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## EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THETFORD

(Based on historical remarks delivered at East Thetford Cemetery on October 14, 1956, at the dedication of the town's memorial to its early settlers)

If you were born on a farm in Hebron, Connecticut, about 1740 and had an understanding with a girl two farms over the hill, what could you do? The farm your grandfather cleared has already been split among your father and your five uncles, and there just won't be enough land near home to support your brothers' families and your own.

Uncle John came back from the French Wars with stories of good land up river where they camped silently on the dark river banks while scouting beyond the frontier. A Rhode Island cousin thinks he will go to Nova Scotia, where the Acadian farms are being regranted to English colonists after their third capture of Louisburg. But now comes word that Major Robert Rogers, after being given up for lost, is home from destroying St. Francis, and that the rich valley up north isn't likely to be so easily raided by the Abnakis. Since all your family can raise on the farm is a living, you have no money for buying cleared land and no good chance of earning any. You'll have to set out on your own, but where to, and when, and how?

Meantime, up at Portsmouth, old Benning Wentworth, merchant, politician, crafty speculator and Royal Governor of New Hampshire for the last twenty years, knows the situation that you and thousands like you are in and is trying to figure out what there may be in it for himself and for his province. Having been Surveyor of Timber for the Royal Navy, Wentworth well knew the mighty pines and oaks of the unsettled area and knew a profitable market for such great trees as he could get to the coast. Wentworth's title to the land north of Massachusetts and west of the Connecticut River was not very good and today we believe he knew it, but that didn't keep him from granting many towns in what later became Vermont.

In 1761 alone, Wentworth granted sixty towns. He could reward his faithful supporters in Portsmouth and

Exeter by giving them shares as proprietors, curry favor in England by naming new towns for influential figures there, and enrich himself by keeping as his fee a block of 500 acres in a corner of each new grant. Two of these grants, signed August 14, 1761, established the Towns of Thetford and Strafford, and conveyed them to proprietors most of whom lived in or near Hebron. Most of these proprietors were well established at home and had no intention of moving to a forested wilderness where there was no settler within thirty miles. They had wangled the grants because they knew how many sturdy youngsters from their neighborhood were ready to work for a farm of their own. The proprietors expected that a little land sold cheaply to the first settlers would be improved until their remaining lots would fetch much higher prices.

Perhaps the proprietors had forgotten just how independent a Yankee farmer could be. Had they remembered the losses by proprietors and speculators in southern New Hampshire a generation earlier, they might have been less eager. The proprietors were expected to have the land properly surveyed, to lay out and improve public roads, and to arrange the drawing of lots in each new town among themselves and such settlers and speculators as were admitted to share the venture. They tried to do this from Hebron, but after a very few years had to move their meetings and records up here to protect their own interests.

It was probably in 1763-64 that John Chamberlin came up river and made the first pitch in Thetford on what is now the Bernard Tilden place. Chamberlin had no real right to the land he chose — he was simply first on the ground and picked the best he could find. There was a brook where he later built a mill and he was beside the great river which was the only highway through the wilderness. Like the first settlers of most North Country towns, he probably built a log and sod hut, planted some corn and went south to report to the proprietors and fetch his family.

Now you have more to go on than just the hunger for land of your own, and your Uncle John's vague report of good country up river. Leading men in your own town hold shares in wilderness land, a neighbor

whom you know and respect has come back with a good report of it, and many of your own relatives and friends are planning to go, too. It turned out to be hard work, but you expected that. There was a worrisome time when your precious title to the farm was in danger, because of New York's valid claim to the whole area, but that was overcome by getting a new charter from Albany. Thus, in 1771, at the first census of Gloucester County in the Province of New York, which boasted all of 755 souls in what is now the five counties of northeastern Vermont, you were listed among the 29 heads of households whom the hardy census taker found settled in Thetford:

Timothy Bartholomew	Samuel Gillett	William Moore
Richard Baxter	Peter Grant	Samuel Osborne
Abner Chamberlin	Ebenezer Green	Israel Smith
Amos Chamberlin	Elihu Hosford	John Strong
Benjamin Chamberlin	Joseph Hosford	Reuben Strong
David Chamberlin	Abner Howard	Jonathan Sumner
John Chamberlin	Edward Howard Jr.	Thomas Sumner
John Closson	Edward Howard	Noah Sweetland
Benjamin Colburn	Elijah Howard	Samuel Wise
Joseph Downer	Jonathan Howard	

It is hard for us, their successors of 1956, to picture the conditions and struggles of those early years. Families often worked a generation in bitter poverty to build something better for their descendants. There were no villages; each family built a cabin on the land they planned to clear and farm. Trees were enemies, to be felled, burned and leached at great labor to produce potash and pearlash, the only "cash crops" of the first hard years. It was many years before they had time or means to build the handsome frame houses which we miscall "Colonial." Before a family could have such a luxury, sawmills had to be established, blacksmiths had to be producing nails and fittings, there had to be enough settlers and rum in the neighborhood for a house-raising, and enough hard money to buy the precious, fragile glass which early traders poled up the river. The reason their houses look Colonial is that they often copied from memory a childhood home in the old settlements. If Grandfather's house in Hebron was modeled in 1740

on the one **his** grandfather had built on the Connecticut coast in the style of 1710, it would explain our having in Thetford houses of a type three generations older than the date of their raising.

Many of our first settlers were young couples who lived well past 1800. Some were stifled by the rapid settlement of Thetford and moved on north to open more frontiers. Others survived until our villages were established around a church or near good water power. Even among those who died early, many were doubtless buried in small family plots on their own farms. In dedicating a memorial to our early settlers, we remember not only the unidentified few who lie in this earliest of our public cemeteries, but also their fellow settlers who rest elsewhere.

The Pageant of Thetford at our 150th Anniversary in 1911 was a great success. It brought the past alive and helped us to understand where we'd been, and thus where we were and where we might be going. Four years from now comes the 200th anniversary of our charter. We will need a fund to be used as approved by a Town Bicentennial Committee to mark fittingly this major anniversary. We probably can not produce another 1911 pageant but we may be able to join with neighboring towns of the same age in a fitting area observance, or to publish something of lasting value and interest from the rich records of the town's early days which we have been lucky enough to inherit. We owe it to the memory of those whose work made our lives less hard.

For the Thetford Historical Society

RICHARD J. FOWLE

Bring This Report To Town Meeting

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

### Town Officers

OF THE

## TOWN OF THETFORD

VERMONT

For the Year Ending December 31

1956

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Printed by  
THE CORY-HEWITT PRESS, INC.  
Lebanon, N. H.

GRAND LIST for 1956, \$9,029.67 TAX RATE, \$8.15

**TOWN OFFICERS**

**Moderator** Charles A. Wilcox  
**Town Clerk** Mildred W. Cook  
**Assistant Town Clerk** Kenneth W. Cook  
**Treasurer and Receiver of Taxes** Harold E. Heaton  
**Ass't. Treasurer and Receiver of Taxes** Elsie C. Heaton

**Selectmen**

George Huggett (1954) William Bacon (1955)  
Winston G. Colton (1956)

**School Directors**

Frank R. Stiles (1954) Claradella S. Betts (1955)  
Elsbeth P. Eaton (1956)

**Auditors**

Carl A. Anderson (1954) Kate P. Howard (1955)  
Ruth Prevost (1956)

**Listers**

John E. Mocho Edward C. LaMontagne  
(1955, for two years) (1956, for two years)  
William E. Bond (1956)

**Trustees of Public Funds**

Vanessa Tilden (1954) Ellsworth H. Sargent (1955)  
Pearly A. MacFarlane (1956)

**Constable and Collector of Taxes** William E. Worcester  
**Overseer of the Poor** Selectmen  
**Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits** Gerald H. Wilson  
**Road Commissioner** Merton Godfrey  
**Town Grand Juror** R. Alden Burt

**Library Trustees**

Claire Fowle (1956) Rosetta Estabrook (1954)  
G. Cass Lightner (1955) Kate P. Howard (1953)  
Charlotte Vaughan (1955) Emma E. Coombs (1952)

**Cemetery Trustees**

Ernest C. Bond (1954) William E. Bond (1955)  
Ellsworth H. Sargent (1956)

**Budget Committee**

G. Cass Lightner (1954) Harold E. Heaton  
Alice F. Fifield (1955) Merton Godfrey  
Walter A. Malmquist (1956) George Huggett  
1954  
G. Cass Lightner Harold E. Heaton  
1955  
Alice F. Fifield Merton Godfrey  
1956  
Walter A. Malmquist George Huggett



Ellsworth H. Sargent elected Cemetery Trustee for term of three years.

Walter A. Malmquist elected member of Budget Committee for term of three years.

- Art. 7. Voted Town Tax of \$2.25; \$1.00 Highway Tax as recommended by Budget Committee.
- Art. 8. Voted that Selectmen be authorized to spend Gas Tax Funds for construction on either the State Aid or Town Highway system.
- Art. 9. Voted sum of money not to exceed \$125.00 for Memorial Day observance.
- Art. 10. Voted sum of money not to exceed \$50.00 for Town Library.
- Art. 11. Voted sum of money not to exceed \$350.00 for the erection of a suitable memorial in the East Thetford Cemetery; \$214.35 of the sum needed is in the bank and the balance to be taken from Connecticut River Flood Control Commission.
- Art. 12. Voted to continue the program on the Pine Blister Rust Control.
- Art. 13. "Shall the following public improvements, viz.: The acquisition of land and incidental rights at Thetford Center by gift, purchase or otherwise, and the construction thereon and equipping of a new Elementary School Building of concrete block and brick construction, of approximately eight general class rooms, one multi-purpose room, auxiliary rooms and other usual facilities, for public school purposes, at an estimated cost of \$176,000, be made? Balloting on this Article will take place at the polls on March 6 between the hours of 10 A.M. and 3 P.M."  
Yes 133      No. 182
- Art. 14. "Shall bonds of the Town of Thetford School District to the amount of \$140,000, bearing interest at not to exceed 3%, be issued to pay the remaining cost of said public improvements

after application of state aid school construction grant under No. 256 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1953, as amended? Balloting on this Article will take place at the polls on March 6 between the hours of 10 A.M. and 3 P.M."

Yes 125      No. 178

- Art. 15. Voted \$4.90 for Town School District as recommended in the Budget Proposal.
- Art. 16. Voted to raise tuition to Thetford Academy from \$245 to \$265.
- Art. 17. Voted \$1,000.00 to Thetford Academy.
- Art. 18. Voted a sum of money, not to exceed \$80.00 per student, as a scholarship for one or more Thetford students in a teacher preparation institution in the state in accordance with the provisions of Section 4352 of the Public Laws.
- Art. 19. Voted to extend vote of thanks to William E. Bond for his many years as School Director and to give Mrs. Elspeth Eaton, his successor, our cooperation.

Voted that the money from the Flood Control Compact Commission be allocated proportionately as stated in Budget Committee Report as set forth on Page 49 of the annual Town Report.

Voted that the name of the William Higgins Farm be changed to the Thetford Town Forest.

Voted to empower Moderator to appoint a committee of one to investigate the possibility of changing the polling hours and report to the Selectmen. Mrs. Elsie Cowles accepted appointment.

Voted to thank Thetford Academy for the use of the gymnasium.

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred W. Cook,

Town Clerk

**MINUTES OF  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**Town of Thetford, County of Orange, Vermont**

**Tuesday, March 6, 1956**

The annual Town Meeting of the Town of Thetford was held in the Thetford Academy Auditorium-Gymnasium at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6, 1956. The meeting was called to order by the moderator, Charles A. Wilcox, who asked that the Reverend Mr. Edwards Dickinson open the meeting with a prayer. The meeting then went into the annual business session. The town clerk, Mildred Cook, read the Town Warning as required by law.

- Article 1. To elect a Moderator.  
Motion made and seconded that Charles A. Wilcox be re-elected as moderator for the term of one year. So voted.
- Article 2. To elect a Town Clerk.  
Motion made and seconded that Mrs. Mildred Cook be re-elected as town clerk for the term of one year. So voted.
- Article 3. Providing for vote upon the following questions:
- a. Shall license for the sale of malt and vinous liquors be granted in this town?  
Yes 173      No 131
  - b. Shall spirituous liquors be sold in this town?  
Yes 94      No 166

Moderator: As required by law, this Article is voted upon by written ballot, with the boxes open until 3:00 P.M. (Note: In order to locate the results of voting easily, I have entered the result of the vote at this time, even though the ballots were not counted until after three o'clock.)

Since the voting on Articles 13 and 14 was also by ballot, it was decided to postpone discussion on these articles until the Thetford Town School District Meeting in the afternoon. Therefore, Articles 4 through 12, and Article 19 were taken up at this time.

- Article 4. To hear and act on the report of the town officers.  
Motion made and seconded that the reports of the town officers be adopted as set forth in the annual Town Report.

Moderator: Does the Budget Committee chairman think it wise to vote on all town officers' reports as a whole? Would it affect the Budget Committee report?

Mr. Lightner: You would not be approving or adopting the Budget Committee report, as this budget report is not a town officer report. Voted to approve and adopt the town officers' reports as set forth in the annual Town Report.

- Article 5. To see if the town will authorize and empower the selectmen to appoint a road commissioner, or elect same by ballot.  
Motion made and seconded that Merton Godfrey be re-elected as road commissioner. So voted.  
Motion made and seconded that the town clerk cast one vote to elect Merton Godfrey as road commissioner. So voted.

- Article 6. To elect all other town officers.  
(Note: There was no discussion over any office or candidate.)  
Motion made and seconded that Harold E. Heaton be re-elected as treasurer and receiver of taxes for the term of one year. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Elsie C. Heaton be re-elected as assistant treasurer and receiver of taxes for the term of one year. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Winston G. Colton be re-elected as selectman for the term of three years. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Ruth Prevost be re-elected as auditor for the term of three years. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that William E. Bond be re-elected as lister for the term of three years. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Edward LaMontagne be elected as lister to fill the unexpired term of two years of J. Borden Smith who resigned. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Pearly A. MacFarlane be re-elected as trustee of public funds for the term of three years. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that William E. Worcester be re-elected as constable and collector of taxes for the term of one year. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that the selectmen serve as overseer of the poor as previously. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Gerald H. Wilson be re-elected as agent to prosecute and defend suits for the term of one year. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that R. Alden Burt be re-elected as town grand juror for the term of one year. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Claire Fowle be re-elected as library trustee for the term of seven years. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Ellsworth H. Sargent be re-elected as cemetery trustee for the term of three years. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that Walter A. Malmquist be re-elected as a member of the Budget committee for the term of three years. So voted.

Article 7. To hear and act on the report of the Budget committee and raise taxes:

a. To pay the indebtedness of the town and current expenses;

b. Highway Tax.

Mr. Seaholm: It is suggested that the term, "raise taxes," be changed to "levy taxes."

Moderator: It would appear that this would be a better term and it will be taken into consideration. The term, "raise taxes," has been used for many, many years but there is no reason why it should not be changed.

Motion made and seconded that the tax amounting to \$3.25, as recommended by the Budget committee in the Budget Report covering the town tax and highway tax, be raised for the coming year, payable to the town treasurer at the usual time and under the usual terms. So voted.

Article 8. To see if the town will vote approval of the expenditure of the Gas Tax funds for construction on either the state aid or town highway system as determined by the selectmen.

Mr. Huggett: This is a matter of formality. In order to spend the Gas Tax Funds for the construction on the state aid or the town highway system, it has to be voted upon at Town Meeting, and if it isn't voted, you won't be able to spend your money on state aid or the town highway construction.

Motion made and seconded that the selectmen be authorized to spend the Gas Tax Funds as set forth in Article 8. So voted.

Article 9. To see if the town will appropriate a sum of money, not to exceed \$125.00, to Post #79 for Memorial Day observances. Motion made and seconded that Article 9 be adopted. So voted.

Article 10. To see if the town will appropriate a sum of money, not to exceed \$50.00, for the Town Library. Motion made and seconded that this Article be adopted. So voted.

Article 11. To see if the town will appropriate a sum of money to erect a suitable monument in the East Thetford Cemetery commemorating the early settlers of the Town of Thetford.

Ernest Bond submitted two sketches of a proposed monument, one costing \$250 and the other costing \$290. The sum of \$169.00 is already on deposit toward the cost of this memorial, plus an additional deposit of \$18, making a total of \$187.00.

Ellsworth Sargent stated that the auditors' report on Page 55 of the annual Town Report showed cash on hand in the Inter-State Trust Co. from accumulated interest on the Cemetery Trust Fund as \$214.35.

Robert Bonnett made the motion that a sum not to exceed \$250 be appropriated to take care of this memorial. Following a discussion as to the source of this money, as well as the amount of money necessary, Mr. Bonnett then made the motion that the moderator declare a short recess in order for the voters to review the sketches and make a decision as to their choice. So voted.

A recess of 15 minutes was declared by the moderator. Following the recess, Robert Bonnett withdrew his first motion and asked that a sum not to exceed \$350.00 be appropriated for the erection of a suitable memo-

rial in the East Thetford Cemetery, of which \$214.35 is cash in the bank; balance to be taken from the money received from the Connecticut River Flood Control Compact Commission. Any unexpended money to be returned to the General Fund. So voted.

Article 12. To see if the town will vote to continue the program on the Pine Blister Rust Control.

Motion made and adopted that this Article be adopted. So voted.

Articles 13 through 18 had been passed over previously, as these would come up during the Thetford Town School District Meeting after lunch.

Article 19. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Mr. Malmquist: Since I was fairly closely connected with the Legislature in regard to the Flood Control Compact, I would like to make the following resolution:

"Due to certain very serious fiscal problems in town finances at this time, the following resolution was voted at our regular Town Meeting, March 6, 1956:

"Whereas, at the regular school meeting of this date, the School District found it necessary to call for a tax of \$4.90 to support the cost of running the schools for next year, which is an increase of \$1.10 in the tax rate for this year; and whereas the town is confronted with the need of drastic improvement in school building facilities, having three schools in the town without running water and indoor toilet facilities; and whereas the tax income has been substantially reduced since 1947 by the construction of the flood control dam at Union Village, which lies wholly within the Town of Thetford; and whereas a substantial bridge

building cost exists resulting from road relocation around the dam; then be it RESOLVED that the selectmen of the town are hereby instructed to seek advice from the director of the Connecticut River Flood Compact Commission as to what action can be taken in consideration of the economic losses to the Town of Thetford resulting from this project and, secondly, if a study is, or can be, made to develop a recreational lake or facilities in the upper basin of the dam, designed to increase the tax base in town and further to solve the new bridge problem in conjunction with the construction thereof."

Also, it might be well for the town to consider getting a cash settlement from the States of Connecticut and Massachusetts rather than a yearly payment. As the years go by, 25 or 50 years from now, they may not want to pay so much for loss of tax revenue to the State of Vermont, and thus to the Town of Thetford.

Motion made and seconded that this resolution be adopted, with a revision in the words, "indoor toilet facilities." So voted. The moderator asked Mr. Malmquist to give the town clerk the names of persons to whom copies of this resolution should be submitted.

Motion made by Carl Anderson that the money from the Flood Control Compact Commission be allocated proportionately as stated in Budget committee report as set forth on Page 49 of the annual Town Report. Motion seconded. So voted.

Motion made by Winston Colton that the name of the William Higgins Farm be changed to the Thetford Town Forest, inasmuch as forestration is being carried on by the town under the supervision of the state. The town expects to plant 5000 pine trees on this property during the spring months. Motion seconded. So voted.

Mr. Lightner raised the question as to whether or not the ballot boxes could be closed at two o'clock in the future rather than three o'clock, since the Town Meeting is usually over by two o'clock. The moderator stated he thought it was illegal to close the ballot boxes before three o'clock, since it is a state ruling. One voter pointed out that it is difficult for some working men to reach the polls before three o'clock and wondered if the voting hours could be changed. Mrs. Cowles pointed out that Town Meeting Day is now a legal holiday in the State of Vermont, and the matter of time off for voting should be taken up with employers.

Mr. Lightner made the motion that the moderator appoint a committee of one, perhaps Mrs. Cowles, the town representative, to make an investigation of the possibility of changing the polling hours and report to the selectmen. So voted.

The moderator asked Mrs. Cowles to make this investigation and she accepted.

The moderator at this point declared a recess until one o'clock when the Town School District Meeting will convene.

#### Lunch

The moderator called the annual meeting of the Town School District to order at one o'clock.

The report of the treasurer of the Town School District, as printed in the annual Town Report, was adopted.

The report of the school directors, as printed in the annual Town Report, was adopted.

Next in the order of business was the election of school director for three years, as the term of William E. Bond expired. Two names were nominated and seconded — William E. Bond and Elspeth Eaton — before the nominations were closed. Election was by written ballot.

### Results

171 votes cast. 86 votes necessary to elect.

Elsbeth Eaton	99
William Bond	70
Robert Bonnett	1
John Mocho	1

Article 13. Shall the following public improvements, viz.: The acquisition of land and incidental rights at Thetford Center by gift, purchase or otherwise, and the construction thereon of a new Elementary School Building of concrete block and brick construction, of approximately eight general class rooms, one multi-purpose room, auxiliary rooms and other usual facilities, for public school purposes, at an estimated cost of \$176,000 be made? Balloting on this Article will take place at the polls on March 6, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Yes 133      No 182

Article 14. Shall bonds of the Town of Thetford School District to the amount of \$140,000, bearing interest at not to exceed 3% be issued to pay the remaining cost of said public improvements after application of state aid school construction grant under No. 256 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1953, as amended? Balloting on this Article will take place at the polls on March 6 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Yes 125      No 178

(Note: For the sake of clarity, the results of voting on Articles 13 and 14 are entered at this time, although the ballot boxes were not closed until 3 p.m.)

Article 15. To see if the Town School District will vote to accept the Budget proposal and raise the tax as recommended in same.

Motion made and seconded that the tax of \$4.90, as recommended, be raised for the coming year, payable at the usual time and under the usual terms.

Article 16. To see if the Town School District will vote to increase the rate of tuition to be paid to Thetford Academy from \$245.00 to \$265.00. Mr. Judd read an item about the reimbursement by the state of tuition paid to private schools. (Note: I couldn't record this, due to the fact I couldn't hear or understand Mr. Judd.)

Mr. Anderson reported that Thetford Academy, by the State Board of Education, is the accepted high school for this area, and therefore as far as the State of Vermont is concerned, is considered a regular public high school and receives the same benefits as any high school, and does not come under the ruling about private schools.

Mr. Malmquist: Since the high school tuition cost is apparently a pretty important part of the entire cost, I have wondered if we are even paying enough tuition to be sure that we won't be in worse trouble at a later date. Would Mr. Anderson review the situation briefly to show just where we stand?

Mr. Anderson: I wish Mr. Malmquist had asked that question a couple of days ago so I could be prepared. I will say this: I think most of the people realize that we try at Thetford Academy to keep our costs as low as it is humanly possible to do so. And I am ashamed to state that the salaries of the teachers are perhaps one of the lowest in the State of Vermont. As you probably noticed in my report in the Town Report, I said the salaries of the Academy teachers must be increased. The actual cost last year at Thetford Academy per student was \$314.91. You people, and the surround-

ing towns, paid \$245.00 per pupil. I don't want to make either a bad picture or a rosy picture, but remember this — you people secured reimbursement from the state for that \$245.00. We had to go out and raise the rest of the money. Some people have complained about the \$1000 that is given to the Academy in addition to the tuition. Now, there are certain trustees, certain individuals, in town who have said, "That's peanuts. Let's do away with that and let's charge the town what it actually costs the Academy." But occasionally those people forget that back in 1942 and 1943, when that fire destroyed the school, people came from all over to Thetford Hill to help. They forget that the Grange turned over their building — some of the trustees have not forgotten that, and that is why you people have a tuition charge as low as it is. We can not go out and charge Strafford, West Fairlee, Vershire this tuition. It is true that you people donate \$1000 extra as compared with the others, but don't forget whether we are on Thetford Hill or in Rice's Mills, Post Mills or North Thetford, that what helps one part of the town helps the other. Therefore, the trustees and teachers are trying to do the best they can for this community and the communities surrounding us.

Motion made and seconded that the rate of tuition paid Thetford Academy be raised to \$265.00. So voted.

Article 17. To see if the Town School District will vote to donate a sum of money to Thetford Academy.

Motion made and seconded that the sum of \$1000 be donated to Thetford Academy. So voted.

Article 18. To see if the Town School District will vote a sum of money, not to exceed \$80.00 per student, as a scholarship for one or more Thetford students in a teacher preparation institution in the state in accordance with the provisions of Section 4352 of the Public Laws.

Motion made and seconded that this Article be adopted. So voted.

Article 19. Motion made and seconded that a vote of thanks be given to William E. Bond for his many years of service as a school director, and to give Mrs. Elspeth Eaton, his successor, our cooperation. So voted.

The Town School District Meeting was recessed at this time and as balloting is still going on, the Town Meeting was re-convened.

Mr. Anderson: I would like to mention that shortly the Town of Thetford will celebrate its 200th anniversary, and although it is five years hence, yet it seems to me that it is not too early to start thinking of that anniversary, or if the Town of Thetford will celebrate this anniversary.

Also, through Mrs. Cowles, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra would be willing to come to Thetford in the Auditorium during July or August of this year. I would like an expression from you people if this is the desire of the town, so that final arrangements for the Vermont Symphony to come here during this summer be made. How many are interested?

(Note: A show of hands indicated the townspeople to be favorable to the suggestion.)

Motion made and seconded that a rising vote of thanks be given to Thetford Academy for the use of this building. So voted.

Mrs. Judd: I would like to know if we have to vote on where we will have the Town Meeting next year.

Moderator: Unless something is voted at this meeting, the selectmen can call the Town Meeting for any place in town.

Arthur LaPierre: It is suggested that if the meeting is held at the auditorium next year, the town officers be placed on the stage and perhaps a public address system could be used.

Motion made and seconded that the School Meeting be adjourned. So voted.

Motion made and seconded that the Town Meeting be adjourned. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Burt,  
Recorder

## TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

1956

### Receipts

Jan.		
1	Cash balance	\$ 3,844.80
Feb.		
4	State of Vermont, gravel resurfacing	141.40
4	State of Vermont, reimbursement of expense for non-settled persons	924.17
20	Ruth Prevost, reimbursement	1.20
March		
2	Franklin Co. Savings Bank & Trust Co., refund	57.63
14	Town of Vershire, salt purchased	60.00
April		
6	Bradford National Bank, loan	5,000.00
14	Mildred Cook, town clerk, dog licenses	452.00
18	State of Vermont, winter maintenance, State Aid roads	504.50
18	State of Vermont, winter maintenance, Town roads	1,182.50
26	J. Borden Smith, beverage license	37.50
26	A. H. Mitchell, beverage license	37.50
May		
5	S. A. Wing, beverage license	37.50
23	Bradford National Bank, loan	10,000.00
June		
15	State of Vermont, State Aid highway	8,049.71
22	Sevigny Lumber Company, roofing purchased	68.88
30	Refund of check	50.00
July		
14	Bradford National Bank, loan	7,000.00
18	Rent of Town Hall	5.00

August		
5	State of Vermont, State Aid highway	2,636.80
5	State of Vermont, State Aid advance payment	6,959.71
21	Bernard Tilden, gravel	30.50
21	W. G. Colton, driveway tarvia	12.47
21	Harold S. Bird, fill and grading	415.70
25	State of Vermont, forest service	3.60
Sept.		
8	Thetford Academy	273.20
8	Arthur Bacon, gravel	62.20
27	Thetford Academy, cold patch	72.94
Oct.		
26	1956 Tax Bill	66,908.37
26	Old Age Assistance Tax	2,220.00
Nov.		
4	State of Vermont, State Aid highway	11,250.00
5	George Huggett, sale of junk	33.43
5	State of Vermont, refund from Welfare Dept.	200.00
29	State of Vermont, flood control	3,105.97
29	U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, A.S.C.P.	89.00
29	Mildred Cook, town clerk, dog licenses	24.00
Dec.		
27	Gladys Aldrich	11.40
27	Thetford Academy, driveway	267.04
31	Bradford National Bank, loan	12,700.00
31	Town of Vershire, salt purchased	81.90
31	Jane Kibbey, driveway	12.97
31	William E. Worcester, collector, delinquent taxes	7,108.21
31	William E. Worcester, collector, interest and warrant fees	170.18
31	William E. Worcester, collector, abatement	58.18
	Total receipts	<u>\$152,162.06</u>

### Disbursements

Selectmen's current orders	\$ 89,477.44
Overseer of the Poor's current orders	2,610.94
Road Commissioner's current orders	8,903.59
Cemetery Commissioner's current orders	458.44
Transfer to the School District current taxes	44,245.38
Miscellaneous	1.20
Cash to balance	6,465.07
	<u>\$152,162.06</u>

Harold E. Heaton,  
Treasurer

Thetford, Vermont  
December 31, 1956

**THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TREASURER'S REPORT**

1956		
Jan.		
1	Cash balance	\$ 27,064.94
28	Socony Vacuum Co., refund	2.89
Feb.		
6	Vt. Mutual Fire Ins. Co., fire damage	25.00
13	Thetford Academy, bus fares	218.35
16	R. H. Hatch, refund on gas tax	32.38
March		
8	Thetford Academy, bus fares	165.95
12	George D. Wrightson, tuition	100.00
16	J. I. Holcomb Mfg. Co., refund	63.25
16	State of Vermont, vocational education	597.83
16	State of Vermont, vocational education	680.65
22	Perry Goodell, refund on wood	56.00
April		
16	Thetford Academy, bus fares	136.60
26	George D. Wrightson, tuition	100.00
May		
10	Thetford Academy, bus fares	222.35
15	Arthur Tower, land rent	9.56
29	State of Vermont, vocational education, home economics	310.00
29	State of Vermont, vocational education	350.00
29	From General Fund	4,500.00
June		
July		
6	State of Vermont, vocational equipment	354.95
18	American Legion, payment on note	50.00
18	American Legion, interest on note	4.50
Sept.		
13	R. H. Hatch, refund of Gas Tax	30.98
13	State of Vermont, vocational education, home economics	403.00

Oct.		
25	General Fund, 1956 current taxes	44,245.38
Nov.		
5	State of Vermont Vocational Education	648.95
9	Philipe Denning, tuition	10.00
16	State of Vermont, vocational education, home economics	54.20
Dec.		
3	State of Vermont, State Aid for education	17,905.87
10	George D. Wrightson, tuition	165.00
28	Thetford Academy, bus fares from September 1 to December 31	926.60
31	General Fund	1,024.70
	Total receipts	<u>\$100,459.88</u>

**Disbursements**

School directors' orders from January 1 to December 31, 1956	63,760.81
Cash on hand	<u>\$ 36,699.07</u>

Harold E. Heaton,  
Treasurer

Thetford, Vermont  
December 31, 1956

**REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF  
TOWN FARM TRUST FUND**

<b>Investment</b>	
Note #2 - 53, Town of Thetford	\$ 4,000.00
Bank account, Inter-State Trust Co.	214.35
Interest 1955:	
Town note	\$ 120.00
Bank interest	4.80
	124.80
 Total, December 31, 1956	 \$ 4,339.15

<b>Expenditure</b>	
Hitchcock Hospital, Thetford Free Bed	120.00
 Balance, December 31, 1956	 \$ 4,219.15

It is the suggestion of the trustees that the bank account — \$219.15 — which seems to be accumulated interest, be added to the Free Bed Fund.

Ellsworth Sargent,  
Vanessa Tilden,  
Pearly A. MacFarlane,  
Trustees

**REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS  
Cemetery Trust Funds**

<b>Investment:</b>	
Note No. 3 - 53, Town of Thetford	\$ 1,300.00
Bank account, Inter-State Trust Co.	169.29
	2,469.29
<b>Interest for 1956</b>	
Town note	\$39.00
Bank interest	3.79
	42.79
	<b>\$ 1,512.08</b>

<b>Disbursements</b>	
Hillside Cemetery Association	\$ 16.31
Post Mills Cemetery Association	32.63
East Thetford Cemetery	48.94
Evergreen Rest Cemetery Association	114.20
	212.08
 Total disbursed	 212.08
 Balance on hand	 \$ 1,300.00

The bank account, with interest — \$173.08 — represented accumulated interest which, together with the \$39.00 interest from the note for 1956, has been divided in a ratio to their allocated holdings. Hillside Cemetery, \$100.00; Post Mills Cemetery, \$200.00; East Thetford Cemetery, \$300.00; Evergreen Rest, Thetford Center, \$700.00. Total Cemetery Trust Fund, \$1,300.00.

Ellsworth Sargent,  
Vanessa Tilden,  
Pearly A. MacFarlane,  
Trustees

**VERMONT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**  
**Bradford, Vermont**

Date, January 29, 1957

Town of Thetford  
 Board of Selectmen

Listed below are funds which were available and spent by the town during 1956. Some of this money has already been paid to the town by the state and some is in the process of making claims, etc.

**Town Highway Fund**

Total available from the state, including any balance from 1955	\$16,270.50	
Total spent as per claim made by town	16,164.61	
Amount to be paid by state		\$16,164.61

**State Aid Resurfacing (gravel)**

Available from state, 1/3 town, 2/3 state	\$ 212.25	
Total spent as per claim made by town	212.09	
Amount to be paid by state		141.39

**Special SA 339 and Town**

Available from state	\$ 900.00	
Total spent as per claim made by town	492.95	
Amount to be paid by state		328.63

**State Aid Construction Funds**

Available from state, regular	\$1,160.35
Special funds put in by town	1,000.00
State funds, matching 2 to 1	2,000.00
1 cent gas tax, if used	6,119.27
Total funds available	\$10,279.62

Total spent as per claim made by town	10,200.10	
Amount to be paid by state		9,226.60

**State Aid Retreatment**

Two-thirds cost of work		
Total spent as per claim made by town	\$ 2,266.12	
Amount to be paid by state		1,510.75

**Summary of Above Funds**

Item	Paid by State	Paid by Town	Total Cost
Town Highways Fund	\$16,164.61	\$ 0.00	\$16,164.61
State Aid resurfacing	141.39	70.70	212.09
SA 339	328.63	164.32	492.95
State Aid construction	9,226.60	973.50	10,200.10
State Aid retreatment	1,510.75	755.37	2,266.12
SA 321-322 1955	10,686.51	976.78	11,663.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38,058.49</b>	<b>\$ 2,940.67</b>	<b>\$40,999.16</b>

R. H. Arnold,  
 District Engineer

ITEM NO. 1

OVERSEER OF THE POOR ACCOUNT

<b>Tax rate, \$0.22</b>	<b>Total tax, \$1,996.43</b>
Board	\$1,995.61
Medical care	366.89
Probate Court, fees	166.90
Clothing	68.20
Department of Social Welfare	29.50
	<hr/>
	\$2,627.10
 <b>Credits:</b>	
Gladys Aldrich	\$ 11.40
Welfare, State of Vermont	924.17
	<hr/>
	1,135.57
 Net cost to town	 \$1,491.53

This expense indicates the cost of board and care to seven recipients.

The Thetford Free Bed was used by six persons, totaling 58 days, plus medication and laboratory fees.

The town is suffering an unusual hospital expense this year, which we have been fortunate to avoid in the past. As of December 31, there is an unpaid balance of \$2,857.57.

We hope that the taxpayers will permit a part of this unpaid balance to be absorbed through the Free Bed Fund in the coming year.

Contributions to the Thetford Memorial Hospital Fund for the living are gratefully accepted by your town treasurer.

ITEM NO. 2

SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT

Winter Roads

<b>Tax rate, \$0.40</b>	<b>Total tax, \$3,611.87</b>
Jan.	
14	Merton Godfrey, labor \$ 70.30
	W. H. Sayre, labor 55.00
	Gordon Fifield, labor 10.00
	Gulf Oil Corp., gas 124.12
	Bunker Hill, gas 2.49
	<hr/>
	\$ 261.91
21	Merton Godfrey, labor \$ 44.85
	Gordon Fifield, labor 4.00
	Elwin Pero, labor \$ 35.00
	Loader 6.80
	<hr/>
	43.80
	J. Borden Smith, gas 9.14
	<hr/>
	101.79
28	Merton Godfrey, labor \$ 17.83
	Elwin Pero, labor \$ 82.50
	Loader 18.00
	<hr/>
	100.50
	George Hodge, labor 74.50
	Gordon Fifield, labor 8.50
	Construction Equipment
	Co., gaskets 5.00
	<hr/>
	188.50
Feb.	
11	Merton Godfrey, labor \$ 154.68
	Elwin Pero, labor 83.50
	Dawson Fifield, labor 20.00
	Gordon Fifield, labor 27.50
	Rodney Palmer, labor 9.00
	George Hodge, labor 8.00
	Bailey Brothers, repairs 9.17
	<hr/>
	311.85
25	Merton Godfrey, labor \$ 105.90
	Elwin Pero, labor \$ 52.50
	Loader 4.40
	<hr/>
	56.90

Gordon Fifield, labor	22.00	
George Huggett,		
Labor	\$ 10.00	
Express	1.34	
	<u>11.34</u>	
Noble-Belisle Machinery,		
Inc., plo-bolts	15.00	
Casellini-Venable Corp.,		
plo-blades	72.16	
Palmer's Garage, repairs	37.50	
J. Borden Smith, gas	2.71	
	<u>323.51</u>	
<b>March</b>		
10 Merton Godfrey, labor	\$ 152.38	
Elwin Pero, labor	\$ 105.50	
Loader	12.40	
	<u>117.90</u>	
Gordon Fifield, labor	19.00	
George Huggett,		
Labor	\$ 41.50	
Gas	4.88	
Express	1.04	
	<u>47.42</u>	
Noble-Belisle Machinery,		
Inc., plo-bolts	15.00	
Bailey Brothers, parts	14.53	
Eaton's Garage, repairs	110.93	
D. S. Bacon, gas	14.90	
Gulf Oil Corp., gas	136.95	
Sanborn Oil Co., oil	2.12	
	<u>631.13</u>	
24 Merton Godfrey, labor	\$ 117.21	
Elwin Pero, labor	\$ 96.00	
Loader	4.40	
	<u>100.40</u>	
Gordon Fifield, labor	19.00	
George Huggett,		
Labor	\$ 48.00	
Gas	1.35	
	<u>49.35</u>	
Treasurer, State of Ver-		
mont, plo-shoes	22.00	

Palmer's Garage, repair		
differential, Chevrolet	244.12	
J. Borden Smith, gas	13.46	
	<u>565.54</u>	
<b>April</b>		
7 Merton Godfrey, labor	\$ 81.09	
Gordon Fifield, labor	7.50	
George Huggett, labor	7.00	
Myron Smith, labor	20.00	
George Higgins, labor	20.50	
Elwin Pero, labor	18.00	
H. O. Taylor Chevrolet Co.,		
brakes, axle	28.83	
Eaton's Garage, repair	159.06	
Thetford Garage, gas	6.85	
Bailey Brothers, X-chains	50.27	
Gulf Oil Corp., gas	136.45	
Sanborn Oil Co., oil	10.00	
D. S. Bacon, gas, oil	8.54	
	<u>554.09</u>	
14 Merton Godfrey, labor	\$ 32.20	
Ray Palmer, labor	37.00	
Elwin Pero, labor	27.50	
The Village Store, gas, oil	10.65	
Sanborn Oil Co., case oil	12.12	
	<u>119.47</u>	
21 Commercial Shearing Co.,		
overhaul pump	\$ 35.27	
Palmer's Garage, repair, etc.	87.19	
Sargent Coal Co., coal	4.80	
	<u>127.26</u>	
<b>June</b>		
16 Elwin Pero, labor sno-fence	\$ 11.00	
Morris Pero, labor sno-fence	11.00	
George Higgins, labor		
sno-fence	8.50	
	<u>30.50</u>	
<b>Oct.</b>		
13 International Salt Co.,		
800/100 salt	\$ 860.00	
George Huggett, case		
anti-freeze	6.42	
	<u>866.42</u>	
27 Palmer's Garage, repairs	\$ 88.62	
Bailey Brothers, parts	2.06	

	Casellini-Venable of N. H., repair tractor	2.04	
	Casellini-Venable Corp., repair tractor	2.47	
	George Huggett, 5 gal. oil	10.10	
			105.29
Nov.			
17	Noble-Belisle Machinery, Inc., repair tractor	\$ 176.26	
	Casellini-Venable Corp., parts tractor	242.38	
	Casellini-Venable of N. H., parts tractor	3.39	
	Kibby Equipment Co., hose tractor	8.95	
	Noble-Belisle Machinery, Inc., credit on account	176.26	
			254.72
24	Merton Godfrey, labor, winter sand	\$ 21.28	
	Frank Stevens, labor, winter sand	18.50	
	Elwin Pero, labor, winter sand	18.50	
	George Hodge, labor, winter sand	17.50	
	W. H. Sayre, labor, winter sand, bridge	8.00	
	W. L. Brooks, compressor	14.00	
	Gilbert Wright, shovel, winter sand	124.00	
	George Huggett, trucks, winter sand	149.48	
	Delbert Bradbury, truck, winter sand	63.70	
	Erni French, tractor, winter sand	45.00	
	Treasurer, U. S. A., 510 c. y. sand	25.50	
			505.46
Dec.			
15	Merton Godfrey, labor	\$ 199.54	
	Elwin Pero, labor	118.00	
	George Hodge, labor	118.00	

	George Higgins, labor	7.50	
	Franklin Godfrey, labor	26.50	
	Morris Pero, labor	4.00	
	George Huggett, labor on tractor \$ 24.00		
	Parts, Chevrolet	1.60	
	Truck, mileage	30.11	
			55.71
	Erni French, tractor, winter sand	11.80	
	Petrometal Industries, plo-blades	169.34	
	Boston & Maine R.R., freight, plo-blades	8.86	
	Casellini-Venable Corp., parts tractor	102.73	
	Casellini-Venable of N. H., parts, tractor	2.43	
	Vermont Hardware Co., grinding crankshaft D-4	29.00	
	Hathorn's, Inc., repair radiator, Chevrolet	9.00	
	Bailey Brothers, bearings D-4, anti-freeze	175.41	
	Palmer's Garage, repairs	18.29	
	Gulf Oil Corp., gas, oil	234.86	
			1,290.97
22	Merton Godfrey, labor	\$ 50.60	
	Elwin Pero, labor	34.00	
	George Hodge, labor	49.00	
	Frank Stevens, labor	9.00	
	George Huggett, trucks unloading salt	60.40	
	Sanborn Oil Co., oil	58.20	
			261.20
31	Merton Godfrey, labor	\$ 121.34	
	Elwin Pero, labor	50.00	
	Dawson Fifield, labor	3.00	
	Bernard Godfrey, labor	3.50	
	Gordon Fifield, labor	7.00	
	George Hodge, labor	55.00	
	Franklin Godfrey, labor	17.00	

George Huggett, labor		
Mounting sno-		
plow	\$ 72.00	
2 pr. 9.00x20		
chains	32.00	
10 spark plugs	5.80	
	<hr/>	109.80
Sidney Cook, transmission,		
drive line, Chevrolet		39.00
Palmer's Garage, repairs,		
mounting plow		219.58
Bailey Brothers, X-chains,		
miscellaneous		56.45
Rodney Palmer, truck		12.00
		<hr/>
		571.81
		<hr/>
Total expenditures		\$7,193.28

**Credits:**

State of Vermont	\$1,687.00
Sale of salt, Vershire	141.90
Sale of junk, H. Carpenter	33.43

**Due:**

Sale of salt, W. Fairlee	140.40
Sale of salt, Union Vil-	
lage Dam Area	48.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,050.73
	<hr/>
Net cost to town	\$5,142.55

**ITEM NO. 3**

**Construction, Retreatment, State Aid Patrol**

Tax rate, \$0.42

Total tax, \$3,792.46

Job #321, 306, 306A, Union Village Road (state aid)				
Labor	Material	Equipment	Total cost	
\$ 1,945.97	\$ 2,723.57	\$15,598.74	\$20,268.28	
Job #1, Tucker Hill Road (unselected)				
Labor	Material	Equipment	Total cost	
\$ 2,062.72	\$ 3,354.47	\$ 7,775.69	\$13,192.88	
Job #2, Mud Pond Road (unselected)				
Labor	Material	Equipment	Total cost	
\$ 294.35	\$ 171.71	\$ 2,263.14	\$ 2,729.20	
Job, Resurfacing Gove Hill				
Labor	Material	Equipment	Total cost	
\$ 20.05	\$ 22.00	\$ 148.56	\$ 190.61	
Job, Retreatment				
Labor	Material	Equipment	Total cost	
	\$ 1,542.15	\$ 1,216.92	\$ 2,759.07	
Job, State Aid Patrol				
		Equipment	Total cost	
		\$ 492.10	\$ 492.10	
Job, Town roads, miscellaneous				
Labor	Material	Equipment	Total cost	
\$ 185.08	\$ 1,672.76	\$ 616.83	\$ 2,474.67	
			<hr/>	
\$ 4,508.17	\$ 9,486.66	\$28,111.98	\$42,106.81	
	Total expenditures		\$42,106.81	

**Credits:**

Received and due from State	
of Vermont	\$37,729.86
B. A. Tilden, driveway	30.50
W. G. Colton, tar	12.47
Harold Bird, fill and grading	415.70
Thetford Academy, parking	
lot	273.20
Arthur Bacon, driveway	62.20
Thetford Academy, cold-	
patch	72.94
Thetford Academy, drive-	
way	267.04

George Kibby, driveway	12.97	
Highway Tax reimbursement, '54, '55, '56	421.29	
		39,298.17
Net cost to town		\$ 2,808.64

#### ITEM NO. 4

##### Taxes — State, County and Social Security

Tax rate, \$0.45	Total tax, \$ 4,063.35
Jan.	
28 Florence Robinson, part tuition	\$ 40.00
March	
24 Bursar, Dartmouth College, lease land	20.00
E. H. Sargent, treasurer, county tax	261.95
April	
14 Treasurer, State of Vermont, social security	30.94
May	
26 Treasurer, Town of Thetford, School District, deficit	4,500.00
June	
30 Treasurer, State of Vermont, social security	53.59
Sept.	
15 Florence Robinson, part tuition	40.00
Beverly Barker, part tuition	40.00
Emily Eaton, part tuition	40.00
Everett Fifield, part tuition	40.00
Sept.	
22 Treasurer, State of Vermont, highway tax	1,746.33

Oct.		
27	Treasurer, State of Vermont, Old Age Assistance	2,340.00
	Vermont Agricultural Extension Service	348.72
	Treasurer, State of Vermont, social security	55.97
Dec.		
31	Treasurer, Town of Thetford, School District deficit	1,024.70
	William E. Worcester, tax abatement	58.18
		\$10,640.38

#### ITEM NO. 5

##### Town Officers

Tax rate, \$0.29	Total tax, \$ 2,618.60	
Jan.		
14	Iva Fifield, ballot clerk, '55	\$ 5.00
March		
10	Ruth Prevost, auditing and clerical service	40.00
	Katherine Howard, auditing service	15.00
	Mary Burt, clerical service	10.00
	Bertha Preston, ballot clk.	5.00
	Elsie Heaton, ballot clerk	5.00
	Marion Wilson, ballot clk.	5.00
	Gladys Aldrich, ballot clerk	5.00
	Iva Fifield, ballot clerk	5.00
	C. A. Wilcox, moderator service	10.00
May		
19	John E. Mocho, lister service, mileage	179.56
	Edward LaMontagne, lister service	175.00

June			
16	Mildred Cook, compiling Grand List, clerical services	68.35	
	L. B. Allen, M.D., services, medical and Board of Civil Authority	37.75	
	William E. Worcester, tax collector service, mileage	5.10	
Aug.			
18	William E. Bond, lister service	180.00	
Sept.			
8	Mildred Cook, clerical, recording fees	66.25	
Oct.			
6	H. E. Heaton, treasurer, tax receiving	247.31	
	William E. Worcester, constable service	9.67	
Nov.			
11	H. E. Heaton, treasurer, tax receiving	120.00	
	William E. Worcester, constable service	11.75	
	Treasurer, State of Vermont, auditing service, 1955	257.83	
	H. E. Heaton, treasurer, balance fee receiving taxes	330.17	
	Hugh W. Hastings, legal service	16.03	
	Elsie Heaton, ballot clerk	13.00	
	Marion Wilson, ballot clk.	13.00	
	Gladys Aldrich, ballot clk.	13.00	
	Iva Fifield, ballot clerk	13.00	
Dec.			
31	Mildred Cook, salary, recording fees	113.75	
	H. E. Heaton, treasurer, salary, treasurer	300.00	

Elsie Heaton, assistant treasurer	18.75	
William M. Bacon, selectman service	100.00	
W. G. Colton, selectman service	150.00	
George Huggett, Selectman service	\$150	
Overseer of poor	100	
	<u>250.00</u>	\$ 2,794.27

## ITEM NO. 6

## Electric Service, Insurance, Fires

<b>Tax rate, \$0.15</b>	<b>Total tax, \$ 1,354.45</b>
January to December	
31 Central Vt. Public Service	
Street lights	\$ 465.00
Town Hall	26.56
	<u>\$ 491.56</u>
Feb. 25 C. A. Wilcox, liability, fire, trucks	121.00
March 10 C. A. Wilcox, workmen's compensation	244.63
Motor Vehicle Dept., registration trucks	20.00
C. A. Wilcox, town officers' bonds	55.00
J. W. Dillion Agency, insurance grader	171.78
April 7 Edward H. Peet, secretary, insurance buildings	32.40

Aug.			
21	C. A. Wilcox, added premium, compensation	44.10	
Dec.			
31	Treasurer, Town of Lyme, fires	248.00	
	C. A. Wilcox, liability Chevrolet	41.00	
	J. W. Dillion Agency, insurance grader	171.03	
	Treasurer, Town of Fairlee, fires	79.00	
		<hr/>	\$ 1,719.50

ITEM NO. 7

Printing, Clerical Supplies

Tax rate, \$0.08                      Total tax, \$    722.37

Jan.		
21	Hall-McChesney, Inc., record book	\$ 51.20
	J. R. Aljer, repair adding machine	57.50
Feb.		
11	Bradford National Bank, service charge	3.00
	Green Mountain Press, printing envelopes	2.35
	Tuttle Stationery Co., Vital Statistics books	44.11
	Wheeler & Clark Co., dog tags	14.02
March		
10	Cory - Hewitt Press, 700 town reports	460.25
	Cummings Printing Co., printing	65.65
	E. C. Bacon, stamped envelopes, postage	8.95

	Office Supply Center, Inc., overhaul typewriter	37.50
	W. G. Colton, supplies, material booths	14.92
	R. H. Hatch, postage	.98
April		
7	Tuttle Stationery Co., supplies	5.61
	E. C. Bacon, stamped envelopes	3.53
	Dora S. Bacon, postage	.68
21	William E. Worcester, stamped envelopes	19.27
	J. Borden Smith, tax cards	11.00
	Green Mountain Press, printing tax cards	4.56
May		
19	The Alden Press, painting sign	6.50
	E. C. Bacon, stamped envelopes	7.52
July		
14	J. Borden Smith, stamped envelopes	27.18
	B. N. Sisco, admr., tax forms	2.27
	Bradford National Bank, service charge	6.00
	Green Mountain Press, printing	9.93
August		
18	George Huggett, telephone charge 1/7, 8/7	36.88
Sept.		
8	Tuttle Law Print, supplies	2.73
	Mildred Cook, telephone charge	3.50
Oct.		
6	George Huggett, telephone charge, 8/7, 9/7	7.48

27	E. C. Bacon, stamped envelopes	7.19	
	George Huggett, telephone charge 9/7, 10/7	16.66	
	Bradford National Bank, service charge	3.00	
	William E. Worcester, supplies	.20	
Dec.			
15	George Huggett, telephone charge, 10/7, 12/7	13.97	
	Mildred Cook, telephone charge, supplies	5.60	
	Chelsea Job Press, printing for election	41.39	
31	H. E. Heaton, treasurer, postage	1.22	
	William M. Bacon, supplies, mileage	24.25	
	W. G. Colton, expenses, mileage	10.75	
	George Huggett, express, postage	8.87	
		<u>          </u>	\$ 1,048.27

**ITEM NO. 8**

**Buildings, Town Forest**

**Tax rate, \$0.04**                      **Total tax, \$ 361.19**

March		
10	L. B. Emerson, repair, booths	\$ 75.25
April		
14	The Village Store, kerosene, supplies	4.62
	H. H. Cooley, treasurer, 5,000 pine (red)	47.50

June			
30	Max O. Mousley, Pine Blister Control, labor	168.00	
	Herbert Wheeler, Pine Blister Control, labor	92.40	
	Clifton R. Fisk, Pine Blister Control, labor	20.00	
Aug.			
4	The Village Store, supplies	2.20	
Sept.			
22	Max O. Mousley, Pine Blister Control, labor	58.80	
Oct.			
27	Milford Preston, care of grounds	62.00	
Dec.			
15	White River Soil Conservation, 2,000 red pine	17.00	
	L. B. Emerson, repair bal-lot box	1.00	
		<u>          </u>	\$ 548.77

**Credit:**

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, A.C.P.	89.00
	<u>          </u>
	\$ 459.77

**ITEM NO. 9**

**Interest**

<b>Tax rate, \$0.04</b>	<b>Total tax, \$ 361.19</b>
Jan.	
14	Franklin County Savings, Trust Co., grader
	\$ 7.91



Frank Stevens	19.50	
Harry Palmer	11.50	
Treasurer, State of Vermont	9.03	
Lewis Goodrich	9.00	
Alfred Eachern	9.00	
Myron Smith	2.00	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 2,082.00

Hired Equipment:

Willard Martin, shovel, dozer, trucks	\$1,152.72	
George Huggett, trucks	321.28	
Gilbert Wright, shovel	156.00	
Raymond Daniels, trucks	149.45	
Delbert Bradbury, truck	93.10	
Fred Hayward Jr., truck	82.88	
Forrest Barnaby, truck	42.50	
Don Orr, truck	34.30	
Harry Biathrow, truck	29.40	
Edward LaMontagne, moving dozer	6.00	
Joe Cook, moving dozer	5.00	
Merton Godfrey, chain saw	3.00	
Elwin Pero, chain saw	3.00	
Elwin Pero, loader	2.00	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 2,080.63

Gas, Oil and Fuel:

W. C. Eaton	\$ 597.84	
Sanborn Oil Co.	50.62	
The Village Store	6.96	
Dora Bacon	5.98	
Noble - Belisle Machinery, Inc.	10.60	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 671.30

Repairs:

Casellini-Venable Corp.	\$ 749.17	
Noble - Belisle Machinery, Inc.	229.00	
Ray Uline, welding	63.00	
Palmer's Garage	31.47	
Bailey Brothers	25.58	
Eaton's Garage	10.54	

George Huggett	7.50	
Nichols Hardware	1.39	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 1,117.65
Gravel:		
Edward Clay, 1425 c. y.	\$ 99.75	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 99.75

Miscellaneous:

James O'Shea, 240 / 100 chloride	\$ 532.89	
Black-Top., cold patch	248.20	
Vermont Copper Co., powder	60.75	
N. E. Metal Culvert Co.	60.15	
Noble - Belisle Machinery, Inc., tools	45.57	
Petrometal, Inc., grader blades	150.12	
Casellini - Venable Corp., blades	122.85	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 1,220.53

Repairs on Chevrolet:

Eaton's Garage	\$ 195.64	
Sidney Cook	28.00	
Bailey Brothers	14.74	
George Huggett	7.75	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 246.13

Grader:

Franklin Savings Bank & Trust Co., payment, interest on note	\$1,385.60	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 1,385.60
Total expenditures		\$ 8,903.59

Total tax	\$9,029.67	
Spent	8,903.59	
	<u>          </u>	
Unexpended balance	\$ 126.08	
Cold patch, Thetford Academy	72.94	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 199.02

Credit:

743 c.y. paid by selectmen 74.30

Unexpended balance road commissioner's account \$ 124.72

**Hours credited to equipment; Road Commissioner**

Grader	555 hours @ \$3.50 hr.	\$ 1,942.50
Chevrolet	220 hours @ \$1.00 hr.	220.00
Tractor	22 hours @ \$2.50 hr.	55.00
		<u>\$ 2,217.50</u>

In compliance with the suggestion of the Budget Committee and the motion made and voted at the last annual Town Meeting, in the disposition of the monies received, and labeled as Flood Control Tax Loss, is being handled for this year in the following manner as scheduled below:

	<b>Flood Control Tax Loss 1954 and 1955</b>			
	\$ 969.57	Town	Highway	School
Massachusetts, 1954				
1954 tax rate, \$6.80				
General fund tax	35%	\$ 339.35	\$ 126.04	\$ 504.18
Highway tax	13%			
School tax	52%			
Massachusetts, 1955	\$1,000.22			
Connecticut, 1955	<u>800.18</u>			
	<u>\$1,800.40</u>			
1955 Tax rate, \$7.05				
General fund tax	32%	576.12	252.06	972.22
Highway tax	14%			
School tax	54%			
Land rental in the Union				
Village Dam Area, 1955		143.25		
Land rental in the Union		<u>192.75</u>		
Village Dam Area, 1956		<u>\$1,251.47</u>	<u>*\$ 378.10</u>	<u>**\$1,476.40</u>

\*To December 31, 1956, money spent on town highways, other than selectmen's work, a credit of \$378.10 has been applied as a credit to the Road Commissioner's Account.

\*\*To December 31, 1956, money spent adjusting School District deficit, a credit of \$1,476.40 has been applied.

## REPORT OF WHITE PINE BLISTER RUST

### CONTROL WORK

Town of Thetford, Vermont

1956

White Pine Blister Rust Control was continued in Thetford in 1956 through the cooperation of the town, the Vermont Forest Service and the U. S. Forest Service, with the following accomplishments:

Total area eradicated of currants and gooseberries	1854 acres
White Pine protected	776 acres
Number of wild currants and goose- berries removed	3179
Town expense for labor	\$291.50
State and federal cost for labor and transportation	\$415.40

About 650 acres of white pine in the western part of the town remain to be checked over. However, it is anticipated that the currants and gooseberries are not numerous in this area and that the work can progress rapidly. A town appropriation in 1957 of \$100.00, with matching state and federal funds, should be sufficient to complete the blister rust work in Thetford at this time.

Following 1957, blister rust control in Thetford probably will be needed only in "disturbed" areas, that is, where logging, fire or blow-down have caused a change in the white pine stands. Periodic checks of these areas will be made at five or ten year intervals to determine the need of future blister rust work.

Huntley Palmer,  
District Leader

St. Johnsbury, Vermont  
January 3, 1957

## DELINQUENT TAXES

Due the Town of Thetford, December 31, 1956

1947 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	\$ .78 *
1948 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	6.63 *
1949 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	15.54
1950 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	15.81
1951 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	18.45
1952 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	26.00
1953 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	19.20
1954 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	20.40
1955 Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	\$ 21.15
Cook, Duane P., property	21.15
French, Erni and Agnes	12.46
	<hr/>
	\$ 2.05 *
Cadwell, Harvey, poll	10.05
Cadwell, Nellie, poll	<hr/>
	12.10
1956 Adams, Marie, property	\$ 48.90 *
Cadwell, Harvey & Nellie, property	24.45
Cook, Duane P., property	24.45
Crowley, Edwin and Anna, property	201.31
Durkee, Heman and Velroy, property	26.49
Dennett, Warren, property	72.54
French, Erni and Agnes, property	67.65
Grant, Wendell and Marie, property	99.84
Greenwood, C. P., property	40.75 *
Higgins, Gilbert, property	7.95
Judd, J. Floyd, property	90.47 *

Judd, J. Floyd and Richard, property	203.75 *	
Larkin, Edwin and Blanche, property	21.68	
Phelps, Harriet, property	24.45	
Robinson, Charles & Kath- leen, property	24.45	
Robinson, Mildred, property	24.45 *	
Thorburn, Edward, property	8.15 *	
Young, Ulysses, property	73.35 *	
	<hr/>	1,085.08
Cadwell, Harvey, poll	\$ 13.15	
Cadwell, Nellie, poll	13.15	
	<hr/>	26.30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total delinquent taxes, December 31, 1956		\$1,301.05
1956 taxes to collector:		
Property, real estate	\$5,918.10	
Poll	973.10	
	<hr/>	
	\$6,891.20	
Delinquent taxes December 31, 1955	1,576.24	
	<hr/>	\$8,467.44
Paid to treasurer:		
Real estate	\$3,774.25	
Personal property	2,363.17	
Poll	605.38	
Old Age Assistance	368.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$7,110.80	
Collected by abatement	55.59	
	<hr/>	7,166.39
Delinquent taxes December 31, 1956		\$1,301.05
Received from treasurer, to clear book of charges against Gran- ite City Co-Op Creamery	\$ 2.49	
Paid treasurer on same account	2.49	

William E. Worcester,  
Tax Collector

\*Items paid since December 31, 1956

To the Taxpayers of Thetford:

You will be pleased to know that Thetford has moved from one of the bad towns in the state to one of the good ones, so far as our standing goes on the tax commissioner's list of delinquent taxes.

With taxes already paid since December 31st and others definitely promised, we should be down to about \$800.00 by Town Meeting Day. Last June, just before the new lot of delinquent taxes came in, we had less than \$500.00 — a new low water mark.

It is still amazing how many do not understand the change in the state law on payment of poll and old age assistance taxes. Now, the commissioner of motor vehicles is compelled to suspend drivers' licenses IMMEDIATELY on notification from the collector that these taxes are delinquent. Almost every taxpayer is dependent on a driver's license for transportation. Street cars and buses are scarce and undependable in Thetford; walking is slow and arduous.

We still get complaints that property tax bills are sent out so far ahead of time — before the due date — that they are mislaid and forgotten. All taxes are, in fact, due when the bills are presented — Poll, May 25; Property, July 25. October 25 is not the due date for property taxes but is just the very last day of the 90 days' grace allowed.

After the close of business, October 25, even if you are only one day late, the treasurer can no longer receive your tax but it must be paid to the collector with the addition of warrant fee, 8% penalty and interest. This is state law and there is nothing that the treasurer or the collector can do about it except to weep with you if you "just forgot."

Since a big delinquent tax list requires a higher tax rate to provide money for operating expenses, the state tax commissioner is urging all collectors to get tough by suspending licenses, attaching wages and selling property to force prompt payment. Your cooperation is urged to make such steps unnecessary in Thetford and to put our town on that very select list with no delinquent taxes to report to the state.

William E. Worcester,  
Tax Collector

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

Montpelier, Vermont

This is our 21st annual report to the citizens of the Town of Thetford on state payments in your municipality of various types of assistance and welfare during 1956.

The total number of recipients in the state has remained reasonably stable for some years. The number aided in the Totally and Permanently Disabled program has continued to increase. Old Age Assistance and Blind Assistance case-loads have declined. The impact of the Social Security Insurance programs are a continuing factor in the reduction of case-loads as an increasing number of our people attain a fully insured status. The towns and cities participated financially in two of the programs as indicated below. Administrative expenses for the four types of public assistance have always been among the lowest in the nation.

Old Age Assistance	\$8,950.00
Aid to Dependent Children*	287.00
Total	<hr/> \$9,237.00

W. Arthur Simpson,  
Commissioner

\*One-eighth paid by the town or city unless family is non-settled.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DIVISION

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

THETFORD

I herewith submit a report of PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING ACTIVITIES carried on in the Town of Thetford by the Vermont Health Department during 1956.

These activities fall into three categories:

1. Clinics and conferences, 7 were held in Thetford
2. Visits to homes, schools, 126 were made in Thetford
3. Other visits 53 were made in Thetford

Clinics were of three types — Well Child Medical Conferences, Polio Immunization Clinics and Chest X-Ray Clinics.

Well Child Medical Conferences offer an opportunity for physical examination and immunization against smallpox, diphtheria and tetanus. Whooping cough immunization is included for children under six. Children in Grades I through IV at Post Mills and Union Village, and those under six and in Grade I at East Thetford and Stevens District, were invited to attend these conferences in 1956. Eighty-one children did attend and were examined by Dr. W. F. Putnam. They received a total of 78 immunizations. Children under six and those in the lower grades are invited to attend these conferences, so that physical defects can be found before they become serious, and so that immunizations can be completed before school age. Even though many children receive their initial immunizations from their family physician during their first year, they do need boosters by school age.

The Polio Vaccination Clinic Program was continued so that now everyone from birth to age 19 has had an opportunity to receive Polio Vaccine. A large percentage of children has received at least two doses of this vaccine, either in clinics in Thetford or Norwich, or in their physician's office. Some younger children have had three doses.

Both these types of clinics have been made possible by volunteers from the Parent-Teacher group who assumed responsibility for arrangements and assisted at the clinics, and by the cooperation of local nurses and Dr. Putnam, who spent many hours serving at clinics.

Chest X-Ray clinics at White River Junction were attended by Thetford people who were referred by their family physician because they have had tuberculosis, have symptoms suggestive of tuberculosis or have been exposed to it.

It has been noticeable during the past year that an increasing number of perplexing health problems has been referred to the public health nurse by physicians, school personnel and parents. While it has not been possible to solve all of them, the nurse has tried to help, either from her own knowledge or by referring them to other divisions of the Health Department, or to other agencies such as the Vermont Association for the Crippled, the Vermont Association for the Blind, and the Vermont Department of Social Welfare. We welcome these opportunities to be of service and hope the referrals will continue to be made.

The public health nurse for Thetford is Mrs. Queenie Temple, R.N., who may be reached by mail at Stockbridge. Messages may also be left for her by calling Bethel 4-4441 between 8 and 9 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy M. Allen, R.N.,  
Public Health Nursing Supervisor

## REPORT OF THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Public health means organized community effort to prevent disease, prolong life and increase physical and emotional well being. A team of public health people from the state Department of Health last year assisted your health officer, doctor and other local citizens in maintaining the health of Thetford. Here is an account of some health services requested or available from members of this team, which includes a bacteriologist, chemist, dentist, engineer, health educator, public health nurse, nutritionist, physician, psychologist, sanitarian, social worker and a statistician.

Crippled Children's Clinics, attendance	*
Child Guidance Clinics	Service rendered
Tumor Clinics, attendance	—
Medical Social consultation	—
Polio immunizations, number in clinics and doctors' offices 1/	257
Pre-School Health Conferences	2
Attendance	84
Chest Clinic X-Rays	10
Industrial Hygiene X-Rays	—
Financial assistance with hospitalization for diagnosis or treatment	1
Pediatric medical consultation	—
Dental consultation	—
Nutrition consultation	—
Survey of community health problems	—
Vital Registration consultation	—
Food and lodging establishments consultations or inspections	56
Hospital, nursing home consultations or inspections	—
Water, sewerage, school building, other environmental health problems consultations	15
Industrial health services consultations or inspections	—
Water samples analyzed	33
Blood specimens analyzed	**

Other specimens like throat swabs ana- 1  
 lyzed  
 Vaccines like polio, typhoid, other bio- \*\*  
 logicals  
 1/ Cumulative total to November 30, 1956  
 \* Indicates a number less than 5

\*\* Services probably given but recorded for town where your doctor, hospital or nursing home is located.

This public health team is on call to work with you on Thetford's health problems. For further information about Health Department services, write to Commissioner of Health R. B. Aiken, M.D. A bi-monthly health information bulletin reviewing selected health activities in Vermont may also be had on request.

The services rendered by the department's public health nurse in your community are reviewed elsewhere in this Town Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert B. Aiken, M.D., MPH,  
 Commissioner of Health

## REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMISSION

Your Cemetery Commission has cared for the seven cemeteries under its jurisdiction for \$208.44, which is \$152.75 less than the available amount raised by the tax. The cost of the monument erected at the East Thetford Cemetery was \$250.00; therefore, the total amount of money expended this year was \$458.44.

We wish to express our deep appreciation for the hearty cooperation of the townspeople in our project of erecting a memorial in the East Thetford Cemetery to the early settlers of the town. We are especially grateful to those who took part in the dedication exercises.

E. C. Bond,  
 E. H. Sargent,  
 W. E. Bond,  
 Commissioners

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## DOG ACCOUNT

— 1956 —

To: Harold E. Heaton, treasurer	\$ 278.00
139 males	186.00
31 females	12.00
4 males @ \$3.00	
Submitted to treasurer	<u>\$ 476.00</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred W. Cook,  
 Town Clerk

## REPORT OF THE NEEDS AND CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS

The following pages contain the financial and statistical summaries of the report on your schools. These reports tell the story of actual costs as against the budget set up for the year. Last January, it was our belief and expectation that we would have to employ a part time teacher in addition to the present nine. We have not done so this year and consequently a saving is represented here. However, an unexpected outlay came in having to completely re-cover the school roof at Post Mills. Routine repairs and maintenance include painting of Post Mills exterior on north end and front only. Stevens and Thetford Center were painted on the interior, as well as some regular painting of toilets and window sash. At Union Village, the new pipe was extended from just below the road to connect with the spring. Additional work has been done intermittently all fall to insure an adequate supply, and to try to keep it from freezing. This continues to be one of the most perplexing problems of your directors. Money is constantly being paid to get only mediocre results at best. The toilets have needed repair and in the near future will have to be replaced. If replaced, they should be on the first floor and not in the basement. If this is done, a different heating arrangement — possibly automatic oil burner — would be a necessity. At the present time, it appears that we must replace the chemical tanks and part of the unit at both Rice's Mills and Thetford Center, if not before the end of school this year, most certainly before start of school next fall. This is, of course, above the routine upkeep of painting interiors and exteriors as per schedule.

In explaining our expenditures for this school year in light of the budget set up: First, we have already said that we did not employ the part time teacher as anticipated and, secondly, that we were fortunate to retain teachers within the area at modest increments. We will save in this category alone approximately \$1,900.00. In High School tuition, we were over-budgeted by nearly \$3,000.00. However, in all other instances we have exceeded our budget. Fortunately, we do antici-

pate right now that there will be approximately \$4,000 left on June 30th. This is barring unforeseen expenses over which we have little control.

Relative to next year's budget — this is increased over all by \$4,500.00. The two main items are again tuition and teachers' salaries. Thetford Academy tuition will be \$285.00 next year, an increase of \$20.00. Sixty-seven now attend the academy. Eleven seniors graduate this spring, while 22 graduate from our eighth grade. If all attend, this means an additional 11 pupils at Thetford Academy. Our total number of pupils attending High School would be 79. We have, therefore, budgeted accordingly at \$285.00 each and included the town aid in the figure. Small increases are shown in transportation and bus expense.

To meet the proposed budget, providing we are able to hold to present estimates through June 30th, it will be necessary to raise a tax of \$4.90 on the Grand List for the coming year, and we strongly recommend the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank R. Stiles,  
Claradella Betts,  
Elsbeth Eaton,  
School Directors

Fay G. Whitcomb,  
Superintendent

**PUPIL PROGRESS — 1955 - 1956**

Grades	Total Pupils Enrolled For Year	Number Promoted One or More Grades	Number Promoted One Grade On Condition	Number Not Promoted A Grade	No. Transferred To Other Public Schools	Number Dropped Out of School
1	35	30	1	0	3	1
2	31	25	1	0	5	0
3	27	21	2	1	3	0
4	33	29	2	1	1	0
5	34	27	2	2	2	1
6	21	20	0	1	0	0
7	23	16	6	0	1	0
8	30	29	0	0	1	0
El. total	234	197	14	5	16	2

**ENROLLMENT — 1956 - 1957**

School	Grades								Tot.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Post Mills 1-3	6	10	9	0	0	0	0	0	25
Post Mills 4-6	0	0	0	8	10	9	0	0	27
Post Mills 7-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	19	30
East Thetford	2	6	1	1	1	4	2	0	17
No. Thetford	2	0	2	2	8	5	0	0	19
Rice's Mills	4	4	1	5	1	3	2	3	23
Thetford Ctr.	3	7	4	3	6	0	0	0	23
Stevens	1	3	3	2	3	3	0	0	15
Union Village	7	5	4	1	2	6	3	0	28
Elem. Total	25	35	24	22	31	30	18	22	207
High School	Grades								Total
At Academy									
1955-1956									66
1956-1957									67
St. Johnsbur Trade									
1956-1957	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	

**COMPARISON OF SCHOOL EXPENSE AND INCOME — 1951-1958**

Expenditures	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	Spent - July 1 to Dec. 31, 1956	Estimated January 1 to June 30, 1957	Estimated Year Total 1956 - 1957	Budget 1956 - 1957	Budget 1957 - 1958
Supt. salary & expenses	\$ 1,190.84	\$ 1,187.54	\$ 1,303.16	\$ 1,467.23	\$ 1,756.14	\$ 845.57	\$ 845.57	\$ 1,691.14	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00
School directors & Misc. (inc. S. S.)	462.24	397.19	310.03	412.54	461.83	270.23	185.00	455.23	400.00	400.00
Fed. Aid-Voc. to T.A. & Sch'ps.	1,025.99	2,272.29	2,639.32	4,137.96	3,471.82	1,461.10	1,920.00	3,381.10	2,500.00	3,000.00
Teachers' salaries	15,663.10	16,410.00	17,582.00	17,666.00	22,600.74	8,933.14	13,399.71	22,332.85	24,200.00	25,400.00
Music classes	0.00	550.00	650.00	843.05	707.50	320.00	530.00	850.00	850.00	850.00
High School tuition & aid	9,807.97	11,143.67	14,305.00	13,875.00	17,088.99	7,128.51	11,969.18	19,097.69	22,200.00	23,800.00
Text books & supplies	1,383.30	1,064.58	1,357.81	1,421.86	1,451.19	1,186.13	535.00	1,721.13	1,400.00	1,700.00
Library-health-lunch-census	162.95	126.96	33.66	74.57	108.27	53.87	197.00	250.87	250.00	200.00
Janitors, cleaners, supplies	1,652.59	1,688.04	2,161.23	2,080.85	2,879.84	1,025.06	1,348.75	2,373.81	2,500.00	2,500.00
Fuel & lights	1,055.22	1,202.74	1,325.76	1,359.06	1,587.58	1,075.08	225.00	1,300.08	1,300.00	1,300.00
Repair & upkeep	1,570.16	1,659.68	1,251.52	1,497.14	2,466.10	2,008.46	1,000.00	3,008.46	1,500.00	3,000.00
Furniture & equipment	30.00	340.36	232.40	49.23	616.08	0.00	50.00	50.00	500.00	500.00
Insurance	327.93	238.96	303.36	424.82	249.28	221.60	0.00	221.60	275.00	250.00
Transportation (except bus)	3,187.50	3,167.50	3,501.00	2,726.50	3,279.74	1,469.93	2,000.00	3,469.93	3,000.00	3,400.00
Bus driver, gas, rep., etc.	1,607.05	2,288.35	2,376.57	1,511.78	2,091.05	1,076.75	1,080.00	2,156.75	2,000.00	2,100.00
Additions to buildings	142.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
New sch. bus, cap. outlay	2,090.07	1,460.00	323.33	3,100.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Debt payment & interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.25	1,025.00	25.00	0.00	25.00	25.00	0.00
Repaid to selectmen's acct.	990.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Plans, Consolidated School	0.00	0.00	0.00	166.90	178.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	\$42,349.51	\$45,197.86	\$49,656.15	\$52,845.74	\$62,019.50	\$28,100.43	\$35,285.21	\$63,385.64	\$65,650.00	\$70,150.00



year's reporting that a deficit would occur and a tax of \$4.90 was recommended and adopted to adjust for this increase in school expense. It now appears that the increase is adequate. Therefore, the School Board is budgeting their expense to a rate of \$4.90 again this year.

Our present bus was purchased new three years ago, at which time \$3,100.00 was borrowed from Montpelier National Bank. Notes were paid off \$1,000.00 each year, plus interest. Our final payment was made last November. At this time, it is clear that a sum of money, approximately \$1,000.00, should be provided each year for the replacement of our school bus, since it is only logical that the present bus should be renewed, either by complete overhaul or "trade-in."

For the year 1957, the following tax rates are recommended, as detailed in the school and general budgets shown herewith:

Town \$2.50 Highway \$0.80 School \$4.90

Resolved: That the Budget Committee express its deep regret in the death of G. Cass Lightner, former chairman, and its appreciation of his valuable and faithful work on the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Huggett,  
 Frank R. Stiles,  
 Merton E. Godfrey,  
 Harold E. Heaton,  
 Mrs. Ralph Fifield,  
 Walter A. Malmquist,  
 Budget Committee

PROPOSED BUDGET — 1957

1956 Grand List, \$9,029.67; est. Grand List 1957, \$8,700

Item	Tax Rate	Income	Spent '57	Tax	Anticipated
1. Poor account	\$ .22	\$ 1,996.43	\$ 1,491.53	\$ .40	\$ 3,480.00
2. Winter roads	.40	3,611.87	5,142.55	.45	3,915.00
3. Construction, etc.	.42	3,792.46	2,808.64	.10	870.00
4. Taxes — state, county	.45	4,063.35	2,775.68	.32	2,784.00
5. Town officers	.29	2,618.60	2,794.27	.29	2,523.00
6. Electricity, fires, insurance	.15	1,345.45	1,719.50	.17	1,479.00
7. Printing supplies	.08	722.37	1,048.27	.10	870.00
8. Buildings, forest	.04	361.19	459.77	.04	348.00
9. Interest	.04	361.19	760.91	.04	348.00
10. Appropriations	.02	180.59	175.00	.02	174.00
11. Emergency, Civil Defense	.10	902.97	0.00	.08	696.00
12. Cemetery account	.04	361.19	458.44	.04	348.00
13. Equipment replacement	—	0.00	0.00	.30	2,610.00
14. Town Dump	—	0.00	0.00	.15	1,305.00
15. Highway account	1.00	9,029.67	8,903.59	.80	6,960.00
	\$ 3.25	\$ 29,346.43	\$ 28,538.15	\$ 3.30	\$ 28,710.00

## REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF THETFORD ACADEMY

To the Citizens of Thetford:

Thetford Academy opened its doors on September 7th for the 138th consecutive year to welcome a new Freshman Class. Besides the new students, there were two new members on the faculty. Mrs. Adrienne Bond, a graduate of Mercer University, with ten hours of graduate work towards her M.A. degree, has taken the place of Miss Ann Morin. Miss Shirley Belcher, a graduate of Skidmore College, with years of experience in teaching Physical Education, has been added to the staff to introduce physical education to our curriculum. A few of the older students did not return and there were a few new faces added to the upper classes.

At the present time, there are 133 students enrolled in the four classes as follows: Seniors, 30; juniors, 28; sophomores, 32; and freshmen, 43.

This fall, physical education, required of all students, was introduced as part of our regular program. Miss Shirley Belcher has charge of the program for the girls and also coaches the girls' basketball team, and in the spring, softball. Mr. Alpha Bond, besides teaching two classes in physics, a class in civics and one in general mathematics, has charge of the physical education for the boys. Mr. William Peters coaches the boys' basketball and baseball in addition to his regular courses in agriculture.

It may be of interest to you to know that Thetford Academy has six graduates now in attendance at the University of Vermont, one at Bennington College, one at Haverford College and one at Antioch College; there are six students from Thetford at Lyndon Teachers' College, six students at several different hospitals taking the Nurses' Training Course and six students at Northampton Business College; two girls are attending the Concord Beautician School and six boys of last year's graduating class have joined one or another of the several branches of United States armed forces.

It is a pleasure to report that Mr. William Peters of our staff was elected president of the Vermont Association of Teachers of Agriculture. He was one of the state representatives at the Kansas City meeting of the association this fall. Dorothy Stevens, a senior, is treasurer of the state organization of the Future Homemakers of America. James Crowley and Robert Huggett, both juniors, were selected by the Thetford Chapter of the Future Farmers of America to visit the Hood Company at Boston this fall.

It will be necessary to increase our tuition again for the coming year from \$265 to \$285. Even with this increase, our budget for the year ahead will not be balanced. The deficit will have to be made up by individual contributions.

As this report is the only medium that I have through which to express the appreciation of the trustees, faculty and students to the citizens of Thetford for their continued loyalty and support, I take this opportunity to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl A. Anderson,  
Principal



## TOWN OF THETFORD

### BIRTHS — 1956

Name of Child	Father	Mother	Place	Date
Goodrich, Peter Arthur	Clarence Edward Goodrich	Lillian Josephine Harris	Hanover, N. H.	24 January
Thurston, Elwood Eugene Jr.	Elwood Eugene Thurston	Gloria Ann Goodrich	Hanover, N. H.	2 March
Magoon, Cynthia Alice	Richard James Magoon	Dorothy Alice Rogers	Hanover, N. H.	4 May
Blandin, Larry Woodrow	Woodrow Wilson Blandin, Jr.	Dorothy May Lands	Hanover, N. H.	14 May
Olsen, Carolyn Marie	Edward Thomas Olsen	Elizabeth Davis	Lebanon, N. H.	28 June
Banker, Gregory Dirk	Richard Elbridge Banker	Priscilla Ruth Bond	Hanover, N. H.	10 July
Eaton, Samuel Mark	Russell Boyd Eaton	Elspeth Frazer Powell	Hanover, N. H.	19 July
Crowley, Karen Kathryn	Edwin Randell Crowley	Anna Clement Crowley	Lebanon, N. H.	28 July
Thresher, Sharon Lee	Richard Nelson Thresher	Elizabeth May Hanchett	Lebanon, N. H.	28 July
Beauregard, Anne Mary Stella	Gerry Rolland Beauregard	Yvette Maria Lacosse	Hanover, N. H.	2 August
Rogers,	Earl Allen Rogers	Janet Ruth Towle	Hanover, N. H.	6 August
Stiles, Theodore Nathan	Frank Robert Stiles	Bertha Clara Alexander	Lebanon, N. H.	29 August
Alexander, Bruce Alan	Stanley Bruce Alexander	Beatrice Cecilia Cote	Hanover, N. H.	9 September
Barker, Sheila LeeAnne	Lawrence Arthur Barker	Josephine Mae Brooke	Hanover, N. H.	22 September
Godfrey, Kathleen Augusta	Winston Allen Godfrey	Mary Gertrude Moses	Hanover, N. H.	25 September
Godfrey, Craig Allen	Winston Allen Godfrey	Mary Gertrude Moses	Hanover, N. H.	25 September
Barker, Katherine Alison	Frank Loriston Barker	Emily Tyler Anderson	Thetford, Vt.	25 December
Palmer, Jennifer Eileen	Alden Douglass Palmer	Geraldine Ella Hoffman	Lebanon, N. H.	6 October
Tuttle, Randy Lee	Brian Allen Tuttle	Norma Ellen Smith	Hanover, N. H.	9 October
Wallace, David John	Melbourne Homer Wallace	Esther May Doble	Hanover, N. H.	27 October
Higgins, Terri Elise	Gilbert Haven Higgins	Geraldine Julia Patnode	Haverhill, N. H.	28 November
Fifield, Steven Allan	Bernard Glenwood Fifield	Priscilla Alice Caswell	Hanover, N. H.	14 December
Maclay, Laurie Ann	Thomas Ian Maclay	Shirley Ann Bond	Carrollton, Ohio	28 September

## TOWN OF THETFORD

### DEATHS — 1956

Name of Deceased	Date of Death	Place of Death	Years	Months	Days
Douglas, George Edmund	5 January	New London, Conn.	95		
Preston, Leonore Etta	18 January	Williston, Florida	74		
Jaquith, Everett	8 February	Boston, Mass.	68		
Colby, Rose	14 February	Springfield, Vermont	89		
Lightner, George Cass	15 March	Burlington, Vermont	69		
Phelps, Christopher	17 April	Hanover, N. H.		5	6
Fifield, Glenwood	1 May	Waterbury, Vermont	63		
Wilbur, Julia Ash	8 May	Thetford, Vermont	55		
Hosford, Clarence	12 June	Lyme, N. H.	80		
Austin, Grace	28 June	Hanover, N. H.	56		
Bowles, Charles	23 July	Hanover, N. H.	58		
Rogers,	6 August	Hanover, N. H.	15	minutes	
Miller, Sherburne N.	17 September	Haverhill, N. H.	87		
McMaster, Nellie L.	17 October	Bradford, Vermont	87		
Abbott, Florence Mellor	27 October	Thetford, Vermont	58		
Simonds, John A.	29 October	Thetford, Vermont	76		
Munn, Marion M.	16 November	Thetford, Vermont	82		
Cross, Reginald Alonzo	21 November	Thetford, Vermont	52		
Judd, John Floyd	24 December	Thetford, Vermont	52		

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred W. Cook,  
Town Clerk

## TOWN WARNING

The legal voters of the Town and Town School District of Thetford, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Thetford Academy Auditorium-Gymnasium in said Town of Thetford, Tuesday, March 5, 1957 A.D., at 10 o'clock A. M., E.S.T., to transact the following business:

- Article 1. To elect a Moderator.
- Article 2. To elect a Town Clerk.
- Article 3. Providing for vote upon the following questions:
- a. Shall license for the sale of malt and vinous liquors be granted in this town?
  - b. Shall spirituous liquors be sold in this town?
- Article 4. To hear and act on the report of the town officers.
- Article 5. To see if the town will authorize and empower the selectmen to appoint a road commissioner or elect same by ballot.
- Article 6. To elect all other town officers.
- Article 7. To hear and act on the report of the Budget committee and raise taxes:
- a. To pay the indebtedness of the town and current expenses;
  - b. Highway tax.
- Article 8. To see if the town will vote approval of the expenditure of the Gas Tax funds for the construction, on either the State Aid or Town Highway system, as determined by the selectmen.

- Article 9. To see if the town will appropriate a sum of money, not to exceed \$125.00, to American Legion Post #79 for Memorial Day observances.
- Article 10. To see if the town will appropriate a sum of money, not to exceed \$50.00, for the Town Library.
- Article 11. To see if the town will vote to continue the program on the Pine Blister Rust Control.
- Article 12. To see if the town will authorize the auditors of the town to employ the services of an accountant from the office of the auditor of accounts to conduct an audit of the accounts of the town, as provided for in Section 3603 and Sections 3604 - 3608, inclusive, V. S. Rev. 1947.
- Article 13. To see what action the town will vote in discussing and planning the commemoration of the Town of Thetford Bi-Centennial Anniversary.
- Article 14. To see if the town will vote any action towards providing a new Central School or any other new school buildings, and if so, to raise a special tax to cover the cost of such action.
- Article 15. To see if the Town School District will vote to endorse a five-year program of rehabilitation and improvement of facilities in existing one-room school buildings and, or, additions to present buildings, providing each with running water, toilets, adequate heat and insulation, etc.
- Article 16. To see if the Town School District will vote to allow the directors to set up a Special Sinking Fund for replacement of the town owned bus.

- Article 17. To see if the Town School District will vote to accept the Budget proposal and raise the tax as recommended in same.
- Article 18. To see if the Town School District will vote to increase the rate of tuition to be paid Thetford Academy from \$265.00 to \$285.00.
- Article 19. To see if the Town School District will vote to donate a sum of money to Thetford Academy.
- Article 20. To see if the Town School District will vote a sum of money, not to exceed \$80.00 per student, as a scholarship for one or more Thetford students in a teacher preparation institution in the state, in accordance with the provisions of Section 4352 of the Public Laws.
- Article 21. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Dated at Thetford, Vermont, February 6, 1957.

George Huggett,  
William M. Bacon,  
W. G. Colton,  
Selectmen  
Town of Thetford