

SAN DIEGO
(CITY)
M.I.I.
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1907

BACK
OF
HOUSE

REFERENCE

ANNUAL MESSAGE

OF

JOHN L. SEHON

RETIRING MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
CALIFORNIA

INAUGURAL MESSAGE

OF

JOHN F. FORWARD

MAYOR-ELECT

MAY 6, 1907

S. D. City - M. I. I. 1907

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San Diego, Cal., April 29th, 1907.

To the Common Council of the City of San Diego, Cal.

Gentlemen:

In compliance with section 12, Article X, of the City Charter, I herewith transmit the annual reports submitted to me by the several Boards, Officers and other heads of Departments, of the official operations of the said Boards and Officers of the municipal government for the year ending December 31st, 1906.

I also submit the report of the expert appointed by me, in compliance with section 3, Chapter 1, Article III, of the City Charter, to examine the books and accounts of the City Officers and Departments. This expert, after examining the various books and accounts of all offices—and checking all items—reports that all records, books and accounts have been correctly kept.

Some interesting recommendations are made by the city expert, to which expressed views I invite your careful consideration.

The reports of these several Boards, Departments and Officers, appended as exhibits hereto, appear in the order and are marked in the manner indicated in the following list:

LIST OF REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS ACCOMPANYING ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1906 OF MAYOR JOHN L. SEHON TO THE COMMON COUNCIL.

- No. 1. City Attorney.
- No. 2. City Treasurer.
- No. 3. City Auditor.
- No. 4. City Clerk.
- No. 5. Board of Public Works;
 - No. 5. (a) Secretary of the Board of Public Works;
 - No. 5. (b) City Engineer;
 - No. 5. (c) Superintendent of Streets;
 - No. 5. (d) Superintendent of Water Department;
 - No. 5. (e) Chief Clerk Water Department;
 - No. 5. (f) Superintendent of Sewers;
 - No. 5. (g) City Boiler Inspector.
- No. 6. Plumbing Inspector and Secretary Board of Health;
 - No. 6. (a) City Health Officer.
- No. 7. Secretary Board of Fire Commissioners.
- No. 8. Chief of Police.
- No. 9. City Justice.
- No. 10. Cemetery Commissioners.
- No. 11. Board of Park Commissioners.
- No. 12. Secretary Board Library Trustees.
- No. 13. City Poundkeeper.
- No. 14. City Expert.

CITY ATTORNEY

The important duties of City Attorney have been well performed. The scope of thought and expression of opinion required therein are extended and cover a wide range. Both this official and his deputy have carefully attended to their professional work proper, which is constantly increasing, as well as at other times having willingly advised, when requested so to do, the several heads of municipal Departments upon various subjects of much importance.

I wish to renew my former recommendation that the City Attorney be requested to prepare, or at least to review, all proposed ordinances and resolutions.

In this connection I therefore quote from my report of last year:

“At various times resolutions and ordinances have been prepared by parties not connected with this office and frequently adopted by Your Honorable Body without reference to the City Attorney. In so doing, unfortunate errors have at times resulted, producing faulty legislation, as also on occasions causing vexatious delays. Nearly all public offices gradually adopt a ‘form’ for certain classes of documents to meet requirements of law, and in such it is desirable that a certain uniformity should be maintained.

“It is therefore much safer to adhere to the conservative custom of requiring the City Attorney to prepare and submit for the consideration of the municipal Legislative Body all proposed resolutions and ordinances.”

For detailed information respecting this office I invite your careful attention to the full report of the City Attorney.

CITY TREASURER AND EX-OFFICIO TAX COLLECTOR.

The report of this official shows in full the amounts of money received from the several city Departments.

Total amount received during the year..	.. \$752,535.74
Balance on hand January 1st, 1907.....	.. \$170,708.10

It is to be hoped that the recent law authorizing the Treasurer to deposit a certain amount of public funds in bank, where said bank deposits as security bonds, state, county or municipal, greater in amount by 10 per cent than the public deposit received, may soon become effective.

This change will tend to place more money in circulation in the community, as well as materially lessen the Treasurer's responsibility.

I invite attention to the Treasurer's criticism upon his present safe, and recommend that a new and modern safe be purchased for his office.

As Tax Collector the following amounts were handled:

Taxes for 1906	\$229,872.22
5 per cent discount and costs.....	4,965.49
Delinquent taxes	939.60
Tax deeds	27.50
Liquor Licenses	35,209.20
Municipal Licenses	1,071.84
Dog tax	567.00
Balance on hand January 1st, 1907.....	1,447.61
Total,	<u>\$274,100.46</u>

On stated occasions the executive, assisted by other members of the Auditing Committee, counted and verified the cash on hand, as required by section 4, Chapter 1, Article III, of the City Charter.

CITY AUDITOR AND EX-OFFICIO ASSESSOR.

The affairs of this office have been carefully and ably managed. The report submitted shows in detail the segregation of expenditures made from the different funds and is very complete and comprehensive.

I incorporate the following summary showing the source from which the city revenues were received during the fiscal year ending December 31st, 1906:

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT, SHOWING IN DETAIL THE SOURCE FROM WHICH THE CITY REVENUES WERE DERIVED DURING THE YEAR, 1906.

Balance on hand, January 1st.....	\$311,840.44
From Tax Levy of 1905.....	\$ 4,965.49
From Tax Levy of 1906	241,056.61
From Delinquent Tax	2,314.82
From Tax Deeds	27.50
From Liquor License	35,209.20
From Municipal License	1,071.84
From Dog License	567.00
From Redemptions	3,066.46
From Auditor's Fees	582.50
From Deposit by Property Owners for 1st, 2d & 3rd streets sewers, etc.,	203.46
From Settlement of Suit, City v. Steward, P. L. 1793.....	1,625.00
From Sale of Street Railway Franchises	4,738.00
From Rent of City Lands.....	135.00

From Deposit to Provide for Preliminary expenses, etc., street Improvements	1,068.50
From Water Rate Collections...	121,542.83
From Sale of Scrap Iron & Brass	1,207.85
From Engineer's Fees	7,359.25
From S. D. Elec. Ry. Co. ac. "H" Street Culvert	2,000.00
From Fees ac Street Work...	1,823.03
From Deposit Steam Fire Engine Contract	275.00
From Contribution by Property Owners Benefited by Oiling "D" St. Between 20th and 22nd Streets	600.00
From Sale of Horses, Fire Dept.	275.00
From Rent, Board of Education.	72.00
From Plumbing Permits	1,366.50
From Death Certificates	13.65
From Fines and Rewards ac Arrests	2,257.80
From Contribution by Property to purchase Trees for Park	350.00
From Rent of La Jolla Park...	50.00
From Rent of seats on Plaza...	8.90
From Fines and Fees, Public Library	441.57
Total	\$749,857.58

The outstanding bonded indebtedness Dec. 31st, 1906, was as follows:

School Bonds	\$ 4,000.00
Refunding Bonds	201,500.00
Fire Improvement Bonds	34,000.00
Water Bonds	525,000.00
Bridge Bonds	3,500.00
Sewer Extension Bonds	129,500.00
Water Improvement Bonds	184,075.00
"B" Street Conduit Bonds	73,125.00
30th Street Water Main Bonds	52,650.00
Total	\$1,207,350.00

CITY CLERK.

I invite careful attention to the full and interesting report submitted by this officer, from which report the following extract is taken:

5,509 documents were filed in this office as compared with 3,929 for the year 1905.

450 ordinances were adopted as compared with 433.

580 resolutions were adopted as compared with 500.

19 concurrent resolutions were adopted as compared with 14.

The card index system in this office has been completed, so

that every ordinance that has been adopted by the common council has been properly indexed and cross-indexed.

I approve the City Clerk's general recommendations concerning the desirability of providing the various municipal offices above the first floor with some fire-proof storage vault facilities for valuable public documents, as also the necessity of thoroughly repairing the elevator in the city hall, or, preferably, installing a new elevator of modern design.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

The report of the Board of Public Works transmits the reports of the Secretary of the Board, City Engineer, Superintendent of Streets, Superintendent of Water Department, Chief Clerk of Water Department, Superintendent of Sewers, and the City Boiler Inspector, and refers briefly to a number of the leading features of several of said reports.

The Board also makes some most appropriate recommendations, some of which have been included in the bond issues recently voted and others can no doubt be provided for from this year's current revenue.

I would invite your especial attention to the following recommendations made:

Storm Sewers.

"Storm sewers should be constructed to care for the storm water in the business center of the city. This could be done by constructing one such sewer in "E" street from 7th to Atlantic and one in "I" street from 8th to the Bay."

New Trunk Line Sewer.

"There should be constructed a trunk line sewer starting from 5th and Ash streets, running west on Ash to Union and connecting with the twelve inch sewer line and connecting up all sewers on intersecting streets with the line. By doing this it will relieve the sewer line in the down-town districts."

The largely increased business transacted in all Operative Departments under the control of the Board of Public Works has naturally devolved greater responsibilities upon the Board, so that it was found necessary to have weekly two regular stated meetings of the Board, in addition to which many special meetings of the Board were required in order to act upon unusual matters arising unexpectedly.

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

The business of this office, though practically doubled during the past year, has been efficiently handled. I wish to especially commend the exceptionally neat and accurate manner in which the various street assessment rolls have been prepared.

During the fiscal year ending December 31st, 1906, this office received and deposited with the City Treasurer the following amounts:

RECEIPTS

Engineer's Department for grade stakes, etc..	\$7,132.25	
Street Advertising, grading, etc.	1,053.03	
Opening Streets and Moving Buildings.....	249.45	
Sale of Ordinances and Charters.....	10.50	
General ac. Scrap Iron.....	\$1,082.85	
General ac. Water Tank.....	125.00	
General ac. "D" Street Oiling....	600.00	
General ac. Sale 3 Fire Engine		
Horses	275.00	
General ac. Insurance Rebate....	20.00	
Deposits	515.00	2,617.85

Total \$11,063.08

as compared with a total of \$5,802.69 for the year 1905.

Contracts

- 2 Contracts for gate valves and special castings.
- 2 Contracts for cast iron pipe.
- 1 Contract for hay and grain.
- 8 Contracts for construction of sewers.
- 2 Contracts for construction of water pipe lines.
- 1 Contract for "B" street re-enforced concrete conduit
- 1 Contract for "H" street re-enforced concrete culvert
- 1 Contract for paving "D" street between 20th & 22nd
- 1 Contract for metallic filing case.
- 1 Contract for horse and buggy for Chief of Fire Dept.
- 1 Contract for steam fire engine.
- 1 Contract for chemical fire engine and hose wagon.
- 1 Contract for 1,000 feet fire hose.
- 1 Contract for street lighting.
- 11 Contracts for sidewalking and curbing.
- 35 Contracts for grading.

Total—70 Contracts.

Records.

In the office over 5,000 documents were filed and properly indexed under the card system, and of this number over 2,000 were written in this department.

838 building permits were issued, representing an aggregate property value of more than \$2,762,285.00, the largest amount of construction ever done in one year in the history of the city.

It is very satisfactory to observe the steady and continued increase in the record of these building permits for the past six years,

Year	No. Permits Issued.	Valuation.
1901	252	\$ 123,285.00
1902	127	432,140.00
1903	267	710,123.00
1904	505	914,967.00
1905	735	1,194,370.00
1906	838	2,762,285.00

During the same period permits for sewer lateral connections were issued as follows:

SEWER PERMITS ISSUED.		No.
Year.		
1901		87
1902		79
1903		128
1904		207
1905		218
1906		869

OTHER PERMITS ISSUED

Plumbing Permits issued to the Health Department.....	869
Building Permits issued to the Health Department.....	838
Permits to move buildings	19
Permits to contractors to lay 36121 feet of sidewalk....	294
Permits issued to City Engineer to set stakes for same....	294
Permits issued to erect steam boilers	11

Street Work.

There have been 20 assessment rolls made for street grading improvements and 11 assessment rolls for sidewalk improvements, requiring the writing of 650 pages of 15 by 23 in size, while in the year 1905 it required but 304 pages of the same size.

The City of San Diego now has five miles of paved streets, 64 miles of graded streets, 89 miles of sidewalks and 92 miles of street curbing.

CITY ENGINEER

In addition to the increased volume of current business transacted, much additional work has been performed in the office of

the city engineer by reason of the construction of the new 30th street water main and the "B" street re-enforced concrete conduit, under contracts, from proceeds of bond issues. The management of the office is good, and the various maps, documents and records are well and conveniently kept.

The following list recites the subdivisions in brief of what may be regarded as current work, viz:

- 44 estimates for street grading.
- 54 reports on construction sidewalks and curbs.
- 67 recommendations for official grades.
- 71 ordinances adopted by council for official grades.
- 17 changes of official grade elevations.
- 19 streets and alleys closed.
- 13 maps of additions and subdivisions filed.
- 1 street opened, extension.
- 43 proceedings for street improvements under Vrooman Act.
- 17 proceedings for street improvement afterward abandoned in order to make certain changes.
- 57 estimates filed on general miscellaneous subjects.

In addition to the foregoing, 47 detail drawings and plans prepared.

25 contracts under control of city engineer.

27 field surveys, elevations for which reports had not been completed on January 1st, 1907.

16 estimates for yardage pending, not completed on January 1st, 1907.

Miscellaneous Work.

A large amount of work has been done for the various departments of the city government, viz: For the Assessor's office, Sewer Department, Legal Department and Water Department.

Receipts.

According to the books of the Secretary of the Board of Public Works there was collected during the year 1906 the total sum of \$7132.25 for fees earned by this office. This does not represent the full earnings of the office for the reason that a number of streets upon which estimates have been worked up were still in the hands of the council, the contracts not having been awarded at the time of submission of the City Engineer's report.

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.

The work performed in the Street Department and the number of streets graded during the year is greater than ever before known during any year in the history of the city.

During the year the following work was accomplished:

- 20 streets graded under contract.
- 9 streets sidewalked and curbed.
- 19 roads and bridges constructed or repaired.
- 16 streets re-graded by the Department.
- 10 paved streets repaired, requiring a total of 70,648 square feet of bitumen repair work.
- 71 streets posted for grading.
- 3200 feet of pipe culverts laid.

This Department also built a wing-dam 260 feet long at Old Town bridge for the purpose of producing slack water in order to prevent cutting of the river banks and dike at the bridge; and also excavated a large ditch 1900 feet long to aid in deflecting the San Diego river back to its old channel passing directly under the Old Town bridge. This work was planned for the purpose of protecting the bridge and dike at the north end of the bridge, and the plan approved by the United States Engineer Officer of this district before adoption by the Board of Public Works.

During the summer and fall the Street Superintendent kept all serviceable street sprinklers in operation sixteen hours daily, making two reliefs, a day and night shift of eight hours each. This innovation was very successful and met with the approbation of the entire public.

Six new sprinkling carts have been recently purchased and delivered to the Street Department; with this additional number of sprinklers it is presumed that by pursuing the same system a much larger section of the city streets may be kept free from dust during the coming summer and fall.

The laying of dust is a very important matter in this city, both from the standpoint of cleanliness and comfort of our citizens and also from the point of protecting and preserving the streets in good condition. The natural earth is our streets, if rounded up and a proper crest be given, can be kept in excellent condition during the dry season, if frequently sprinkled.

So many miles of new graded streets are being so rapidly added that it will be utterly impossible to properly care for them

unless more horses, wagons and street implements be added and the street force be materially increased.

The Street Superintendent has purchased five teams of horses recently authorized, but this number will hardly suffice to more than replace old and broken down animals now in the Department.

In this connection, I recommend that six additional teams of horses be added to the Street Department and that the Street Superintendent be authorized to construct in the city blacksmith shops four new iron tank sprinklers.

For years the Street Department has maintained its stables and blacksmith shop at Union and "G" streets in rented property entirely unsuited to the purpose.

The Street Department having entirely outgrown the accommodations provided in that locality, it has been realized for some time that the only proper solution of the question was the purchase or construction of a municipal stable and corral for the Department. An opportunity was afforded of purchasing for \$5,000 the east half of the Switzer tract at 20th and "B" streets, adjoining the 1400 Acre Public Park, and by the acceptance of this offer the city came into possession of a two and one-half acre tract well adapted for the purposes of the Street Department stable and corral.

The Superintendent of Streets prepared practical plans for a barn, blacksmith shop, and necessary sheds, and, an appropriation of \$8,500 having been made for the purpose, the work of constructing these buildings was rapidly executed in a substantial and thorough manner under the personal direction of the Superintendent of Streets.

The Street Department is, therefore, now permanently located and occupying buildings especially planned and adapted for its needs.

The City of San Diego comprises an exceptionally large area, and I can plainly foresee that if our present rate of progress in grading new streets is maintained, the city must in the near future provide additional grounds and buildings for an increased street force adequate for future needs. In order to economize time it will then be wise to locate a branch city stable somewhere in the east end of the city, and also a branch stable somewhere along India street toward Old Town. The city now owns Block 155, Middletown Addition, on India street, which

block should be kept intact for the future uses of the Street Department in this connection.

The work has now outgrown the stage where one man as Superintendent can properly oversee the labor of the Department. An assistant superintendent or foreman, to whom some degree of responsibility may be delegated, is urgently needed today.

The Street Superintendent is an efficient, practical man, accustomed to employing men.

Some time ago he saw and recognized that no proper method existed for the care and accountability of hand street tools, such as picks, shovels, brooms, &c., and inaugurated a system whereby a record is kept of articles issued to different employes, who must now properly account for all such articles, or be charged with the cost of any such articles not returned to the barn.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

Superintendent W. B. Chilton assumed control of the Water Department July 1st, 1906, relieving Street Superintendent W. P. Moore, who had been placed temporarily in charge of the Water Department June 15th, on the resignation of Superintendent C. S. Alverson.

Superintendent Chilton continued, as far as practicable, the wise and effective policy inaugurated by former Superintendent Alverson of replacing small and worn out sections of the old water system mains with new and larger pipe.

These betterments, made from the revenue of the Department, have greatly improved the general water distributing system.

Water Supply:

The water now used by the city is furnished by the Southern California Mountain Water Company from its reservoir at Lower Otay Dam under a ten year contract, at four cents per one thousand gallons. Delivery of the Otay water into the University Heights reservoir commenced at 11 A. M. August 13th, 1906.

During the six months from January 1st to July 1st, 1906, the water supplied to the city amounted to 387,722,550 gallons, of which 259,586, 750 gallons were purchased at four cents per thousand gallons from the San Diego Flume Company and 128,155,800 gallons were pumped by the city pumping plants from the sands of the San Diego river. The San Diego Flume Company could have supplied the entire amount required during the period

named, but the flume line not being in first class repair, it was considered unsafe to depend wholly upon that source; but only sufficient water to obtain a reasonably economical service was pumped at the city pumping plant. From July 1st to August 13th, 1906, the entire amount of water supplied the city, 138,603,000, was purchased from the San Diego Flume Company at four cents per thousand gallons.

The total amount of water supplied during the year 1906 was 942,405,550 gallons, the largest amount ever used in any one year, and was obtained from the following sources:

	City Pumping Plant.	S. D. Flume Co.	S. C. Mt. W. Co.
Jan. 1st to			
July 1st.	128,155,800	259,566,750	
July 1st to			
Aug. 13th.		138,603,000	
Aug. 13th to			
Dec. 31, '06			416,080,000
			Grand Total 942,405,550

This total of 942,405,550 gallons supplied during the year 1906 exceeds the total amount of 759,561,575 gallons supplied during the year 1905 by over twenty-four per cent.

During the year, the Water Department earned in excess of cost of operation and necessary repairs about \$46,000, which was expended as follows:

Pipe and fittings	\$23,538.28
Meters	8,403.27
New Pump	500.00
Horses and wagons	1,642.67
Labor, about	12,000.00
Total	\$45,884.22

Water Mains.

The mains are in good condition with the exception of the old kalamein pipe that is still in use. All of this kalamein pipe on the lower levels, where the pressure is high, gives trouble by developing leaks.

These kalamein mains on the lower levels are to be replaced by cast iron pipe under the bond issue recently voted.

SERVICE EXTENSIONS DURING THE YEAR

	No.	No. of Feet
$\frac{3}{4}$ inch service	666	15,021 feet
1 inch service	28	504 feet
2 inch service	4	97 feet
	<hr/> 698	<hr/> 15,622 feet

PIPE LINES LAID BY DEPARTMENT

	Put in.	Taken out.
¾ inch	0 feet	0 feet
1 inch	852 feet	550 feet
1¼ inch	31 feet	31 feet
1½ inch	408 feet	156 feet
2 inch	20538 feet	
2½ inch	314 feet	
3 inch	994 feet	
4 inch	14669 feet	
5 inch	0 feet	
6 inch	3541 feet	
7 inch	662 feet	
8 inch	0 feet	
10 inch	128 feet	
Total.....	42,137 feet	761 feet

Service extensions, 16,622 feet; new pipes laid, 42,904 feet, or a total of 59,526 feet laid by the Water Department during the year.

There was also laid by private parties much additional pipe, and this pipe, while not public property, contributed to the revenue of the Water Department.

December 31st, 1901, there was in the ground and operated by the Water Department a total length of mains of all sizes 99.38 miles, at the close of the year 1905 the total mileage had grown to 140.46 miles, and on December 31st, 1906, there was a total mileage of pipe lines of 148.30 miles.

Fire Hydrants.

Total number of hydrants in 1901 was 250.

	1905.	1906.
Total number single hydrants	215	327
Total number double hydrants	71	80
Total number put in under bond issue of 1905 (single)	110	
(double)	5	
Total.....	401	407

During 1906, 4 double and two single hydrants were put in, in addition to which seven old hydrants were repaired and renewed.

Gate Valves.

Total number in 1901.....	586
Total number in 1905	699
Put in under bond issue of 1905	289
Put in by Department, 1906	97
Total in 1906	1085

Main Pumping Plant.

The main pumping plant, located in Mission Valley, was shut down in June, 1906. The machinery has been dismantled, white leaded, and put away in such shape that it can be reassembled with the least possible delay.

Auxiliary Plants in Mission Valley.

All the gasoline engines and pumps that were installed in the river bed in Mission Valley have been taken out and stored at the main plant. The machinery has been taken apart, cleaned and coated with white lead to protect it from the action of the weather.

Auxiliary Plant at Point Loma.

Consists of one 25 H. P. West Coast gasoline engine and one 8 by 8½ inch Deming Duplex Plunger Pump to raise water from the lower to the upper reservoir, there not being enough difference in elevation between University Heights Reservoir and the Upper Point Loma Reservoir for sufficient water to flow by gravity.

Auxiliary Plant at University Heights.

Consisted of one 16 H. P. (and later changed to one 25 H. P.) West Coast gas engine and one 4½ inch by 10 inch Fairbanks Duplex Plunger Pump (afterwards changed to one 4 inch Jackson Centrifugal Pump), located at the corner of El Cajon avenue and Idaho street, which auxiliary plant is used to fill the large wooden tank erected at Madison avenue and Idaho street for the purpose of supplying residents in that neighborhood, the elevation of that section being above University Heights reservoir.

RESERVOIRS

University Heights Reservoir.

Capacity, 3,198,728 gallons; elevation 373 feet.

Old Town Reservoir.

Capacity, 3,620,455 gallons; elevation 143 feet.

Lower Point Loma Reservoir.

Capacity at six feet, 274,275 gallons; elevation 260 feet.

Upper Point Loma Reservoir.

Capacity, 1,187,785 gallons; elevation 371 feet.

Pacific Beach Reservoir

Capacity 1,804,622 gallons; elevation 288 feet.

The La Jolla Reservoir

is out of commission on account of leaks, and is not included in the list of serviceable reservoirs. It is not possible to repair it at a reasonable cost, and it is intended to replace it with a new one.

The report submitted from this Department gives a detailed statement of the machinery, mechanical appliances and tools belonging to the City Water Department.

There has been a great improvement in the proper rearrangement and connecting up of the water system in different sections of the city; in many places gates have been put in to properly regulate the flow, and this at times saves much annoyance by restricting to as small an area as possible a territory shut off from the water supply when a break occurs or repairs become necessary.

In compliance with my instructions, the city engineer during the year prepared from data furnished by the Water Department, accurate maps giving locations, sizes, &c., of mains, and other necessary information. These maps are invaluable to the Water Department and should by all means be kept constantly up to date.

I concur in the recommendation of the Water Superintendent that the Department be furnished with the accessories for a repair shop, viz, a small power lathe and drill press, and a tapping machine that will make four inch, six inch and eight inch connections without shutting off the water.

CHIEF CLERK OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

Total amount of money collected from all sources and turned over to the City Treasurer. \$121,542.83.

EARNINGS AND COLLECTIONS.

General Public	\$121,542.83
Municipal	9,175.96
Total	<u>\$130,718.79</u>

NUMBER OF CONSUMERS.

Rate Accounts, active	1186
Rate Accounts, shut-offs,	153
Meter Accounts, active	3886
Meter Accounts, shut-offs	<u>107</u>
Total	5,332

MISCELLANEOUS CONNECTIONS.

Permits were issued for new taps as follows:

½ inch taps	2
¾ inch taps	663
1 inch taps	28
2 inch taps	4
4 inch taps	1
	<hr/>
Total new taps	698
New service extensions	20,119 feet
New meters:	
⅝ inch	726
¾ inch	2
1 inch	14
2 inch	2
4 inch	1
	<hr/>
Total	745
Air valves (put in in February)	1

COMPARATIVE.

	General	Municipal	Total	Actual Rec'pts
Earnings for 1906.	\$121,542.83	\$ 9,175.96	\$130,718.79	\$121,542.83
Earnings for 1905.	103,737.45	16,737.96	120,475.41	103,455.38
Increase				18,087.45

July 1st, 1906, in accordance with an ordinance effective that date, accounts due the city were changed from "municipal" to "general" earnings.

Consumers' Accounts

	August 1, 1901,		
	Date city took charge	1905	1906
Active Rate Accounts	1834	1253	1186
Active Meter Accounts	1542	3252	3886
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3376	4505	5072

There has been a total increase of 1696 active accounts since August 1st, 1901, when the city took charge of the Water Department. The meter accounts show an increase of 2344, and the rate accounts a decrease of 648.

The records show that by far the greater part of the applications for new taps call for meters.

The change from outside collectors to paying at the office is very satisfactory, and has been commended by the public generally. The amount of clerical work required in this office is constantly increasing, the large number of meter accounts making this fact especially noticeable.

I heartily concur in the recommendation of the Chief Clerk that his office be furnished with some kind of an addressograph for the purpose of making out water bills. Such an article is now considered almost indispensable in all offices where the accounts of a public utility of this nature are handled.

SEWER DEPARTMENT.

At the beginning of the year, January 1st, 1906, the sewer system comprised 45 miles of sewer lines and 112 flush tanks. Some of these lines have been rearranged, and many lines and tanks repaired.

On February 1st, 1906, the new sewer system constructed under the bond issue voted in 1903 was turned over to the Department.

The addition of this new system, with several extensions put in under contract, and certain extensions made under the direction of the Superintendent of Sewers, brings the total mileage of sewer lines up to 76 miles, with 182 flush tanks. On account of changes of grade and other reasons it was found necessary to reconstruct a number of flush tanks and manholes to proper grades, which work was done by members of the Sewer Department without any extra expense to the city other than the cost of material.

During the year 1905, 218 connections were made with the sewer system; this year 866 connections were made, being, as the Superintendent states in his report, a greater number than all connections made during the eight previous years.

I concur in the recommendataion of the Sewer Superintendent for a new main trunk line sewer, starting at Fifth and Ash streets, running west on Ash to Union and connecting there with the twelve inch sewer.

It is plainly to be seen that such a new main sewer will soon be needed in order to relieve the congested condition of the sewers in the business section of the city.

I also approve of the suggestion made by the Superintendent of Sewers that in all new sewer lines Y's be put in at 25 foot intervals instead of 50 foot intervals as at present.

This would cost only a trifling additional expense when first constructing the line, and yet prove of great benefit when future connections are to be made.

CITY BOILER INSPECTOR.

The report submitted shows boilers inspected under provisions of Ordinance No. 1142, for the year ending December 31st, 1906, 40; and boilers covered by insurance and not subject to inspection, 51; total, 91.

PLUMBING INSPECTOR AND SECRETARY BOARD OF HEALTH.

The report submitted by this officer contains a tabulated statement of the work performed as Sanitary Inspector, as also a statement of expenditures made on account of this office.

The following amounts are shown as received and deposited with the City Treasurer as required by law:

For Plumbing Permits.....	\$1242.00
For Certificates of Death.....	14.00
Total	<u>\$1256.00</u>

CITY HEALTH OFFICER.

The report submitted by this officer presents, with other matters, the vital statistics of the city. I invite careful attention to the statements of the Health Officer concerning four special subjects which should receive prompt attention:

I. Garbage.

This is a serious and difficult problem to handle, and I cannot at this time better express my views upon the subject than by quoting from my last annual report to the common council:

“Attention is invited to the manner of collection and disposal of garbage in the city. Ultimately there is no doubt but what this work, as the city grows, must become a municipal responsibility; for the present, however, I think the matter can be handled by private contractors, though the existing methods can and should be materially improved. Only parties who have secured permits should be allowed to collect or carry garbage through any public street, and only water tight, metallic wagons that permit no leakage, with a suitable covering, should be permitted on our public streets.”

II. Disposal of Stable Manure.

Systematic methods should be employed for the frequent cleaning, especially in the business sections, of stables and barns and the collection of manure.

The Board of Park Commissioners would undoubtedly be glad to receive all such manure, and ordinances should be adopted requiring the street sweepings contractor to deposit street sweepings at certain points in the Park for park purposes.

III. Modern Appliances for Testing Milk.

Since the submission of the Health Officer's report, the Department has obtained a centrifuge for testing the quality and cleanliness of milk. Some few other articles may be required in the near future for work in this connection.

IV. Pest House.

Immediate suitable provision should be made for the segregation and care of infectious diseases.

The present pest house is a mere dilapidated shed, without plumbing and sewer connections, and even has not water piped to it. The city should immediately build a small pest house with modern sanitary conveniences.

SECRETARY BOARD FIRE COMMISSIONERS.

The report submitted by the Board of Fire Commissioners and the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department enumerates in detail the property on hand belonging to the Fire Department, and makes recommendations for additional men and equipment considered necessary to maintain the efficiency of the Department.

The total cost of maintaining the Fire Department for the year ending December 31st, 1906, was \$33,001.39, which includes the purchase of a No. 2 Ahrens Steamer and apparatus for \$7,220.00 and the acquisition of a site for a new engine house at Fifth and Palm streets for \$2,150.00.

The Department responded to eighty-two alarms during the year, divided as follows:

- 56 fires in wooden buildings;
- 9 fires in brick and stone buildings;
- 12 fires other than building fires;
- 5 false alarms.

Insurance Reports.

Total value of buildings involved in fires.....	\$580,450.00
Total value of contents involved in fires.....	305,545.00
Total value of all property involved in fires....	<u>\$885,995.00</u>

Total insurance on buildings involved in fires...	\$108,250.00
Total insurance on contents involved in fires....	72,900.00
	<hr/>
Total insurance on property involved in fires....	\$181,150.00
Total insurance loss on buildings.....	\$ 7,950.00
Total insurance loss on contents.....	8,102.00
	<hr/>
Total insurance loss on buildings and contents...	\$16,052.00
Total loss on buildings, insured and uninsured...	\$13,830.00
Total loss on contents, insured and uninsured....	12,002.00
	<hr/>
Total loss on buildings and contents, insured and uninsured	\$25,832.00

The discipline of the Department is excellent, but a further increase in men, horses and apparatus is necessary.

Alarm System

The Gamewell Fire Alarm system recently installed under contract and leased to the city with an option upon the part of the city to purchase the same, has been accepted by the city and is now in successful operation.

The System Consists of:

- 22 miles of No. 10 water proof copper wire;
- 36 alarm boxes with improved key guard;
- 8 fifteen inch gongs and visual indicators;
- 1 six inch gong;
- 1 plain indicator;
- 1 transmitter box with 36 extra charter wheels.

The Central Office Equipment Consists of:

- 1 eight circuit storage battery switch-board;
- 1 six circuit automatic repeater;
- 120 cells of storage battery, with battery rack and appurtenances.

The wires in the mercantile district from "B" to "K" street and from Fourth to Sixth street are now placed in the underground system.

It was found necessary to change the location of several alarm boxes in order to get the numbers in rotation and to conform to the new numbers of new boxes.

New Apparatus.

The following new apparatus have been added to the Department:

1 second size Ahrens engine, together with one large deluge nozzle with 5 feet of three and one-half inch hose and siamese connection for same;

1 combination hose wagon;

1 small special chemical wagon for La Jolla, built by the City Department under the direction of the Chief of the Fire Department;

1 fire chief's buggy;

1000 feet fire hose; and a number of small articles.

Heaters on Engines.

The engines are now provided with heaters, thereby keeping steam on the boilers constantly and ready to go to work as soon as connections are made, consequently affording more prompt and efficient service.

Relief Fund.

The Department received \$450.00 from a souvenir book compiled by W. A. Gilmore for the benefit of the Firemen's Relief Fund, which, with other contributions, increased the amount of this fund to \$540.00. Since the submission of the Fire Commissioner's report \$421.00 was received from a special local theatrical entertainment for the benefit of the Firemen's Relief Fund, the total of which is now \$961.00. The fund will be in charge of the Board of Fire Commissioners, who will establish rules governing the same.

It is pleasant to report that no deaths or accidents have occurred to firemen while in discharge of their duties as firemen.

Special attention is invited to the following recommendations of the Fire Commissioners, in which suggestions I concur, viz:

I. That the lot on Thirteenth street between "H" and "I" streets be sold and a lot in Middletown be purchased and a hose house be built thereon, with a drill tower in connection.

II. All fire alarm boxes and fire hydrants should be painted white.

III. That an ordinance be passed prohibiting any company or person from placing any pole or any other obstruction which might interfere with the Fire Department making hose connections readily, nearer than two feet to a fire hydrant.

IV. That an ordinance be passed prohibiting any person cutting, opening or tampering with the fire alarm system or wires

without first notifying and receiving the consent of the Superintendent of the Fire Alarm system.

CHIEF OF POLICE.

The report of the Chief of Police for the year ending December 31st, 1906, summarized, exhibits the following data:

Schedule A—Offenses.

Arrests	928	
Convictions		648
Discharged		70
Held to answer to Superior Court.....		33
Forfeiting bail		167
Cases still pending		10
Total	928	

Schedule B—Receipts.

Fines, Forfeitures and Rewards paid into the office of City Justice.....	\$2928.00
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Schedule C—Expenditures.

Boarding Prisoners	\$ 445.00
Hack Hire	297.00
Repairs to city bicycles.....	24.25
Office expenses	125.15
Ordinance 928 (secret service).....	202.35
Interpreter	24.00
Office clock	12.00

Total	\$1129.75
Lost and stolen property recovered.....	\$1465.00

The Police force is rendering good and efficient service. No deaths have occurred in the Department during the year 1906, and the general health of the Police force has been good. However, more time has been lost on account of sickness than usually occurs in a force of an equal number of men. This was due to the long continued sickness of Police Officer Jones, who has since been removed from the force on account of a chronic disability.

CITY JUSTICE.

The report of the City Justice for the fiscal year ending December 31st, 1906, exhibits the following data:

Total number of cases filed.....	580
Divided as follows:	
For violation ordinance against intoxication	488
For violation other city ordinances	68
For violation state law	24
	<hr/>
	580
	<hr/>
	580

Receipts, total.....	\$2083.30
Fines and forfeitures.....	\$1938.30
Fees	145.00
	<hr/>
	\$2083.30 \$2083.30

As no expenditures were made by the City Justice, the cost of maintaining the City Justice Court may be obtained from the records of the City Auditor.

The records of the City Justice's Court disclose the fact that in the year last past (1906) there were 119 cases less filed for the offense of drunkenness on public streets than for the year previous (1905). This marked decrease is significant and gratifying fact in view of the large increase in population of the city during the last year.

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS.

The Cemetery Commissioners report that the grounds of Mount Hope Cemetery, including within its boundaries Masonic, I. O. O. F., G.A.R., and Home of Peace plats, are in good condition and well kept.

The improved portion of the cemetery is so largely occupied that the Commissioners are now considering some plan whereby that part of the cemetery north of the present improved tract may be cleared, laid out, and walks and drives made to conform to the contour of the ground.

Interments during the year, 420.

Summary of Receipts and Disbursements.

RECEIPTS.

Received from sale of lots and foundations.....	\$2892.80
Superintendent's balance on hand Jany. 1st, 1906..	485.48
	<hr/>
Total	\$3378.28

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid for telephones.....	\$ 91.50
Paid for water.....	50.70
Paid for labor.....	1228.90
Paid for Superintendent's salary.....	1020.00
Paid for road grader.....	47.50
Incidentals	129.31
	<hr/>
Total	\$2567.91
Turned over to Treasurer.....	300.00
Supt's Bal. on hand Jany. 1st, '07....	510.37
	<hr/>
Total	\$3378.28

ASSETS.

Reservoir, cost.....	\$ 710.00
Vault, cost.....	500.00
Office and fixtures.....	200.00
Store house and tools.....	115.00
Fence and pipe.....	500.00
Lots sold, unpaid.....	432.50
Cash in superintendent's hands.....	510.37
Cash in treasurer's hands.....	1888.94
Total	\$4856.81

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS.

The Board of Park Commissioners report that the work of caring for the various parks of the city has progressed favorably during the year. In my opinion, the improvement and progress made, especially in the 1400 acre park, has been very marked.

City Park.

The principal improvements in the City Park have been the construction of the driveway known as Park avenue, extending along the west boundary line of the park from Juniper street to Upas street, a distance of about 4200 feet; and the construction of the entrances to the park at Juniper, Maple and Quince streets, aggregating about 1,000 feet.

The principal plantations were the setting out of a large number of trees near the southeast corner of the park and planting a number of flowering shrubs along the footways of the west margin, between Fir and Juniper streets, so as to complete the main plan of plantation for that portion of the park.

Golden Hill Section.

In the Golden Hill section an attractive rest house has been constructed, so situated that it forms an interesting feature from the opposite hills, as well as close at hand. When the new road connecting this section of the park with the Central Oiled Driveway is completed, the Board of Park Commissioners contemplate putting in a fine pavement for the tennis court and constructing an athletic field near Twenty-seventh street. The people of Golden Hill raised a fund of \$1500.00 to assist the Park Commissioners in constructing this new road, which it is expected to have completed by next Spring.

New Town Park and the Plaza.

are maintained in excellent shape.

The Plaza.

From time to time recently I have observed a tendency looking to radical changes in the present system of improvements on the Plaza. In my opinion, any changes that would prevent a free access of the people to all parts of the Plaza would be a mistake. I condensed my views on this subject in my last annual report, from which I quote as follows:

“The Plaza, located very close to the business center, though comparatively small in area, is improved in the manner best adapted to afford the greatest pleasure to the general public. This Square is kept in excellent condition, and should always be maintained chiefly as a place for public assemblage.”

La Jolla Park.

At La Jolla Park the bath house has been completed and has received such generous support that extensions of the same became necessary and the management applied for more ground space, which petition was granted by the Board of Park Commissioners.

The matter of the transfer, now pending, of all of the remaining park land at La Jolla to the Regents of the State University for a biological station, in compliance with an enabling Act passed at the last session of the State Legislature, is an important prospective event and a new departure in the improvement of park lands.

The bill passed by the Legislature authorizing the transfer of title to the Regents of the State University for a biological station carries a proviso that the people are to have access to the grounds for a park, where the lands are not necessary to the biological station. The Board of Park Commissioners think the rights of the people in the matter have been protected, and approve the proposed transfer.

Expenditures.

The expenditures for the calendar year are as follows:

Administration expenses	\$	141.00
New Town Park and Plaza:—		
Payroll	\$	780.00
Maintenance		48.85
Water		54.80
		<hr/>

883.65

City Park:—

Payroll	\$6255.95
Water	63.40
Water system.....	64.00
Roads	705.47
Plantation	750.47
Improvements	5959.22
Stable	539.09
Tools	95.90
Sundries	47.40

14,480.90

Golden Hill:—

Payroll	\$ 660.00
Rest house	289.00

949.00

Total \$16,454.55

SECRETARY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES.

The report submitted regarding the affairs of the public library for the year 1906 is most complete in detail furnished, and evidences a growing popularity with the public as well as an intelligent and efficient management of this institution.

The receipts and expenditures, summarized, are as follows:

RECEIPTS

Feb. 1, balance from 1905.....	\$ 636.67
From city tax from Feb. 1, 1905 to Feb 1, 1906..	8,425.94
Library receipts, fines, fees, etc.....	442.92
Books lost and paid for.....	7.95
Interest on deposits in trust.....	7.35
Total	\$9,520.83

EXPENDITURES.

Books, periodicals, maps, etc.....	\$2,982.29
Outside binding	140.06
Expenses library binding.....	624.72
Salaries	4,336.16
Stationery supplies	159.48
Water since Aug. 1, laundry, etc.....	75.95
Fuel, electric light and general main- tenance	1,067.00
Total	\$9,385.66
Balance with city Feb. 1, 1907.....	135.17

\$9,520.83

INVENTORY.

Number of volumes Jany. 1st, 1906.....	23,549
Acquired during year.....	2,696
Withdrawn and missing.....	26,245
Present number of volumes.....	190
	26,055

Reference Room.

The use of the Reference Room is constantly increasing, and an earnest effort is being made to supply authoritative works and texts of modern progress.

Government Documents.

The east basement room, where there is good light and ample space, is soon to be fitted up with shelving in order that the government documents can all be kept there, under conditions convenient for research, leaving the third floor of the stack room for other needed uses.

The department of government documents now contains 4,709 volumes, of which number 185 were received in the past year. There were also received 170 desirable pamphlets, most of them issued by government.

Circulating Department.

The home circulation for the year was 99,545, over 6,000 more than last year. The circulating department is open eleven hours daily, from 9 A. M. to 8 P. M., except on Sundays and legal holidays. It is closed on legal holidays and open on Sundays from 2 to 5 P. M.

Bindery Department.

Is very successfully handled and of decided advantage in keeping the books constantly in good order. The number of books wholly rebound in this department during the year was 854.

Reading Rooms.

The reading rooms are open from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M., except on Sundays and legal holidays. On Sundays they are open from 2 to 5 and are closed on legal holidays.

The periodicals include 9 quarterlies, 4 bi-monthlies, 111 monthlies, 3 semi-monthlies, 57 weeklies, 2 tri-weeklies and 19 dailies.

The Art Gallery.

In the past year the San Diego Art Association gave two notable semi-annual exhibits in the Library Gallery. Both exhibits were considered decidedly successful.

The midsummer showing was wholly architectural, being the work of local architects, supplemented by a few charming drawings from neighboring cities. The December exhibit was devoted

principally to oils, consisting of a few important loans and many paintings by local artists.

The several recommendations made in general seem most appropriate, to all of which I invite most careful consideration.

CITY POUNDKEEPER.

The report of the City Poundkeeper presents the following data, viz:

Stock.

Released	Redeemed	Killed	Fees Collected
11	71	2	\$106.50

Dogs.

Released	Redeemed	Killed	Fees Collected
5	110	272	\$320.80

List of Property in Custody of Poundkeeper.

One (1) four room dwelling house, and one (1) corral 100x150 feet, which is reported to be very much in need of repairs.

PROGRESS OF THE CITY.

The City of San Diego at the end of the year 1906 numbered, according to close estimates, about 35,000 inhabitants, a gain of 4500, or approximately fifteen per cent. increase, over the year preceding. This increase shows a continued, constant growth in population which is highly satisfactory; but what is even more striking and noticeable is the greatly intensified feeling of confidence in the future development of this city, observable in all directions.

This feeling of assured prospective growth was distinctly recognized when, in compliance with a general public demand, the common council greatly extended the "Fire Limits", within which zone a substantial class of new building construction only will be permitted in the future.

The addition of two patrolmen and one mounted officer was of much assistance to the Police Department. The police force is, however, still below a proper minimum for a city of our size, and I think should be strengthened in the near future.

I am pleased to record the excellent progress made in the equipment of the Fire Department.

The recent installation of the Gamewell Fire Alarm system will be of great value to the city; and the acquisition of a chief's

service wagon, a new second size Ahrens steamer, a combination hose wagon, and a special chemical wagon for La Jolla, supplies the Fire Department with a part of the apparatus and accessories imperatively demanded.

The additional men, implements, horses, wagons and sprinklers added to the Street Department have been invaluable to that Department.

The "B" street re-enforced concrete conduit is nearing completion, after which it will soon be possible to grade and pave the street.

The Thirtieth street water main was completed some time ago, but not to the satisfaction of the Board of Public Works, which would not accept the main on account of the failure of certain parts of the work to meet the requirements of the contract.

In order to effect a settlement, the contractor thereupon agreed that if the city would furnish the necessary cast iron pipe, he would remove a certain section of the wooden line between "B" and "H" streets and lay the said cast iron pipe at half cost.

This offer of the contractor being accepted by the common council, a contract was made by the Board of Public Works with him to that effect.

This work is now nearing completion.

The re-enforced concrete culvert on "H" and Fourteenth streets is a great improvement.

The purchase for \$5,000.00 of the east one-half of the Switzer tract and the construction of a blacksmith shop and stables thereon at a cost of \$8,500.00 was of an imperative nature; and now affords a permanent location for the Street Department barns and corral.

After years of unsuccessful effort, the unsightly cross-streets intersecting Fifth street between Fir and Laurel streets have been or are to be graded. Contracts have been executed for the grading of all these streets, on some the work has been completed, on others the work is still in progress, but all will be completed within the next few months.

For many years the permanent improvement of Fifth street was prevented by serious and acrimonious differences of opinion between the owners of property abutting on that street. During the past year these differences have been so adjusted that the

owners of a majority of the frontage have petitioned for the paving of the street. Municipal legislative proceedings are now under way to this end, in accordance with which a contract will without doubt, soon be let for the paving of Fifth street, between "A" street and University avenue.

In my opinion, this, when consummated, will be a notable achievement.

The many extensions of street railway lines have had a marked effect upon the opening up and development of new residence sections of the city.

In my annual report last year, I recommended material extensions of the water and sewer systems in order to meet the demands arising from our growing population and rapidly increasing new residence sections; and also invited attention to the inadequacy of our present reservoir capacity within the city limits (about 10,000,000 gallons), recommending that early action be taken with a view to constructing new reservoirs upon land now owned by the city.

After long and extended sessions of investigation into the matter of determining the public improvements necessary to meet the city's requirements, certain proposed bond issues were submitted at a special election to the electors of the city.

Of the several proposals for bond issues so submitted, the following propositions were carried:

I.	The furnishing of cast iron water pipe and construction of line from Fifth street and University avenue to Old Town reservoir, at an estimated cost of.....	\$ 59,108.55
II.	The furnishing of cast iron water pipe and construction of various lines of enlargement of the general water system at an estimated cost of.....	265,891.45
III.	The construction of certain reservoirs at an estimated cost of.....	151,933.71
IV.	The construction of certain boulevards at an estimated cost of.....	70,000.00
V.	The construction of the Cemetery Road at an estimated cost of.....	5,000.00
VI.	The construction of seven re-enforced concrete culverts at an estimated cost of....	50,000.00
VII.	The improvement of the Fire Department at an estimated cost of.....	65,000.00

IX.	The extension of the main sewer system at an estimated cost of.....	52,894.54
X.	The extension of University Heights sewer system at an estimated cost of.....	4,648.54

XI	The extension of Florence Heights sewer system at an estimated cost of.....	12,834.58
XII.	The construction of a sewer system from 32nd and "B" to 29th and "K" streets at an estimated cost of.....	4,389.34
XIII.	The construction of a La Jolla sewer system, at an estimated cost of.....	34,112.00

XV.	The extension of Ninth Ward outfall sewer at estimated cost of.....	5,500.00
XVI.	The purchase of certain sewers in South Park and Lincoln Park.....	9,400.00

	Total	<u>\$790,712.71</u>

These bonds, when sold, will provide the means to make the needed improvements specified.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The financial administration and rating of the city is excellent.

Though the assessment roll for the year has not yet been fully computed, I estimate that the total valuation made of all assessable property, personal and real, will be about \$22,500,000.

The Assessor, in making this year's assessment, adhered to his policy of last year, giving the bulk of property generally only a moderate increase in valuation, but making more decided advances in the valuation of outside property, which, through rapid development, has attained a greatly increased market value. These views and policy of the Assessor appear to me most wise and prudent.

The city had outstanding January 1st, 1907, \$1,207,350.00 in municipal bonds, but having recently voted \$790,712.71 additional bonds for various municipal improvements, there will, when these later bonds are sold, be a total outstanding bonded indebtedness of \$1,998,062.71, or approximately \$2,000,000.00. With an assumed total assessed valuation for the year 1907, of \$22,500,000, there will then be an outstanding bonded indebtedness of eight and four-fifths per cent. of the total valuation, whereas the legal limit of indebtedness is fifteen per cent. of the total valuation.

However, I would advise no further bond issues for several years, unless some very exceptional emergency should arise; as in my opinion it will require the greater part of two years to complete the improvements provided for in the new bond issues now pending.

The tax rate of \$1.28 per \$100.00 valuation for the year 1906 is the lowest tax rate the city has had for the past five years, being seventeen cents less than for the year 1905, and twenty cents less than for the year 1904; yet in no other year has the city made so many improvements or done so much work from funds obtained from the annual revenue as in the year 1906.

Notwithstanding the unusually large amount of work done during the year 1906 and the extensive rehabilitation of the Operative Departments—Streets, Sewer and Water Departments—a net sum in excess of \$36,000.00 above all expenses was saved in administration of municipal affairs.

The people having recently voted an additional \$790,712.71 in bonds, it will be necessary to provide a larger sum to meet the interest charges on the total bonded indebtedness; but the various Departments have been so well administered, and the city finances for this year are in such excellent shape at the present time, that I am confident the incoming council can, if reasonable economy be practiced, make a tax rate for the year 1907 of not to exceed \$1.30 per \$100.00 of assessed valuation, which rate of \$1.30 would be substantially as low as the rate for the year 1906.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Additory to the views expressed and suggestions made by me, when commenting upon the respective reports submitted by the several municipal Officers, Boards and Departments, I desire to make the following special recommendations concerning the more essential present needs of the city:

A modern burglar-proof safe should be provided for the City Treasurer and a fire-proof vault constructed in the city hall for the storage and proper safeguarding of valuable documents and public records on file in the several municipal Departments and Offices.

The bond issues recently voted for water and sewer purposes make generous provisions for extensions of the water and sewer systems, but to carry on the current work in the repair shop of the Water Department certain articles of machinery and accessories are urgently needed, and I reiterate my approval of the Water Superintendent's request that his Department be supplied with a small power lathe and drill press, and a tapping machine that

will make four, six and eight inch connections without shutting off the water.

The bond issue for the improvement of the Fire Department will provide much of the new apparatus required and many of the betterments needed to maintain the Fire Department in an excellent state of efficiency; however, no provision was made for the proper protection of that section of the city known as "Middletown". Accordingly, I recommend that a site be purchased in that locality without delay, and a proper building constructed thereon with a drill tower in connection, and a combination hose wagon purchased for said station.

In the interests of public safety, inspection of all large buildings during construction and all electric wiring at time of installation, should be made under municipal authority; the cost of making such inspections to be covered by charging a reasonable fee for each such inspection.

A suitable building, with all sanitary conveniences, for use as a pest house should be provided without delay.

The Street Department needs and should receive an early increase by adding one grading machine, one street sweeping machine, six additional teams, at least four additional sprinklers, six two wheel carts, and a reasonable number of additional men in the street force.

Proceedings for the paving of a number of streets in the principal business section have lately been instituted. This greatly needed contemplated improvement should be immediately extended to include all streets lying within a certain well recognized prospective business district. In my opinion the present limits for such a district wherein the streets should be ordered paved could be broadly described as follows: All streets bounded by "B" street on the north, Tenth street on the east, the bay shore on the south and Atlantic street on the west. This would be a great improvement, and I recommend that early action be taken looking to that end.

Very respectfully,

JOHN L. SEHON,
Mayor of the City of San Diego, Cal.

To the Honorable, the Common Council of the City of San Diego.

Gentlemen:—

The responsibilities falling upon the legislative and executive departments of this City in the management of its civic affairs for the next two years, prompts me at this time to call to the attention of your Honorable Body, pursuant to the Charter provisions, certain measures which I deem beneficial to the interests of the City. These responsibilities are all the more great by reason of the fact that this City is now and has been enjoying for some time past a remarkable growth in population and wealth, and every citizen of San Diego feels that the next two years are critical years in the history of our City; that as the City is managed for the next two years, depends in a great measure its future growth and prosperity. In the handling of the affairs of the City it is my hope that strictly business methods shall be followed in every particular. The citizens and tax payers of our City expect and deserve at the hands of its officers and employees, loyalty and honest service. The aim and object of the governing bodies of the City should be to so conduct the business of the City as to give to the tax payers the greatest possible return in material benefit and good government. Economy and efficiency should be the watchword of every department. By economy is not meant parsimony, but simply that every dollar which the City spends shall be so spent as to obtain for the City the greatest possible good therefrom. The needs of a growing City such as San Diego are too great for me to attempt to cover in one message, and I, therefore, shall only recommend to the consideration of your Honorable Body certain measures which have suggested themselves to me at this time, leaving for future recommendation other matters which may from time to time arise.

Of paramount importance at the present time is the matter of streets and roads. One of the chief assets of our City is its location and climate, and these assets should be so managed as to secure the utmost possible benefit. In no way can this City be made more attractive, both to its residents and to visitors, than by a system of good roads and streets properly constructed and properly kept up. The vast territorial extent covered by this City makes the problem of the maintenance of the streets a difficult one. We have, all of us, frequently seen in the past, streets and roads graded and oiled and put into first-class con-

dition and then apparently left alone on the theory that nothing more need be done to them. The effect of this "let alone" plan is seen by the rapid way in which these streets deteriorate and become full of ruts and chuck-holes and hardly fit for any kind of travel. When a street is once graded and put in good condition, it should be the object of the City to keep the street in such condition. This can be done with comparatively little expense if continuous care and watchfulness is used. In order that this may be brought about, I would respectfully recommend that the City be districted for the purpose of street repair work, and that a part of the street force be stationed in the respective districts and be charged with the duty of keeping the streets in such district in good condition and repair. In the assignment of the street force to the districts it would probably be advisable, so far as possible, to station in each district men who are living in the district in which they are stationed. By doing this, I believe that better and more efficient work would be secured. Not only would the pride of the employees in keeping the streets in their own district in proper condition be aroused, but also a great saving of time could be had in moving the forces to and from distant parts of the City.

I would recommend also that prompt and substantial repairs should be given to the various highways leading out of the City, many of which are a serious handicap to traffic between the people driving in and out of the City.

Another matter in reference to street work which I would call to the attention of your Honorable Body is that of the prompt carrying out of street grading contracts. It has seemed in the past that the street contractors work on the streets only when they had no private work to do, and in this manner street grading has dragged for an unconsiderable time and streets frequently left for months in an impassable condition. The contractors should be allowed ample time within which to perform their work and should be rigidly held up to the performance thereof within the time limited by their contract. Unless some good and valid reason can be shown, extensions of time should not be granted.

The problem of keeping in repair the hill streets of the City is a very serious one. In the past it has been the custom each year to haul upon these streets loose dirt, which, by the first rain is washed down to the foot of the street and then later hauled back again. This plan entails a great expense and is inefficient,

and it would seem that in the long run it would be economy both to the City and to its tax payers if these hill streets were all properly guttered, crowned or paved, so that the winter rains can be carried off without injuring the streets.

I am informed that a measure is now pending before your Honorable Body looking to the paving of D street from Third street to the Bay. I sincerely trust that this measure will receive prompt consideration at the hands of the Council, and that all other measures for paving and improving the streets of the City will receive every possible encouragement.

The lack of proper street signs has been a source of complaint and dissatisfaction both on the part of the residents and visitors within the City. The expense of placing permanent signs designating the name or number of the streets would be trifling compared to the satisfaction and convenience which would thereby be afforded to every one who has occasion to travel upon the streets of this City, and I would respectfully recommend that this matter receive prompt and careful consideration at the hands of the Council.

Another matter in regard to the streets to which I feel it my duty to call the attention of the Common Council, is the matter of excess dirt in the grading of streets. It would seem that this excess dirt ought to belong to the City, and the City certainly has a sufficient number of canyon streets to take care of all of such excess dirt. Ordinance No. 2061, approved June 6th, 1905, Section 8 provides: "In case said estimate demonstrates that the number of cubic yards of embankment is an excess of the number of cubic yards of excavation, the Resolution of Intention shall provide how much deficiency shall be supplied and in case said estimate demonstrates that the number of cubic yards of excavation is an excess of the number of cubic yards of embankment, then the Resolution of Intention shall determine what disposition shall be made of such excess earth." Under this ordinance the right of the City to this excess dirt appears to be clear, and the provisions of this ordinance should be enforced by proper authority. The City has need for every yard of excess dirt and there would seem to be no reason why the street contractors should sell and dispose of this surplus dirt and thus deprive the City of the benefit thereof.

Thorough sprinkling of the streets should, in my judgment, be carried on so as to effectually keep down the dust. We are

blessed with an abundance of cheap water and it should be used without stint, and the result obtained will be a more beautiful and healthful city.

Franchises. With the growth and development of the City, numerous applications for Franchises for steam and electric roads and other public uses, are doubtless coming before your Honorable Body. In the matter of these applications the rights of the city should be carefully considered and protected; on the other hand all applications made in good faith should receive fair and just treatment by the Council. The City of San Diego wants and needs all the railroads she can secure without limit as to number and as long as the rights of the City are protected, such railroads seeking to enter our City should receive every possible encouragement at your hands. The wonderful stimulation which was given to the growth of this City by the announcement of the construction of the San Diego and Arizona Railway is a matter of too recent date to dwell upon at this time. The public spirit manifested by John D. Spreckels in the building of this road and the immense benefit to the City by its building is an example of what railroad construction can do for a community.

Public Parks. The city is to be congratulated upon the great improvement which has been made in its public parks, and the estimate for the current fiscal year for park improvements shows that this improvement work will be continued and the parks still further beautified. The central location and the natural beauties of the large tract of land set aside for the public park affords an opportunity of making this park one of the show places of the world, and the line of improvements carried out in the past under the direction of one of the most famous landscape architects in the country should be adhered to in the future and the beauty of this park will not only be a source of constant satisfaction to the residents of San Diego, but will also be a strong attraction to visitors. The benefits to be derived from a proper park system are too well known and recognized to need expression at my hands. Every possible encouragement and assistance should be afforded to the Board of Park Commissioners to enable them to continue the great work of beautifying and improving our public parks.

Crime among juveniles in this City is evidently on the increase—our courts show it conclusively. Its prevention, no doubt, lies largely with the parents of the boys and girls who go wrong;

nevertheless, we cannot enter the home for the purpose of instructing parents their duty. We can, however, see that the City Ordinances as to minors, etc., are enforced and all resorts that harbor the youths unlawfully should be closed.

The City Ordinances with reference to obstruction of our main streets by standing teams, hacks, buggies, automobiles and other vehicles, should be enforced to a reasonable degree so that pedestrians and others may have such rights as they are entitled to.

As a sanitary measure, I would also recommend the rigid inspection by the Health Officer of the milk supplied to the residents of the City, both as to the purity of such milk and the source of supply. All dairies should be inspected, as already provided by Ordinance, and every reasonable precaution taken to insure cleanliness and healthfulness of the milk sold within the City.

The constant increase in building operations in our City, requires, I believe, the services of a Building Inspector whose duties should be to see that buildings are constructed according to law and with due regard to safety, and that all electric wiring be properly done. Many fires, not only in this City but elsewhere, are undoubtedly caused by defective wiring, and proper inspection should be had of all new buildings under construction or to be in future constructed.

I will not at this time discuss in detail the City's finances, suffice to say that a vast sum of money on account of Bond issues and general taxation must be disbursed within the next two years. Let every man do his duty with fidelity and an earnestness of purpose that will be a credit to himself and an honor to the public.

May 6th, 1907.

JNO. F. FORWARD, Mayor.

MAYOR - - - - - Jno. F. Forward

MEMBERS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.

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A. E. Dodson,		J. E. Connell,				W. H. Palmer,
Chas. Kelly,						Geo. McNeill,
L. A. Creelman,		Percival E. Woods,				F. J. Goldkamp.
CITY ATTORNEY	-	-	-	-	-	Geo. Puterbaugh
CITY CLERK	-	-	-	-	-	J. T. Butler
CITY AUDITOR AND ASSESSOR	-	-	-	-	-	Daniel Potter
CITY TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR	-	-	-	-	-	Claude Woolman

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G. W. Jorres,					W. T. Neely.

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SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS	-	-	-	-	-	J. C. Brockway
SUPERINTENDENT OF WATER DEPARTMENT	-	-	-	-	-	J. Q. Symons
CHIEF CLERK WATER DEPARTMENT	-	-	-	-	-	J. N. Reynolds
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Geo. W. Marston,	U. S. Grant,	L. A. Wright,
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