Due on tax bills of 1921	394	40
Cash on hand to balance	1,844	61

\$30,548 94

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

To the citizens of the Town of Peru:

I have the honor to present for your consideration the annual report of the condition of your schools.

When the schools opened for the Spring term after the long Winter vacation, two of them were under the direction of new teachers, Miss Philbrick's place at Dickvale being filled by Mrs. Ina Garland and Miss Additon's position in the Grammar school by Miss Harriet Eaton. Both Mrs. Garland and Miss Eaton were teachers of several years' experience and had had the benefit of Normal training. As was to be expected, conditions improved rapidly in their schools and very successful terms resulted. Miss Eaton, who had taken the State course for trained rural teachers, was appointed as helping teacher for the Spring term. Her school was in session on Saturdays, thereby giving other teachers an opportunity for observation work, while Mondays were occupied in visiting other schools and giving the other teachers help and advice in their various problems of instruction and government.

So much benefit was derived from this system of teacher help, particularly with the younger and inexperienced teachers, that it was decided to continue the plan. Accordingly, Mrs. Garland was given the appointment, and, after the summer work at Castine, assumed her duties at the beginning of the Fall term as teacher of the Grammar school.

I consider the work of a helping teacher to be very valuable and hope the system can be continued indefinitely.

There were so few pupils in the Worthley Pond district that the Committee decided not to open that school last Fall, and arrangements were made to convey them to the school at East Peru. This arrangement has proved to be very satisfactory and undoubtedly the same plan will be continued next year. This consolidation of schools is not only

less expensive to the Town, but the larger school resulting from this plan is much more interesting and profitable to both teacher and pupil.

We are now maintaining six schools and the Town is to be congratulated on the fact that every teacher has had previous experience, and that five of the six teachers are Normal School graduates. It is due to these facts that the schools as a whole have enjoyed a degree of efficiency never before attained. We have made a start in the right direction by employing these trained teachers and it is to be hoped that this program can be continued.

Too much stress cannot be placed on the value of the trained teacher, particularly in the case of children in the first years of their school life. It is in these years that a foundation for advanced work is laid and the degree of success achieved in the upper grades is directly proportional to the quality of this foundation.

Attendance

The school census taken last April showed 240 persons between the ages of 5 and 21, a gain of 8 over last year. Of this number, 113 are attending the Town schools with 38 elsewhere.

The percentage of attendance for the year has been better than last year, I am glad to report, it being 90.5% as against 83.4% as given in the last report. This record is very good and let us try for a still better one another year.

The East Peru school wins the honor for the best attendance, it being 94.7%, with the Grammar school a close second with a percentage of 93.9.

Beginning with the present school year attendance means a money value to the Town. Under the new law for the distribution of the State school fund, one-fifth of this fund or approximately \$370,000.00 is apportioned on the basis of attendance. By this method of figuring each day's attendance for a child is worth nearly two cents to the Town.

This should prove an incentive for every parent to see

that their children attend school regularly unless prevented by illness.

High School Tuition

The number of boys and girls attending High School has increased from 20 a year ago to 36 at the present time. We have 19 at Dixfield, 12 at Canton, 2 at Rumford, 2 at Gould's Academy and 1 at Mexico. Six of these are in the Senior class and will finish their course next Spring, leaving 30 for next year. Also we have 17 eighth grade pupils who will probably enter High School next Fall, provided they complete their elementary work satisfactorily this Spring.

This would make 47 tuition pupils and is, I think, the greatest number of High School students Peru has ever had.

These students are a great credit to the Town, as it shows that both parents and pupils fully realize the value and importance of a High School education as a preparation for future life.

Buildings and Equipment

As a whole the buildings are in fair condition. Only ordinary repairs will be necessary at the Center and Union. The West Peru building needs some new windows, the sash being so badly worn that it will hardly hold glass, and in the Winter a great deal of cold gets in around them. I would recommend four or five new windows for this school building.

More work is necessary at East Peru and probably a new stove will have to be purchased next Winter. This school-room should have a new floor and double windows for the back side. Probably this cannot all be done the coming year, but it is well for the people to bear these things in mind.

During the summer chemical toilets were installed at the Center with the aid of the special State fund received for this purpose last year, making this a standard school room

as respects heating, ventilation, and sanitary conditions. These toilets are a great improvement over anything else unless there is a water system and I would like to see them installed in every school.

Under a law passed at the last Legislature, all school buildings must be equipped with sanitary toilets before the Fall of 1924. This leaves us four school buildings to be thus equipped in the next three Summers, and as the Dickvale school is most in need of this work being done, it is the Committee's recommendation that suitable sanitary arrangements be made there this year. There is a possibility of receiving some State aid in this project but we are not sure of it as yet.

The teachers this year have taken a great interest in keeping their rooms neat and orderly, and with the help of the children have done considerable necessary work. They have oiled the floors at West Peru, also resurfaced the blackboards at this school, at East Peru and the Center. This spirit is to be highly commended, and the other schools are planning on some of this work next Spring.

The Beacon system of reading has been introduced in every school this year and it is working out to great advantage. By this method the little folks pick up reading very quickly.

We need very much a change in English books. At present we are using two texts with not enough of either to supply everyone and they should be replaced with a new, up-to-date book. We also need quite a lot of reading matter for the lower grades, both basal and supplementary.

The recommendations for next year include half the price of a ten volume Encyclopedia, The World Book, for the Dickvale school. The Improvement League of this school has voted to pay for half of this set and it could not expend its money for a more worthy object. I hope to see one of these valuable sets of books in every school soon.

Finances

The total expenditures of the school department have been \$7,403.67 and the receipts \$7,161.62, leaving an over-

draft of \$242.05. The overdrafts are all small except in the Tuition account. This was caused by the advance in tuition charges last Fall, every school except Canton going up on their price, so that now the Town has to pay at the rate of \$60.00 per year. This advance was unforeseen a year ago and so estimates were not made with this in view. In the estimates this year, however, this has been taken into consideration and I think the amount asked for will cover the necessary expense.

The overdraft in the common school account is really larger than it appears, for an equalization fund of \$232.00 which was to be used for the purpose of lengthening the school year, has already been used. The estimates include this amount in addition to the regular recommendation, so that we can have a 14 week Spring term, which will make a 32 week school year, thus meeting the State requirements as to the disposition of the equalization fund.

Your Committee and I wish to see the Town gradually get back to the 36 week school year as we realize that it is not fair to ask a child in a 30 week town to compete with the child in a town maintaining 36 weeks, as is the case with the neighboring towns. It really means that the 30 week pupil must attend school in the grades two years longer than the 36 week pupil in order to obtain equal preparation for High school.

Considering the fact that our school tax rate is under the average of the State; that our cost per pupil is less than any other town of the District; and that the Town is under no heavy indebtedness, it seems as though we should endeavor to maintain 32 weeks of school the coming year in addition to the two weeks provided for by the Equalization fund, and the recommendations are based on this plan. We shall receive more money from the State fund than heretofore so that we are asking for only \$200.00 more than we raised last year.

A small amount of money is recommended for the purchase of school flags this year. New flags will have to be provided at the Union, Dickvale and Center, and according

to the laws of the State a separate appropriation is necessary for this purpose.

Conditions throughout the country are much more stable than was the case last year, and I see no reason why the estimates set forth below will not be sufficient to carry out the plans of the Committee for the ensuing year, and I hope they will be acted on favorably by the voters at the Annual Meeting. This year's overdrafts are included in the estimates.

Common schools	\$3,400 00
High School tuition	1,950 00
Interest on school fund	34 38
Books and Supplies	250 00
Repairs	150 00
Special repairs	350 00
Superintendence	240 25
School flags	10 00

In closing, I wish to express my appreciation to the members of the Committee for the active interest they have shown and the aid they have given in the management of school affairs during the past year. I also wish to thank the teachers for their co-operation in administration of the schools and for their willingness to adopt and carry out any suggestions for improvement that I might offer.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. COBURN, *Superintendent.*

Peru, Me., Feb. 10, 1922.

To the Citizens of the Town of Peru:

This report has been read by your Superintending School Committee and meets with our approval.

CLEMENTINE L. WALKER, *Chairman,*
 DAVID C. CHENERY,
 MABELLE S. ROBINSON.

TABULAR SCHOOL STATEMENT

	No. Weeks	No. Regis- tered	Average Attend- ance	Teacher	Salary per week
Spring, 1921					
Grammar	12	23	21.54	Harriet Eaton	\$20 32
Primary	12	23	19.56	Nancy B. Millet	19 00
East	12	12	11.14	Wilma Russell	12 00
Center	12	19	17.53	Ida Holman	20 00
Dickvale	12	20	17.21	Ina Garland	17 32
Union	12	13	11.81	Mildred Foster	12 00
Pond	12	9	6.28	Janice Wilkins	19 00
		<hr/>	<hr/>		
		119	105.47	Attendance, 88.6%	
Fall, 1921					
Grammar	13	18	16.36	Ina Garland	\$20 00
Primary	13	26	23.49	Ariel DeMerritt	20 00
East	14	15	14.47	Edna A. Bailey	20 00
Center	13	18	16.68	Marion Glines	20 50
Dickvale	10	19	16.75	Etta Richards	18 00
Union	12	12	11.40	Sibyl Park	15 00
		<hr/>	<hr/>		
		108	99.15	Attendance, 91.8%	
Winter, 1922					
Grammar	5	21	20.36	Ina Garland	\$20 00
Primary	5	23	29.66	Ariel DeMerritt	20 00
East	4	15	14.20	Edna A. Bailey	20 00
Center	5	18	16.14	Marion Glines	20 50
Dickvale	8	21	18.28	Etta Richards	18 00
Union	6	15	13.70	Sibyl Park	15 00
		<hr/>	<hr/>		
		113	103.34	Attendance, 91.4%	

Teachers' Directory, Fall and Winter Terms

	Address	Training	School
Ina Garland	Rumford	Gorham Normal.	Grammar
Ariel DeMerritt	West Peru	Castine Normal.	Primary
Edna A. Bailey,	Gardiner, R. D.	Farmington Normal.	East
Marion Glines,	No. Rumford	Farmington Normal.	Center
Etta Richards	Mexico	Farmington Nor.	Dickvale
Sibyl Park	Canton	Canton High.	Union

Common Schools

Receipts

Balance, 1920-21	\$ 230 03	
Appropriation	3,200 00	
Interest on school fund	34 38	
State, school and mill fund	604 39	
State, common school fund	768 82	
State, equalization fund	232 00	
	<hr/>	\$5,069 62

Expenditures

Distribution 1921 equalization fund to teachers	\$ 602 00	
Teachers' salaries	3,478 68	
Fuel	380 75	
Janitor service	142 50	
Transportation	530 00	
		\$5,133 93
		<hr/>

Overdraft

\$64 31

High School Tuition

Receipts

Balance, 1920-21	\$ 162 55	
Appropriation	500 00	
State	500 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,162 55

Expenditures			
Town of Dixfield	\$ 785 00		
Canton	340 00		
Rumford	100 00		
Gould's Academy	65 00		
	<hr/>		
		\$1,290 00	
Overdraft			\$127 45

Books and Supplies

Receipts			
Appropriation	\$ 225 00		
Overpaid order No. 26	10 00		
	<hr/>		
		\$ 235 00	
Expenditures			
Overdraft, 1920-21	\$ 58 15		
Books and supplies	210 13		
		\$ 268 28	
		<hr/>	
Overdraft			\$33 28

Repairs

Receipts			
Balance, 1920-21	\$ 39 66		
Appropriation	100 00		
	<hr/>		
		\$139 66	
Expenditures			
Repairs at West Peru	\$ 28 05		
Center	31 01		
East Peru	56 11		
Dickvale	11 35		
Union	1 20		
Pond	4 25		
	<hr/>		
		\$131 97	
		<hr/>	
Balance			\$7 69

Special Repairs, Center

Receipts

Balance, 1920-21	\$171 79
Appropriation	50 00
Sale of stove	5 00

\$226 79

Expenditures

Chemical toilets	\$190 24
Carpenter work	28 35
Door, frames, casings, etc.	14 12
Lumber, nails, etc.	43 53

\$276 24

Overdraft

\$49 45

Superintendence

Receipts

Appropriation	\$278 00
State, equalization fund	50 00

\$328 00

Expenditures

H. W. Coburn, salary	\$240 00
H. W. Coburn, equalization fund	50 00
Overdraft, 1920-21	13 25

\$303 25

Balance

\$24 75

Office Expense

Holt Brothers, vouchers, letter heads, etc.	\$16 79	
Shaw-Walker Co., school forms	1 22	
H. W. Coburn, postage, telephone, etc.	13 86	
	<hr/>	
		\$31 87
No appropriation		
Total expenditures, excluding office ex- pense	\$7,403 67	
Total receipts	7,161 62	
	<hr/>	
Leaving an overdraft of		\$242 05

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Record of Marriages, Births and Deaths returned to this office for the year ending February 1, 1922.

Marriages

1921

February 2, Donald A. Briggette of Rangeley and Bessie Bishop of Peru.

February 26, Albert A. Burgess of Peru and Lena M. Hildreth of Lewiston.

May 5, Elmer L. Child and Iva M. Andrews, both of Peru.

May 7, Chancey Alfred Buckman of Sumner and Florence Edith Staples of Peru.

May 28, William B. Gillespie and Nellie L. Tracy, both of Peru.

June 13, Glenroy Gill and Ina S. Porter, both of Peru.

August 1, Ralph McIntire of Peru and Leora E. McDowell of Rumford.

October 1, Robert C. Easter and Lelia M. Farrar, both of Peru.

October 4, Hale I. Byron and Winnie B. Gillespie, both of Peru.

November 8, John Leighton Knight of Peru and Goldie Irene Burgess of Auburn.

1922

January 1, Ceylon E. Putnam and Evelyn C. Miller, both of Peru.

Births

1920

September 26, to Maud and Wallace W. Lufkin, a son, Roland Ira.

October 7, to Wilma M. and Ray Arthur Tebbetts, a daughter, Clarine Yvone.

1921

February 9, to Mildred A. and Howard E. Rafuse, a daughter, Althea.

May 10, to Margaret and Chesley Roy McLeod, a son, Leslie Roy.

May 20, to Florence M. and Willis L. McGuire, a daughter, Jennie Alberta.

May 20, to Gertrude M. and John J. O'Connor, Jr., a daughter, Marguerite Gertrude.

June 13, to Florence and H. Lowell Shaw, a daughter, Ethel Marie.

17 ~~July 19~~, to ~~Sadie and Merton O. Walker~~, a daughter, ~~Barbara~~ Pauline Beverly. *Theresa and William C. Howard*

June 24, to Mable and Omar Garneau, a daughter.

June 26, to Ethel and Elwood C. Kidder, a son, Henry Albert.

July 18, to Emily A. and Carroll L. Robinson, a daughter.

July 17, to Sadie and Merton O. Walker, a daughter, Barbara Eva.

July 22, to Hattie A. and Gerald A. Knox, a son, Kenneth Elwin.

August 21, to Sadie L. and Leslie H. Irish, a son.

November 14, to Lalia L. and Alton L. Lovejoy, a son, Elwood Ralph.

December 11, to Marie A. and Alphonse Farland, a son.

Deaths

1918

April 5, in France, Cpl. Lyman K. Swasey, aged 19 years, 10 months, 22 days.

1921

March 16, at Strickland's, Tisdell P. Norris, aged 84 years, 4 months, 4 days.

April 6, Herbert E. Bowker, aged 55 years, 8 months, 22 days.

April 12, at Rumford, Wilmer R. Oldham, aged 14 years, 4 months, 5 days.

May 9, Martilla A. Lamb, aged 78 years, 2 months, 1 day.

May 19, at Hartford, Sarah J. Oldham, aged 88 years, 8 months, 19 days.

June 21, Sarah A. Lovejoy, aged 77 years, 7 months, 8 days.

July 14, Albert G. Smith, aged 15 years, 10 months, 2 days.

August 20, at Concord, N. H., Emma Dixon, aged 66 years.

August 21, Porter J. Homer, aged 90 years, 1 month, 29 days.

December 25, Sumner N. Knox, aged 76 years, 4 days.

1922

January 22, at Turner, Alma A. Towle, aged 70 years, 1 month, 3 days.

January 26, Charles Andrews, aged 75 years, 11 months, 26 days.

HOWARD TURNER, *Town Clerk.*