

**THIS IS
DUNELLEN**



"The Emerald of the Plain"

A KNOW YOUR TOWN SURVEY

published by

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY**

1954

fifty cents



The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility. It does not support or oppose any political party or candidate but may take action on governmental measures in the public interest. It is supported by voluntary work and contributions.

All women who are citizens of voting age are welcome to become a part of this national organization by joining the Dunellen League of Women Voters.



FOREWORD

This booklet grew out of the tragedy that occurred one spring day in 1951 when a local high school youth lost his life at the railroad crossing.

The women of Dunellen, stirred by the accident which might have happened to one of their own, believing that women could organize and use their influence for public good, started the Dunellen League of Women Voters. Whether or not that influence had any effect, the grade crossing elimination project is now underway and within two years underpasses will be completed at all railroad crossings in the borough.

Affiliated with both state and national leagues, one of the major projects of a new league is the compilation of a "Know Your Town Booklet." The Dunellen League has tried to make this more than the fulfillment of an assignment. It hopes to be able to communicate to the reader the warmth of feeling and real affection for the town which has developed during the course of probing into its past, present and future.

The League hopes it has captured some of the spirit of Dunellen in this little book about your home town.

THE EDITORS

Acknowledgments

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Mrs. Ruth Day, President

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Dunellen High School Handbook

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Central Railroad Station and North Avenue in 1873

Your Town's Past

The area which is now Dunellen played its part in colonial times. Several members of the twenty families residing in what was then a part of Piscataway Township served in the "Middlesex Militia." Edward Fitz Randolph, whose homestead was to be known later as the "Blue Hills Plantation," hacked a path with his broad sword for George Washington to a lookout point on top of the mountain, the present Washington Rock.

Other names of residents of that area were Dunn, Bonham, Drake, Dunham, Smalley and Boice. Their descendants have helped to shape the destinies of the new community.

Dunellen itself dates back to a land boom promoted by the Jersey Central Railroad whose first engine roused the peaceful countryside in 1839. The land boom developed 19 years later, in 1868, when real estate agents lured prospective buyers with posters, leaflets and the promise of free lunches and band music on their tour of inspection.

The Central New Jersey Land Improvement Company mapped out streets, parks, lots and land for churches and schools and Dunellen was born almost overnight. Many of the buyers were city people from New York as well as those from surrounding areas. The original railway station which had served the older settlement of New Market had been located in Pope's store at the Grove Street Crossing. This station was closed and a new one built in the center of town.

The origin of the name "Dunellen" is still uncertain. Though many theories exist, the explanation which has been officially sanctioned is that John Taylor Johnston, president of the railroad and first head of the realty company, used the first name of a family friend with the prefix "Dun" attached for the sake of euphony.

Local folklore, supported by some proof, has it that one unusual feature of the early community was the number of sea captains who chose Dunellen as their home. A number of financiers from New York were attracted to the new community and built homes as much like their city dwellings as possible in a rural setting. A relic of one of these homes is the gabled and decorated dwelling of Howard Byrd on South Avenue, West Dunellen. This building, recently restored, was the setting for a lavish style of living befitting its owner, a Wall Street tycoon.

As Dunellen changed from its early resort character the population became more diversified. In answer to the need for

labor Slovaks began coming in 1880 and continued to come in increasing numbers for thirty years. Polish settlers began to arrive in 1910. Other persons of foreign lineage swelled the numbers until today 15% of the population is of foreign extraction.

Industries required specialists to operate its machines, building activity brought in the skilled trades, merchants established shops and professional people arrived to serve the needs of the townspeople.

For many years Dunellen was predominantly a railroad town. With the Jersey Central lines using it as a terminal many employees found it convenient to live here. Even today it is the home of a good number of conductors, brakemen, engineers and other railroad workers.

Now almost one hundred years old, Dunellen has lost many of its old landmarks. Still surviving are the Dunellen Hotel, the John P. Faber home, diagonally opposite and the home of David Williams, one of the early sea captains, the so-called Dallas apartments, next to the Faber home, a remodelled version of an early boarding house and the building which is the Runyon Funeral Home.

The seeker of the old will find many vestiges of the early days hidden behind the facades of today's stores. The old Taylor Hotel, once the scene of gaiety and community celebrations, is now a staid lodging house next to the tracks at the Grove Street crossing.

According to the 1950 census, the population of Dunellen is 6,390 although it might be accurately computed at 6,500 now. Less than 300 residents commute daily to jobs in New York City. Local industries and employment figures are given in another chapter.

What Makes Dunellen Different?

One thing which makes Dunellen different is its name which is borne by no other place in the United States. Another outstanding feature is nearby Washington Rock which has always seemed to belong to Dunellen although it is in a different county. A stage coach used to make regular sightseeing trips from the railroad station to the mountain top where the Staatz brothers of Dunellen built a hotel, a flourishing attraction until it was destroyed by fire.

The "Rock" and its surrounding picnic area inspired the name

of the town's first newspaper, "The Rock." The local council of the Sons and Daughters of Liberty is called "Rockview" in recognition of the historic spot. For years, until the superhighway at the base of the mountain lured people to more distant places, this high point from which George Washington directed his troops was used as the main picnic and excursion center of this area.

Another distinguishing feature of the borough is its limited area of one square mile, a fact which has probably fostered a conservatism not felt in communities where there is more room for growth and change. The customs and cultures of the early families, many of whose descendants are still living here, can be observed in community life today. Public opinion, carried over from the early days, has successfully preserved the "village characteristics" of Dunellen. Though metropolitan centers are creeping close to its borders, Dunellen remains a community of homes. Officials permit conversion of dwellings only if the exterior retains the aspect of a single unit.

Foreign lineage residents of the borough now make up fifteen per cent of the population and represent Italy, Poland, Assyria, Czechoslovakia and others. There is one negro family. The addition of old world stock has added a richness to Dunellen culture and made it a typical American town in the truest sense. There is no extremely wealthy class or section and no extremely poor class or slum area. It is composed of typically middle-class people on the average.

When Eleanor Roosevelt addressed a United Nations' Day celebration several years ago in the high school auditorium, she was impressed with the corps of girl ushers each dressed in a costume characteristic of the land of her family's origin. She mentioned this feature of the event in her daily column.

Many figures of almost legendary fame have given Dunellen distinction. One of these was Bob Fitzsimmons, the noted pugilist, who was in the habit of shopping in the local stores accompanied by his pet lion until his personal affairs became so complicated that a sheriff's sale put an end to that phase of his career.

Sir Thomas Lipton, who was to become a world famous yachtsman, played with toy sailboats on New Market pond as a boy of fifteen when he was employed on the farm of Miss Mary Newhall.

Today, Dunellen seems to have arrived at a turning point in its life. With the railroad elevation an assured fact and Art Color Printing Company a permanent industry the change from a "village" to a town of industry would seem apparent. Perhaps it has outgrown the rather fanciful appellation of "Emerald of the Plain" which the original realtors used to lure buyers to a country atmosphere.

Your Town's Government

Under the authority of Piscataway Township for the first two decades of its existence, Dunellen became a separate municipality in 1895. It adopted the standard form of borough government which it retains today. There is a Council of six members, two members being elected each year for a three-year term. The Mayor is elected for a two-year term and both the mayor and councilmen may be reelected for as many terms as they care to serve. Any registered voter is qualified to run for these offices, although up to the present writing only men candidates have been successful. The present tax collector is a woman, elected to office in 1952.

The Council and Mayor form the governing body and their duties include care and construction of sidewalks, streets and parks, jurisdiction over the police and fire departments, provision of adequate sewage and drainage, administration of relief for the poor, passing ordinances for the general welfare and the expenditure of public funds.

The Mayor and Council also have the power to impose license fees, which with other sources of revenue, including a general property tax, provide the money required to meet the expenses of the municipality. The services of these men is given without



Old Borough Hall, Replaced in 1937

remuneration. There are other posts held by persons of specialized training for which salaries are paid. These offices are filled by appointees of the Mayor with the approval of the Council and include such appointees as the borough clerk, the borough attorney and others. The Mayor, subject to the approval of the Council, also appoints the personnel of a number of boards. They have authority in specific fields of municipal government such as the planning board, board of health, library board and other boards or commissions. While the members of the boards serve without pay there may be a hired employee of the board. These persons include the librarian, a director of welfare, a recreation director and others.

Regular meetings of the governing body are held twice a month in the Council Chamber of the Borough Hall at North and Prospect Avenues. These meetings are always open to the public and when matters of special community interest are being acted upon the public turns out in large numbers and makes its voice heard in the period given over to "communications from the public."

An interesting feature of the Council Chamber is the row of framed photographs on the wall. These are pictures of former mayors, beginning with the first executive, Dr. Peter W. Brakeley.

Replacing the first Borough Hall, built of wood at a cost of \$1,500.00 in 1895, the present brick building houses the fire and police departments, a free public library, jail facilities, court room, mayor's office and the Council Chamber. A bronze plaque in the hall gives the year of construction, 1936-37, and lists the officials in office at that time.

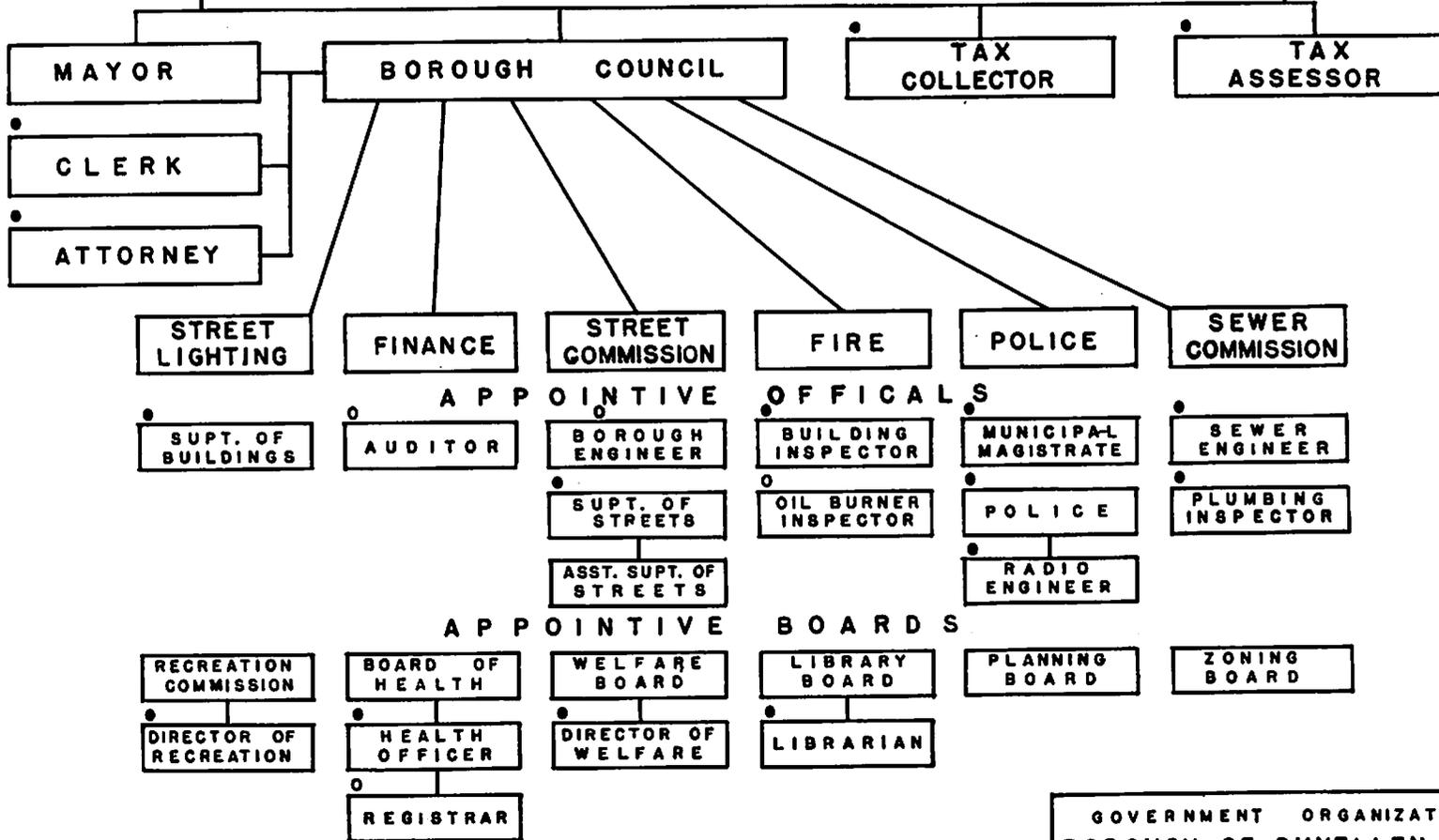
Courts

The local administration of justice comes under the jurisdiction of the municipal court of Dunellen. It is presided over by a magistrate appointed by the mayor with the approval of the council for a term of three years. The magistrate, unless he has had previous judicial experience, must be a lawyer. He hires his own clerk.

The cases over which the municipal court has jurisdiction are:

1. All violations of town ordinances such as health, building or zoning.
2. Charges of disorderly conduct according to state law.
3. Violations of fish and game laws.
4. Assault and battery and theft under \$200.00.
5. Motor vehicle violations. (These and other minor fines may be paid without trial by the court.)
6. Criminal offenses where the penalty does not exceed \$1,000.00 or one year's imprisonment.
7. Charges of major offenses. Such persons are given a preliminary hearing and at the magistrate's decision may be

VOTERS OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN



GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION
BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN N.J.

remanded to the county jail to await trial unless bail is produced.

Cases before the local court rarely require a jury, although if the accused makes the request, a jury trial may be had in certain instances.

Offenders may be held in the local jail for not more than 24 hours before a hearing. If the cases are referred to a higher court the offender is lodged in a county jail subject to bail requirements. If an offender is sentenced to a 30 or 60 day jail sentence he is sent to the county workhouse. A police matron is available for women offenders.

The court is in public session on Tuesday evenings in the Council Chamber at 7:30.

Juvenile Delinquency

This is not a serious problem in Dunellen, due in large part to the extensive and successful recreation program of the Dunellen Recreation Commission. Another deterrent to delinquency is the Teen Canteen Project which was organized two years ago by a group of teen-agers with the active support of their parents and other interested adults. The aim of the group is to collect sufficient funds to start a community youth center. They now meet in a garage at 432 First Street and have office headquarters at 220 Sanford Avenue. More than 500 adult sponsors are helping with the project.

Machinery does exist, however, to handle such cases of youthful misbehavior as do occur. Formerly handled by a local committee appointed by the mayor, today's set-up consists of a three-member board appointed by the senior judge of the county juvenile court. Called the Juvenile Conference Committee it is also composed of local residents. This group is prepared to supervise a program of adjustment for such juvenile offenders as may have been first brought into juvenile court and then referred back to the local committee. In the two years of its existence this committee has not had a single case referred to it.

The former juvenile delinquency council, which the present group supersedes, attempted to work with incipient cases before they were brought into court. Working through the years with a Big Brother and Big Sister approach, it achieved good results. Its members represented a cross section of the community, being clergymen, teachers, businessmen, housewives, doctors, nurses and local officials.

Many citizens feel that there is room for both of the councils to operate in the field of delinquency. It is understood that the older group has never been formally dismissed. Instances of wrong-doing by juveniles have been common knowledge and while not serious enough to warrant court appearances they are still serious enough to justify attention from an authorized group of interested adults such as the older local committee.

Recreation

Newcomers to Dunellen are, as a rule, favorably impressed with the recreational facilities available in the one mile square area of the borough. A planned program, community wide, is provided by the Recreation Commission, and the numerous organizations and several churches of the borough do not overlook the need for diversion while carrying out more serious objectives. The Recreation Commission, an official body which had its start during the war years, has grown in scope and effectiveness until today the program in operation has attracted the attention of state authorities working in the field of community recreation. Eighteen or more appointed members headed by a director comprise the commission.

There are three playgrounds in operation throughout the summer months, with planned activities of other sorts throughout the rest of the year. The playfields are supervised and suitable equipment is installed. A miniature big league stadium, donated by the Art Color Printing Company, is used for "Little League" games during the baseball season. Tennis courts are also provided.

Bowling, arts and crafts classes, Easter egg hunts and sports banquets are events on the calendar of recreation as provided by the commission. The director, paid on a part time basis, and the members of the commission, who serve without pay, meet monthly to plan programs that will appeal to children and keep the adult residents interested as well.

The Adult School of Education, formerly sponsored by the Commission, offers leisure time activity to the townspeople. Underwritten by the Board of Education, classes in the high school one night a week from October to March appeal to a wide variety of tastes. There is a nominal fee for registration. On the school program are such subjects as painting, stenography, dog training, furniture refinishing, ceramics and photography. The courses are open to people in the surrounding area although it is estimated that 80% of those who attend are from Dunellen.

A new undertaking is the formation of a Dunellen Concert Orchestra made up of 60% adult and 40% high school personnel. Under the leadership of the high school director of instrumental music, it is intended to bring together those people who have musical ability and who desire to channel their efforts into a community enterprise.

Another cultural organization is the Music Appreciation Group which meets monthly in the high school during the fall and winter season. This group is open to anyone who is interested. Organized and directed by the supervisor of music of the

Dunellen schools, a program of classical music is presented on records. The group also follows the current opera season and many members attend the opera regularly during the year.

A teen-age canteen was recently organized by a group of townspeople whose goal is to obtain a permanent meeting place for the youngsters. Several dances held by this group have been well attended. The project has the lively support of the teenagers who run the canteen under the guidance of adult sponsors.

There are organized Boy and Girl Scouts stemming respectively from the Watchung and Plainfield districts. An active Sea Scout unit offers boys weekend cruises and an opportunity to enjoy acquiring many new skills.

Dunellen Public Library

The Dunellen Free Public Library is open in the municipal building five afternoons a week, three evenings and Saturday mornings. A certified librarian and a qualified assistant are in charge under the authority of a five-member board of appointed officers. There are approximately 6,000 volumes on the shelves, including a children's section. The library subscribes to several magazines which may be taken out by card holders. Best sellers may be taken out for a charge of two cents a day. Several sets of encyclopedia of current date are available as well as reference books. Books of special interest may be secured from Trenton by making a request of the librarian.

A story-telling hour for children on Saturday mornings, recently discontinued, will be resumed in the near future, it is hoped. There are occasional exhibits in the library, such as one given by the Green Thumb Garden Club. The board invites organizations to meet in the library on occasion as a means of publicizing its resources.

Your Town's Finances

Most householders attempt to live on a budget and often fail. It is different with a municipal government. Income and outgo must tally to a penny. An Annual Budget is prepared by the proper officials and after adoption, according to the laws governing this process of borough management, serves as the blue print of all operations for the ensuing year. The finance committee is responsible for budget preparation and receives from the heads of the various departments of local government at the beginning of the year estimates of the financial needs of their services. Most of the actual preparation of the budget is done by the finance committee assisted on technical details by the auditor.

First drafts of the proposed revenues and expenditures must be adopted by the borough council not later than forty days after January 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. At this time copies

of the budget must be filed with the director of the state division of local government. The proposed budgets are then published in local newspapers and notice is given of public hearings which must be held not later than seventy days after January first. The budget must be finally adopted not later than eighty days after the beginning of the fiscal year. No budget may be adopted without approval of the director of the state division of local government.

The school budget, prepared by the board of education and submitted to the voters for approval, is part of the municipal tax levy. The money is disbursed to the schools on demand through the office of the collector-treasurer. It is a surprising fact that the average voter, so sensitive to the effect of public expenditure on the tax rate, gives little or no consideration to the school budget, yet, the school taxes in Dunellen constitute approximately 48% of all taxes paid locally.

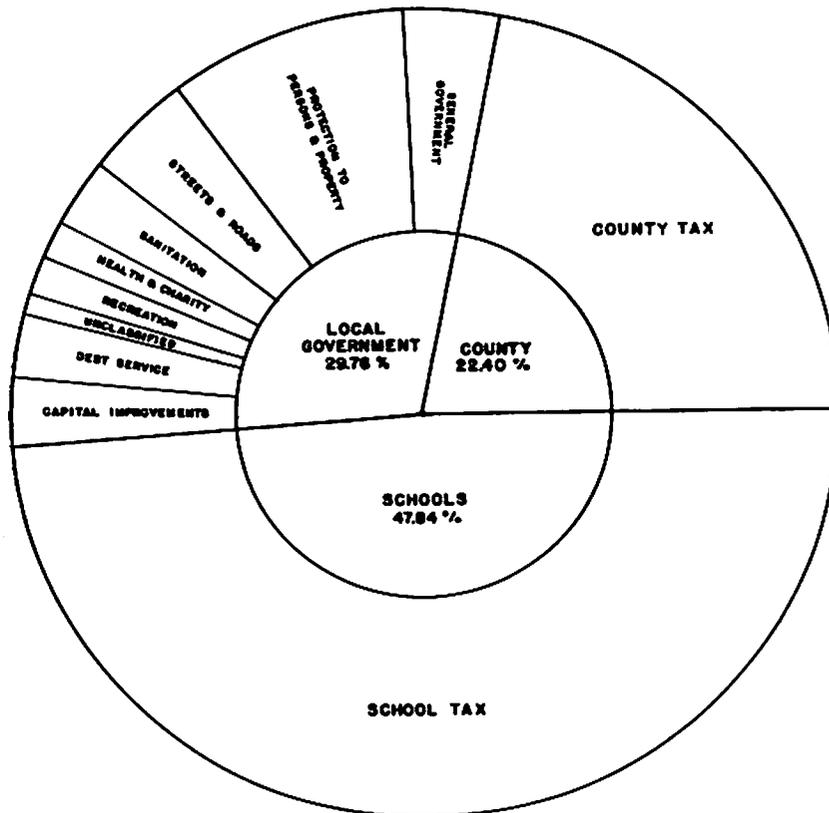
The general property tax is the mainstay of local government. It is the residual item in the budget, the amount to be raised being determined by the difference between the amount of budgeted expenditures and the revenue expected from other sources. Some of these other sources of revenue are licenses for various privileges, fees and permits, franchise taxes and fines. The general property tax is levied on real estate, both residential and business and on all tangible personal property. Intangible personal property such as stocks and bonds, although it represents an important type of holding, is not taxed under the New Jersey law. Property is assessed yearly based on ownership as of October 1. The assessor, who is elected to office for a four-year term, endeavors to be fair, honest and impartial. However, if an individual feels that his property has been unfairly assessed he may appeal first to the local assessor and he may then appeal to the County Tax Board prior to August 15 of the current year. Official forms may be obtained from the borough clerk.

A tax bill is sent to each property owner by the tax collector. It is payable in quarterly installments, due on the first day of February, May, August and November. The municipality collects taxes not only for the cost of operating the borough government but also for the public school system and for the county government. The tax rate is determined by dividing the total amount of money to be raised for local, school and county requirements by the total assessed valuation of all taxable property. The tax rate is fixed by the county tax board to cover the requirements of the municipal budget, the school budget and the town's share of the county budget.

The rate for Dunellen in 1954 was \$8.06 on each \$100.00 of taxable property. This figure was broken down to \$1.80 for the county, \$3.86 for the schools and \$2.40 for the general borough expenses.

Distribution of Appropriations

General Government	14.37%
Protection to Persons and Property	31.93
Streets and Roads	13.79
Sanitation	8.65
Health and Charities	5.02
Recreation	5.51
Unclassified	1.96
Debt Service	10.06
Capital Improvements	8.71
	100.00%



Analysis of Local Government Expense

BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN BUDGET 1954

Miscellaneous Revenue:

Licenses	\$ 2,000.00
Alcoholic Beverage Licenses	6,450.00
Fees and Permits	1,750.00
Fines	2,500.00
Interest and Costs on Taxes	2,750.00
Interest and Costs on Assessments	1,000.00
State Aid, Street Lighting	1,000.00
Franchise Tax	23,000.00
Gross Receipts Tax	11,500.00
Bus Receipts Tax	2,000.00
State Road Aid	23,331.00
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 77,281.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	23,489.00
Surplus Cash Appropriated	29,000.00
Total	\$129,770.00

To Be Raised by General Taxation:

Local Purpose Tax	\$140,730.93
School Tax	221,507.11
County Tax	103,723.26
Total	465,961.30

Total of General Budget Revenues \$595,731.30

Appropriations for Borough Purposes:

General Government	\$ 35,460.00
Protection of Persons and Property—	
Fire Department	\$ 16,230.00
Police Department	58,248.00
Other	4,320.00
Total	78,798.00
Streets and Roads	34,045.00
Sanitation	21,350.00
Health and Charity	12,385.00
Recreation	13,595.00
Unclassified	4,842.69
Debt Service	24,835.00
Capital Improvements	21,500.00
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	23,690.24

Total Appropriations for Borough Purposes \$270,500.93

Appropriations for School Purposes:

 Amount Raised by Local Taxes

Appropriations for County Taxes:

 Borough Share of County Taxes

Grand Total of Budget Appropriations \$595,731.30

Housing, Zoning and Planning

A zoning ordinance, which with amendments, is in operation at present, was passed in 1923. A building code was drawn up in 1928. It is expected a new building code, better suited to modern building methods will be evolved in the near future.

The town has a building inspector, a plumbing, oil burner, and electrical inspector, each of whom must approve new construction before a certificate of occupancy is granted.

Working hand in hand with the zoning board in many cases is the borough planning board, organized in 1945. This board has specific jurisdiction over anything pertaining to subdivisions or relating to long range planning for the borough.

If a variance from the regulations is desired it is necessary to make application to the building inspector who then refers it to the proper board. That board then holds a meeting and considers what action will be taken. Before the variance can be granted, approval of all persons living within 200 feet of the site in question must be sought. If the variance is denied by the board an appeal for reconsideration may be made to the borough council.

Dunellen is zoned as "A" residential; "B" residential; industrial and business. In the first zone only one family homes are allowed, in the second zone two-family homes are allowed and the last division is self-explanatory.

Dunellen is predominantly a residential town with seven-eighths of its one square mile devoted to homes and the remainder to business and industry. In large part the business section is parallel to the Jersey Central tracks which run through the center of town from east to west. The single homes area is about double that of the area where two-family homes are located. To date little effort has been made by investors to construct apartment type buildings although some inquiries about that form of investment have been received on occasion. Although many of the larger old homes have been converted, the appearance of one-family homes has been maintained. Those who canvass in community drives can testify that the outside appearance gives little clue to the number of family units in the building.

When conversion requires that a family live on the third floor permission passes out of the hands of the local inspector and must be obtained from a state inspector in Newark. The field of authority is covered by the state tenement law. Such use requires two exits from the third floor.

Dunellen erected 14 units for Veterans Housing in 1947-48 in

conjunction with the State Department of Conservation and Economic Development. The units were available to families of veterans. On a par with other communities' housing of this type, the units have been occupied continuously since they were built. An extension of the original five year period was granted in 1952, allowing another two years. It is anticipated that another extension of one year will be granted by act of the legislature.

During the course of the project an agent appointed by the municipality and approved by the state has supervised maintenance under authority of the borough council.

Officials in the housing field are:

Building Inspector—Kasper H. Fuchs, 145 Front St., DU 2-2787

Plumbing Inspector—Frank Hannon, 381 North Ave., DU 2-5949

Electrical Inspector—John A. Golday, 711 3rd St., DU 2-1398

Oil Burner Inspector—John A. Golday, 711 3rd St., DU 2-1398

What Every Voter Should Know

The aim and purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

Anyone may vote who is registered, 21 years of age or older on Election Day, has been a resident of New Jersey for one year, a resident of the county for five months before the election and lives in the district in which he wishes to vote.

The General Election is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

The School Election is the second Tuesday in February. Members of the Board of Education are elected and the school budget is put to a vote.

Primary Election is the third Tuesday in April, subject to change by the legislature.

Permanent Personal Registration is necessary to vote.

Register with:

George J. Bache, 109 New Market Road, evenings

Evelyn Day, Jack Pot Gift Shop, 262 North Ave., days

Henry Handelman, attorney, 381 North Ave., days

Where to Vote:

1st District—Dunellen High School

2nd District—Borough Hall

3rd District—Lincoln School, 2nd floor

4th District—Lincoln School, basement

5th District—Whittier School

In School Elections there are only two polling places. They are:

1st, 3rd, 4th Districts—Dunellen High School

2nd and 5th Districts—Whittier School

Anyone in military service, qualified to register, even though not registered, may use an absentee ballot.

Any registered voter who cannot get to the polls on election day due to illness or physical disability, or by reason of being out of the state, may use an absentee ballot. Application for this ballot must be made to the municipal or county clerk at least eight days prior to the election. It must be returned, properly notarized, so that it will reach the county board of elections prior to or on Election Day.

The county board of elections is the unit of government that administers registration and elections. The board is composed of four members, two of each major political party, and they are appointed by the state chairmen of their respective parties and commissioned by the Governor for a term of two years. The board of elections, called the board of canvassers, works during the progress of an election in conjunction with the county clerk and with the municipal clerks of the county. The county clerk is elected by popular vote for a term of five years. He sees to the printing and the distribution of all election supplies and has myriad and sundry other duties in connection with the election processes. The salaries of the county clerk and the members of the county board of elections are fixed by the legislature and paid by order of the board of freeholders out of county funds.

Each of the five voting districts into which Dunellen is divided has its board of elections composed of four members, two of each of the major parties, appointed by the county board of elections. They serve for one year with salaries set by the legislature and paid by the county. Nominated for the office by their respective parties, they are generally reappointed year after year.

The Secretary of State, the only official on a state level concerned with the administration of state election laws, is responsible for the compilation and printing of the election laws books, revised annually. He sits as clerk of the state board of canvassers in confirming election returns, and in other ways acts as connecting link between the county and the state in this field of administration.

Committeemen and women of each major party are elected at the primary elections. They serve for one year and are paid for their services by their parties.

A man and a woman are elected each year to represent each local voting district on a municipal committee. They are called county committeemen and women. They meet locally to elect a municipal chairman and at the county seat to elect a county chairman.

A state committeeman and woman are also elected by each party at the primary election to represent the county on the party's state committee. These elected representatives meet and choose a state chairman for their parties.

Candidates who are to run for local office are selected by the party organization at a caucus of party leaders. They must file forty days prior to the election with the municipal clerk. These candidates are submitted to the party membership at the primary elections. Only about 8% of qualified voters participate in primary elections and it is generally thought that this is due to a reluctance to reveal party affiliations which must be done in order to vote in a primary.

Protective Services

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dunellen Fire Company #1, a bucket brigade, was formed in December of 1877 when the village, about ten years old, consisted of a population of 800. The town's first big fire had occurred on July 14, 1875, when most of the principal business block was destroyed at a loss of \$20,000.00. The bucket brigade was almost a year old when it responded to its first fire in September of 1878 with a vehicle which the chief had constructed to carry a ladder. Soon after this fire the history of the unit seems to have been lost.

Defender Fire Company #1 was founded in 1896 when the borough purchased a hose and ladder truck for \$800.00. This apparatus, painted "carmine" with light blue filigree work and gold-leaf ornamentation, was equipped with a Gleason and Bailey "Master" double-acting pump and it was intended to be hauled by a team of horses, but eight years were to elapse before the borough was able to buy the team so for that period it was not uncommon to see the volunteers galloping around the streets hauling the vehicle themselves. The first two calls with the new equipment were signally unsuccessful. In August of that year the company was called to a barn fire but learning en route that the fire was under control the rig was abandoned while the fire-fighters hurried on foot to give what assistance was still needed. The second fire, a month later, was extinguished by a bucket brigade of neighbors before the fire company could get there.

In February of 1897 the fire company was incorporated under its present name and in that same year a firemen's relief was founded.

The fire alarm in the early years was a steel tire struck with a hammer but in 1903 an 800 pound bell was bought and hung in a specially built tower 60 feet high on the borough hall property where the equipment was kept. Uniforms were acquired in 1909. In 1916 the horse-drawn hose and ladder truck was discarded for motorized equipment, and in 1918 the bell alarm was replaced by

a siren. The old bell was loaned to Green Brook for a time and was later used in the memorial monument in Washington Park to honor members who had served in World War I.

1922 was a year of change and progress for the purchase of an American La France Brockway Torpedo Triple Combination Fire Apparatus for \$5,500.00 made the building of a fire house a necessity. The present Fire House on Prospect Avenue was built at a cost of \$15,000.00, with \$10,000.00 being paid by the borough and \$5,000.00 by the fire company. This building was completed in 1924 and provided space for two trucks and the Rescue Squad ambulance while the other truck was kept on the south side of the railroad tracks in case of emergency. The Fire Company leased the second floor of the building from the borough for a period of 50 years as a meeting place. 1922 was also the year in which the Dunellen Exempt Firemen's Association was organized with 22 charter members, requirements being seven years' active service.

The Fire Company is under direct control of the Fire Commissioner and the chairman of the borough fire and water committee. The borough carries complete insurance coverage for the fire company which includes workmen's compensation. The borough underwrites the cost of equipment which includes:

- A 750 gallon pumper purchased in 1935,
- a 750 gallon pumper purchased in 1948,
- a 500 gallon pumper purchased in 1950,
- a ½ ton pickup truck purchased in 1952.

Firemen must be residents of the borough and must be acceptable to the membership. Officers are elected annually by the membership with promotions being made up through the ranks. Firemen receive a token payment of \$2.00 per month. New members are given initial briefing and are then picked up in the regular training program which consists of 2 to 4 hours a month covering all phases of the work. At present there are 44 men in the company with openings for 16 more. There is one chief, one deputy chief, two captains, two lieutenants and 38 regular members. There is also a group of junior firemen, young men between the ages of 16 and 21. There are 15 in this group.

The fire department has reciprocal agreements with all adjacent fire departments whereby help is given when officially requested, providing Dunellen is able to do so without leaving itself unprotected. There is a county and a state plan of mobilization in case of disaster. The department cooperates with the borough boards with specific fire zone restrictions in certain areas. There are mandatory requirements for fire exits and extinguishers, depending on the size of the building and the number of people it will accommodate.

The fire prevention program includes regular inspection of schools, business establishments, churches and other places of public assembly. Programs relative to fire prevention are pre-

sented in the schools, newspapers and through the use of leaflets, posters and sound trucks. The department conducts and supervises drills in all Dunellen Schools including the parochial school. Fire regulations for all New Jersey schools are formulated by the state. The company will send a man to small gatherings on request and assigns men to very large gatherings in line with fire prevention routine.

The fire company cooperates with both the water company and Public Service. Weaknesses in the water system and violations of electrical systems are reported to the proper authorities. Ratings of fire companies run from "A" to "H" and Dunellen now has a "Class E" rating. The company is constantly striving to raise this figure.

In case of a fire, call DU 2-6200 and give the name, house number and street. In an emergency simply dial the operator and say, "I want to report a fire." Someone stationed on the street to meet the firemen and direct them can be a most important factor in saving time. Because of the relatively small area of the borough, fire boxes are not used except for one at the Fire House.

In addition to its regular firefighting duties the department also pumps out flooded cellars, burns off vacant lots, replaces flag pole ropes, fills fire extinguishers and has even rescued cats from trees.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The first police protection in the borough consisted of a constable system which was a county-wide arrangement giving the officers civil as well as police power. Before the end of the 19th century marshals were added to this system, and to their civil and police authority was added the job of health inspections. The first borough hall, on the present site, was acquired in 1896 at a cost of \$1,650.00 from the N. J. Central Railroad. The two story structure housed the police headquarters, a two-cell jail and the court room. The present police system was inaugurated in 1924 when the marshals were dismissed. There have been three Police Chiefs to date.

The department is under the direct supervision of the Police Committee and the Police Chief supplemented by Council approval when procedural changes are undertaken. There are ten men on the force including the chief, a captain and two sergeants. The special force consists of three women hired for traffic duty and 25 special policemen which includes the regular specials and the school crossing guards. New officers are chosen by the Police Committee and confirmed by the governing body of the borough. They must be 21 years old or over and residents of Dunellen and they serve a 6 months probationary period. All members undergo a complete training program during probation which covers practical and theoretical aspects of the work. This training is given under the supervision of the Chief.

To date promotions have been made primarily on the basis of seniority. There is a retirement plan which is administered by the New Jersey State Police and Firemen's Pension Act.

Cooperation with the police of other towns is of extreme importance as each is dependent upon the other. The Police Department has at its disposal and uses constantly county, state and federal services and facilities.

In the borough of Dunellen the Police Department handles all traffic control, investigations on local, state or federal levels, school policing, and other functions in the prevention and detection of crime and the maintenance of order. The force is constantly striving to combat juvenile delinquency and feels that the record speaks well for their efforts.

Primarily, all police officers are deployed by the Chief of Police and their duties are identical except for infrequent special assignments.

RESCUE SQUAD

The Dunellen Rescue Squad was organized in July of 1933 with twelve charter members. Its membership quota at present is thirty active and a growing number of honorary exempt men. The new building at 415 North Avenue was built by members and friends and was dedicated on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 1941.

The Squad owns two Cadillac ambulances, one a 1947 and the other a custom-built 1953 model, believed to be the only one of its kind in the country. It was planned and designed by the squad members to meet the needs of Rescue Squad work which they felt required specialized equipment. Both ambulances are equipped with two-way radio.

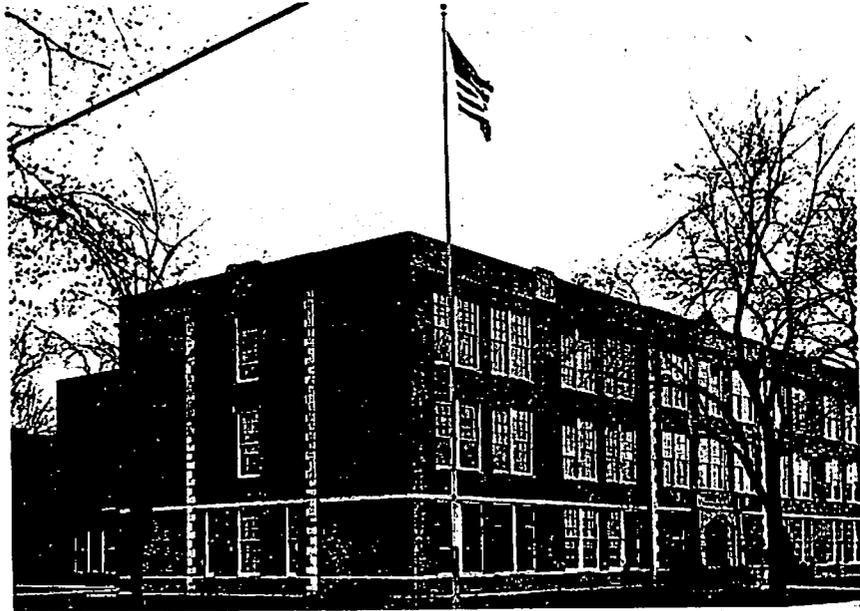
The building is available for Baby Clinics, Kiddie Keep Well Camp, Red Cross projects, First Aid classes and other local programs which come within the general scope of the work of the Rescue Squad. The Squad has a complete line of hospital beds, wheel chairs, crutches and also supplies oxygen and oxygen equipment to anyone in need.

The Rescue Squad is financed primarily by an annual direct mail campaign, but also derives funds from an annual picnic run by the members, from the municipal government, industry, bequests and gifts.

In a typical year the Squad handles 456 calls, involving 6,675 miles and 1,863 man hours. Both emergency and transportation calls are made.

The squad belongs to the 2nd District of the New Jersey State First Aid Council and is also a member of the International First Aid and Rescue Association.

Rescue Squad meetings are held the third Monday evening of the month except in February, March, May and November when they are held on the third Sunday afternoon to enable men who work nights to attend.



Roosevelt School

Education

Dunellen's school system stems from a one room log school house built in 1800, according to early records, on the site of the present Whittier School. An itinerant New England peddler, Ransom Downes, was the teacher. This building, later enlarged, survives today, being a two family house on the same property. A four room school was built on the original site in 1875, the core of the present Whittier School.

As the community grew, schools built in succession were: Lincoln in 1888; St. John's Parochial School in 1923-24; Roosevelt Junior High School in 1927-28 and the senior high school addition in 1934-35.

High school instruction was given to local pupils as early as 1893 in the upper rooms of the Whittier School. This continued until 1906 when students were sent to Plainfield and later to Bound Brook for their high school education. The first class from a full six year period in the local high school was graduated in 1937.

Local enrollment in the schools for the current year is 1,828, divided as follows: Whittier, 381; Lincoln, 197; High School, 801; St. John's, 450. Six boys and four girls attend vocational high school and some parochial school graduates go to out-of-town high schools.

A unique feature of the elementary school system is the pre-reading class to which students go after kindergarten and prior to entering first grade. This practice has received nationwide recognition. A pupil given time in this way to master reading, avoids the harmful frustrations and discouragement which result from facing a subject before he is ready. The student may spend three months or a year in prereading, depending on his mental maturity and readiness for reading.

Introduced some twenty years ago, the program has the endorsement of the present school authorities. While some parents protest that adding this grade lengthens school years, statistics show that the average age of Dunellen graduates is on a par or even lower than that of other school districts.

A rich program is provided for school children in both instrumental and vocal training. Aside from the program given by pupils at the annual singing festival and the yearly band and orchestra concert, the music faculty endeavors to develop a love of their art in the community through the promotion of a community band and orchestra and the organization of a music appreciation group.

A broad curriculum is offered to high school students, both college preparatory and otherwise. There are adequate facilities such as laboratories, library, manual training and gymnasium. The program includes competitive sports for boys and an annual field day and indoor gymnastic drills for girls.

Expansion plans for the school system include a cafeteria. Present plans for elimination of tuition pupils from two of three outside sending stations will do much towards correcting overcrowding by 1957. The library and music studio are both doing double duty as study halls at present.

The public schools are administered by the superintendent, appointed by the Board of Education and subject to its authority. It is the duty of the county superintendent of schools to see that state and county regulations are observed.

The high school is a member of the Middle Atlantic States Association for Colleges and Secondary Schools. Its standing as a certified college preparatory school is maintained through periodic checks by qualified teams of examiners from the Association. The 57 teachers in the public school system are college graduates with the exception of two who hold emergency certificates. Salaries range from \$3,000.00 minimum (none at present) to \$6,000.00 maximum.

St. John's parochial school has nine teachers, one for each of its class rooms. The school is entirely self-supporting and receives no state aid although its curriculum is in accordance with requirements of the state Board of Education. Graduates who attend out-of-town high schools are entitled, however, to use public school buses on established routes.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education consists of nine members, three being elected annually for a three-year term. (See chapter 7 for School Elections.) If the school budget is voted down in two successive elections, the question of how much money is to be spent for schools is turned over to the borough council.

Board membership, which has included women since 1921, is open to any citizen who has lived in the borough for three years. He must be able to read and write and it is expected that he will entertain a healthy interest in the processes of education.

A candidate must fill out a petition signed by a sponsor and at least ten local residents. The petition must then be notarized and filed with the secretary of the board not less than forty days prior to the school election.

The Dunellen Board of Education has been marked by unusually long terms of service by some members. The question arises whether or not the board's accomplishments or obvious public indifference to school elections is the governing factor in these record stretches of service.

The School Budget

Almost 50% of every tax dollar paid by property owners directly and by those who rent indirectly, is used for running the local school system. The total amount of district taxes, held in the tax collector's office for disbursement as the school board requires it is \$221,507.11 for the current year. Other sources of revenue are:

Balance on hand.....	\$ 14,200.00
State appropriations.....	41,417.89
Tuition fees.....	131,000.00
Auditorium fees.....	25.00
Miscellaneous.....	370.00
Special case apportionment.....	400.00
	\$408,920.00
TOTAL (including taxes).....	\$408,920.00

The major expenditures are:

Teachers', principals' and superintendent's salaries.....	\$288,100.00
Repairs and replacements.....	22,060.00
Manual training salaries.....	19,100.00
Janitors' salaries.....	16,900.00
Text books.....	5,000.00
Educational supplies.....	6,200.00
Manual training supplies.....	2,700.00
	13,900.00

Operating expenses:	
Fuel	4,200.00
Light, water, etc.....	5,000.00
Telephone and telegraph.....	800.00
Janitors' supplies	1,500.00
	<hr/>
	11,500.00
Auxiliary services:	
Bus transportation	3,350.00
Library	1,000.00
Magazines, etc.....	225.00
Athletics	2,600.00
	<hr/>
	7,175.00
Coordinate activities:	
Medical, dental, nurse.....	6,300.00
Insurance, fire and liability.....	3,500.00
Redemption of bonds.....	2,000.00
Interest on bonds.....	920.00
	<hr/>
	6,420.00
Secretaries' salaries, high school & elementary..	8,200.00
Other expenses.....	9,265.00
	<hr/>
TOTAL	\$408,920.00

DUNELLEN SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Whittier School..... New Market Road and Whittier Ave.
Kindergarten through 6th grade.

Lincoln School..... Lincoln Ave. and Dunellen Ave.
Kindergarten through 3rd grade.

Dunellen High School..... 1st St. and Lincoln Ave.
7th through 12th grade.

St. John's parochial school..... 1st St. near Washington Ave.
Kindergarten through 8th grade.

Nursery Schools

(Available to Dunellen children)

Plainfield Cooperative Nursery School, Berckman and 2nd St.
State approved, staff of two helped by mothers, children 3 to
6, hours 9 to 11:30 A.M. PL 5-1398.

Day Nursery, 130 North Ave., Dunellen.
Staff of three, children 6 weeks to 2 years, hours 7:00 A.M.
to 5:30 P.M. DU 2-1346.

Start Rite Nursery School, 27 Greenbrook Road, Greenbrook.
State approved, staff of three, children 2 to 5, hours 7:30 A.M.
to 5:30 P.M. DU 2-2152.

Health and Welfare

The responsibility for health administration rests with the Board of Health which consists of seven members under state law. The members are appointed by the mayor and council and receive no salary. There are six laymen and a doctor who is chairman. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month in Borough Hall and are open to the public. The Board may enact necessary regulations and ordinances not in conflict with the State Sanitary Code which it must enforce.

The Health Officer, who receives a salary, is appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Health and confirmed by the other members. He is required to pass a state examination and is under the jurisdiction of the District Health Officer. His office is at 419 Front Street but will be at 116 N. Washington after January 1, 1955.

Duties of Health Officer:

1. Quarantining and recording of contagious diseases.
2. Inspection of public eating places and establishments where food is sold.
3. Enforcement of the borough Sanitary Code.
4. Cooperation with the District Health Officer of the State Board of Health.
5. Investigation of complaints of unsanitary conditions.
6. Issuance of certified copies of records of births, deaths and marriages for a fee of \$1.00. The Health Officer is the Registrar of Vital Statistics and has in his possession the original records which are complete and in excellent condition. They date back to 1895 when Dunellen became separated from Piscataway Township and elected its first Mayor, Council and other officials. Copies of the records have recently been microfilmed.
7. Issuance of marriage licenses, to be obtained in the municipality where the female applicant resides. He also issues licenses for food establishments, milk dealers, boarding homes, barber and beauty shops, garbage collectors and the keeping of chickens and pigeons.

HEALTH SERVICES

1. The Visiting Nurse Association in Plainfield serves Dunellen. It receives a contribution from the local Community Chest as well as money from the borough government.

Its services are available to people who need part time nursing care. The nurse cares for the sick in their homes, carrying out the recommendations of the physician. Under his orders she may give bed baths, many special treatments or injections. She will show the new mother how to care for her baby and give

advice and guidance as long as it is needed. A fee is charged for most of these services, however adjustments are made in special circumstances.

In 1953 a total of 1,164 home visits were made in Dunellen and 1,403 hours were spent by the nurse on these calls.

The parochial school nurse is one of this group. It also offers nursing care in the homes, an attendant at the Well Baby Station and inspection of day nurseries.

2. The Nurses' Health Committee of Dunellen assists the visiting nurse at the Well Baby Station, serves the sick, the shut-in and the crippled. The committee acts as a clearing house at Christmas in seeing that persons in need are brought to the attention of various charitable organizations.

3. Camping facilities at the Kiddie Keep Well Camp in Roosevelt Park, Metuchen are available to the children of indigent families of Middlesex County upon recommendation of the visiting nurses. The camp is supported by county and municipal donations.

4. Communicable diseases must be reported to the local Board of Health, or Health Officer within 12 hours in order that proper measures may be taken. If a doctor is not in attendance, a member of the family or the school authorities should make the report.

5. Child health and public education are administered by the local Board in conjunction with the State Health Department. It provides lectures and motion pictures to school children, distributes literature to food establishments and supplies posters and pictures for public display. The Board of Health provides health services for the parochial school out of its budget. This includes a dentist and a school nurse. The parochial school hires its own doctor. The public school health services are provided by the Board of Education from its budget. They also have a doctor, a dentist and a nurse. Each school child in the borough is given a yearly medical and dental check. The Board of Health also provides Dental Clinic Services for any children of the borough who are not receiving needed attention for valid reasons.

6: Cooperation with other health services includes:

a. Educational programs on tuberculosis control in the schools through the Middlesex County Chapter of the TB Health League. The chest X-ray mobile unit comes to Dunellen annually and all residents are urged to avail themselves of this free service. Residents may also make use of the Tuberculosis Diagnostic Center at Roosevelt Hospital in Metuchen without being referred there by a doctor.

b. Free clinics held at least twice a year under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health at the Municipal Building for the anti-rabies inoculation of dogs. Pet owners are urged to take advantage of this service. Under local ordinances all dogs are to be on a leash at all times. When a dog bites someone, either the owner, the victim or the doctor should report the incident to the

Health Officer. The dog must then be confined for at least ten days while the necessary tests are made.

c. Venereal disease control is handled by having all local doctors report cases to the Health Officer. The State Health Board and the U. S. Public Health Service are also notified. When a patient whose case has been reported refuses treatment by his own doctor, he is referred to the Middlesex General Hospital clinic. Transportation is furnished if necessary. The local board follows the progress of each case.

SANITATION

Water Supply

Dunellen's water is supplied by the Elizabethtown Water Company from a public source. The water is tested daily by a chemist and periodically throughout the year by the local Health Officer who sends samples to the State laboratories in Trenton for analysis. In comparison with many communities which have suffered water shortages in recent years, Dunellen has been fortunate in having had an adequate supply.

Inspection of Food Establishments and Products

The premises of meat, fish and milk distributors are inspected at frequent intervals by the Health Officer and in addition the State Control Board inspects the milk sources. Violators of the local Sanitary Code may be brought before the local magistrate.

Sewage Disposal

The sewage disposal plant is run in conjunction with the communities of Plainfield, North Plainfield and Fanwood under a joint Sewer Contract, supervised by the State Health Department. When the Raritan Valley Trunk Sewer System is completed, with Dunellen a member, the present disposal plant in Middlesex will be discontinued. Dunellen now pays 7% of the costs of the present plant and is entitled to use 7% of the capacity of the system. This joint system was completed in November of 1916, but has become inadequate in spite of having been enlarged in 1939 and improved in other ways since that time. When the system was set up each community paid the cost of installing and maintaining the sewers in its own town and also the cost of connections with the main trunk.

Garbage and Rubbish Disposal

The Health Department licenses independent contractors who collect a fee from the customer. The dump is maintained by the borough and the collectors.

Plumbing Inspections

The plumbing inspector holds a state license. He examines and annually licenses plumbers operating in the borough, issues permits for the laying of sewers and for plumbing installations,

inspects and approves all plumbing work before it is accepted and sees that property owners connect with sewer installations within 30 days after notice.

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

Dunellen's hospital needs are met for the most part by Muhlenberg in Plainfield, Middlesex General and St. Peter's in New Brunswick.

	<i>Beds</i>	<i>Dunellen Patients in 1953</i>
Middlesex General.....	125	Not reported
St. Peter's.....	188	83
Muhlenberg.....	400	983

All three of these hospitals have schools of nursing. Residents of Dunellen may use all facilities of these institutions except for the clinics at Muhlenberg which is in a different county. The hospitals are supported by patients' fees, contributions, endowments, Community Chest and county and municipal tax funds. Dunellen contributes to St. Peter's and Middlesex General, the latter a private institution and the others non-profit organizations. Use of the clinics at St. Peter's and Middlesex General can be made by any resident of Middlesex county either by his own doctor's recommendation, various social services or in the case of St. Peter's, by application to the hospital's own social service worker.

Clinics at St. Peter's and Middlesex General:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Pediatric | 6. Orthopedic |
| 2. Surgical | 7. Eye, ear, nose and throat |
| 3. Medical | 8. Obstetrical |
| 4. Dermatological | 9. Gynecological |
| 5. Cardiac | |

In addition St. Peter's has:

Urological, peripheral vascular, bronchoscopic, diabetic, plastic surgery, allergy and dental.

Middlesex General also has:

Endocrine, sight conservation, syphilis, maternal health, shock therapy and genito-urinary.

WELFARE

Although Dunellen's relief load is small, the borough has a Director of Welfare and a Welfare Board who meet every three months. Appointed for five years, the Director is responsible for providing food, shelter and clothing to those in need. In cases of mental and physical illness, county and state agencies work through the local director who serves those in need of institutional care by making arrangements with the right hospital to provide the necessary care.

The Middlesex General Hospital receives indigent patients from Dunellen and its clinics are available for diagnosis and

treatment. The Middlesex Chronically Ill Hospital takes patients in that category. The treatment of polio is outside the field of the Director of Welfare and is handled through the county polio chairman with facilities for patients available at the Middlesex Polio Hospital near New Brunswick.

Supplementing the Director of Welfare in supplying basic needs are the many social, charitable and religious organizations of the borough. The Lions Club, the Rotary Club and many others are generous in community and seasonal drives in addition to their own special charities.

The Nurses' Health Committee, a volunteer service organization, cooperates with the visiting nurses and the school nurses in needy cases and does much good work at Christmas time. This Committee also assists at the Well Baby Station where visiting nurses with a local doctor frequently in attendance check babies' weight, feeding habits and other minor problems and gives advice on child health and care.

The Director of Welfare may recommend two weeks' vacations at the Kiddie Keep Well Camp for children of needy families.

Civil Defense

Civil Defense is the organization of Volunteer personnel to forewarn the general public against an enemy attack, thereby effecting the saving of lives and property. It embraces all agencies, either public or semi-public, that may help in time of emergency. Disaster Control is the application of the principles of Civil Defense to any natural disaster beyond the control of our regularly established public and semi-public agencies.

Laws passed in the Legislature in 1949 and again in 1953 have defined the regulations pertaining to both Civil Defense and Disaster Control. The Governor of the state is the supreme authority. He appoints a state director. The mayor of each municipality appoints a local director for the community. He in turn organizes a council of Civil Defense and Disaster Control. The council recruits personnel and determines policy and controls finances.

For purposes of defense the state is divided into districts, Dunellen being in the 7th district or Central New Jersey. The local CD-DC is pledged to give help and receive it from nearby communities, areas or the state if the need should arise. The organization is also connected with agencies such as the Red Cross, Civil Air Patrol and others working in the field of emergency aid.

Declaration of an emergency is the responsibility of either the Governor or the Mayor, and when so ordered provides the CD-DC organization with all-embracing authority to act in the protection of life and the safeguarding of property. State insurance is provided all CD-DC personnel for injury or loss of life in

the performance of duty. The law further provides that no individual serving in CD-DC may be sued for any damage to life or property as a result of performance of duty, unless criminal negligence can be proven.

While the law guarantees protection of the general public in case of disaster, it also penalizes those persons who do not cooperate with the CD-DC personnel in the result of an emergency. It also provides for the conscription of personnel and property in case they are needed.

The local council consists of fifteen members, liaison officers appointed by the state department of defense and other members who represent the agencies participating in the defense effort, such as doctors, nurses, Rescue Squads and others. The mayor is a member ex-officio. The council has no direct jurisdiction over the industries in the community. It may suggest and advise but that is the extent of its responsibility. It is the obligation of each plant to organize its own defense program. Industry is obliged, however, to conform to the state department of defense directives.

The local director is primarily a coordinator of the various agencies that work together in the defense organization. He emphasizes that each of these agencies must be so set up that the chain of command is continuous. If the leader fails a deputy must be ready to take his place.

The CD-DC is financed by the local government as a budget item. The cost has been nominal with a surplus being returned each year. For the past three years the budget has been \$2,000.00 but has been lowered for 1954 to \$1,000.00. In its five years of existence Civil Defense has been responsible for the installation of an efficient air raid warning system, has purchased three portable short wave transmitting and receiving units, has outfitted a number of police reservists and has established five auxiliary hospital units. These units are located at the Presbyterian, Methodist and St. John's churches, the American Legion Clubhouse and the Rescue Squad Headquarters.

The signal for an air raid or disaster call is: three steady blasts of twenty seconds each with a five second interval of silence between each. The alarm is given with Civil Defense, Rescue Squad and Fire Department sirens. The all clear signal is three steady blasts lasting one minute each with a minute of silence between each blast.

The CD-DC sirens are located on Third Street and Walnut Street. They are mounted on telephone poles.

Organizations and agencies included in the local defense setup are the following: police and fire departments, police reserves, rescue squad, air raid wardens, canteen workers, welfare workers, doctors, nurses, hospital workers, first aid members, clergy, board of education, Boy Scouts, transportation and communication workers and messengers. There are 450 volunteers in the disaster and defense organization.

Industries

Dunellen showed early signs it would become an industrial center. Even while still a village folks were complaining about the "smells" from the varnish factory and showing annoyance over the whine and burr of a saw mill which an enterprising citizen had set up.

The Chamber of Commerce today lists some dozen industries operating in the borough, each turning out a product that is important in the world of industry, from the huge tanks of the Buffalo Tank Corp. to the delicate curtains of the Van Blaricom Curtain Factory.

The largest industry in the borough is the Art Color Printing Company which came to Dunellen in 1925. It is also the largest printing establishment in the east, turning out magazines and other publications at the rate of 25 million monthly. Of its 1,700 employees, about twenty-five percent live in the borough with the remainder living within commuting distance.

An expansion program which involved the purchase of a portion of South Avenue from the borough is now in progress and will increase the floor space by approximately 80,000 square feet. Because the plant does employ more workers than any other in the borough and because it meets 15% of the local tax burden, it has given Dunellen the name of a "one-industry town."

Large numbers of sightseers are taken on tours of the plant where they can see the complete manufacture of magazines from the manuscript stage to the finished product with the subscriber's name ready for mailing. The large volume of mail going out from the post office branch in the plant itself has given the Dunellen Post Office a first class rating in spite of the small size of the town.

Art Color plays a significant part in the civic and social life of the borough. Many of the employees came out from New York City with the company and have remained with their families to become an integral part of the community. A program of employee benefits has overflowed into the town in a variety of ways. The latest philanthropy of the company was the donation of a "Little League" baseball stadium on one of the borough's playgrounds.

Heavy industry began to locate in Dunellen before the turn of the century, and many of them, with modifications, are still here. One which did not survive was the Levering and Garrigues Iron Works, of which the only reminder today is Levgar Street which bears its name. This company was known as the Levgar Works and was located where the Buffalo Tank Corporation now stands. It provided employment for many of the early breadwinners of the town.

Other early industries were the Aluminum Press Company,

forerunner of today's R. Hoe and Company; the Ransome Concrete Machinery Company, now the Worthington Corporation and the Lasher Pray Color Company, today's National Adhesive Corporation.

Officials would like to see other industries enter the borough as a means of lowering the tax rate, however, the limited area of the town offers little hope of such a likelihood.

Not among the earliest to arrive, but a concern which has grown with Dunellen during its 36 years in business here, is the Van Blaricom Curtain Factory. Its products include curtains, bedspreads and drapes and are distributed nationally. It is managed today by members of the same family who brought it here in 1917 from Jersey City where it was founded in 1897. A recent program of expansion included the construction of an addition to the building which tripled the floor space and added one third more employees. Their original building was Dunellen's first motion picture house which had been converted into a factory.

A list of the industries in Dunellen today includes: the Leonard Manufacturing Company, electronics equipment, 15 employees; sales branch of the National Biscuit Company, 27 employees; Savary and Glaeser and Company, Structural Steel Engineering, 50 employees; Worthington Corporation, concrete mixers and other heavy machinery, 400 employees; Irwin Industries, Inc., silver coating for plastics, 40 employees; Allied Asphalt, pitch and wax products, 18 employees; R. Hoe and Company, printing presses and job foundry, 380 employees; Buffalo Tank, steel plate fabrications, 170 employees; Fischer Casting Company, non-ferrous foundry, 150 employees; Art Color Printing Co., Inc., commercial printing, 1,700 employees; Benweis Bag Co., ladies handbags, 25 employees, and the New Jersey Fire Equipment Company, 18 employees, sale of fire equipment.

A few of the industries listed are just over the boundary of Dunellen in other municipalities. They do, however, use the mailing and shipping facilities of the Dunellen Post Office, and use a Dunellen telephone number. These are the Buffalo Tank and the Irwin Industries, both in Piscataway Township; the New Jersey Fire Equipment Company in Greenbrook, and the Shurseal products, Inc., in Middlesex.

Savary and Glaeser and Company uses executive offices in Dunellen with its plant located in Middlesex.

Where to Worship

Editors' Note: These are the religious organizations which have asked to be listed in the directory of the Dunellen Weekly Call.

BAPTIST

First Baptist, 450 New Market Rd.

Seventh Day Baptist, Church St.
Green Brook Baptist, Public School

CATHOLIC

Our Lady of Fatima, New Market Rd. and Van Winkle Place
Our Lady of Mt. Virgin, R. C., Harris Ave., Middlesex
Resurrection of Christ, Polish Nat'l., 649 Bound Brook Rd.
St. John's R. C., Washington Ave. and 1st St.
St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox, Delmore Ave., S. Plainfield
St. Nicholas Greek Catholic, 115 Madison Ave.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST

First Church, Prospect and 9th, Plainfield

EPISCOPAL

Holy Innocents', 400 New Market Rd.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Kingdom Hall, 909 W. 4th St., Plainfield. (Under construction, temporarily meeting at 202 W. Front St., Plainfield)

JEWISH

Congregational Children of Israel, New Street, Plainfield
Congregation O'Havei Zedek V' Sholom, 422 W. Front St., Plainfield

Temple Beth El, 522 E. 7th St., Plainfield
Temple Sholom, 815 W. 7th St., Plainfield

LUTHERAN

St. Luke's, New Market Rd.

METHODIST

Dunellen Methodist, Jackson & Dunellen
Bound Brook Methodist, West Ave. at Livingston, Bound Brook

NEW THOUGHT

Plainfield Unity Center, Babcock Bldg., Plainfield

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

New Durham Union Chapel, New Durham Rd.
Middlesex Chapel, Fairfield Ave., Middlesex

PRESBYTERIAN

First Presbyterian, Dunellen Ave. and Park Place

QUAKER

Religious Society of Friends, Watchung and 3rd St., Plainfield
New Brunswick Friends' Meeting, 60 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick

UNITARIAN

All Souls, Park Ave., Plainfield

For Children: Arbor Sunday School, Arbor Fire Hall
For High School Youth: Monday evenings, Legion Club House, Dunellen

Organizations

Alice Brown Guild
American Legion Post 119
American Legion Auxiliary Post 119
Church Service League, Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church
Council of Church Women of New Market and Dunellen
Camp 67, Patriotic Order of America
Czecho Slovak Society of America
Court Regina Coeli, Catholic Daughters of America
Daughters of American Revolution, Elizabeth Snyder Chapter
District Committee of Boy Scouts
District Committee of Girl Scouts
Dunellen Chamber of Commerce
Dunellen Democratic Clubs
Dunellen Exempt Firemen's Association
Dunellen Fire Department
Dunellen High School Booster Club
Dunellen Jewish Club
Dunellen League of Women Voters
Dunellen Lion's Club
Dunellen Pressmen's Union, Local 316
Dunellen Parent-Teacher Association
Dunellen Republican Club
Dunellen Rescue Club
Dunellen Rotary Club
Dunellen Square Club
Dunellen Typographical Union No. 157
Elks' Lodge, B. P. O. E., 1488
Evening Group, New Market-Dunellen Woman's Club
First Catholic Slovak Ladies' Union, Branch 349
First Catholic Slovak Men's Union
Friendship Circle of Polish Soldiers
Joseph Pilsudski Society, Group 2471, Polish National Alliance
Junior Committee, D. A. R.
Knights of Columbus
Ladies' Auxiliary, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division No. 5
Ladies' Auxiliary, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division No. 7
New Market-Dunellen Woman's Club
Nurses Health Committee, assisting Visiting Nurses Association
Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, Tri-Boro Local 93
Polish American Citizens' Club
Polish American Democratic Club

Presbyterian Brotherhood
Presbyterian Ladies' Aid
Rockview Council, Sons and Daughters of Liberty
Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol No. 220
St. John's Parent-Teacher Association
St. John's Rosary Society
St. Joseph's Society, No. 928
St. Luke's Ladies' Guild
Tripoli Detachment, Marine Corps League
Tripoli Unit, Marine Corp League Auxiliary
Tri-Boro Memorial Post 5479, Veterans of Foreign Wars
White Eagle Women's Circle
Women's Auxiliary No. 168 to Typographical Union No. 157
Women's Society of Christian Service, Methodist Church

Only church organizations of wide community interest are listed. Each church has many other groups besides those shown.



Calendar of Official and Semi-Official Meetings

Board of Education—Board Room High School, 2nd Tuesday of month

Board of Health—Borough Hall, 1st Wednesday of month

Borough Council—Borough Hall, 1st and 3rd Mondays

Chamber of Commerce—103 No. Washington, office of the secretary, 2nd Tuesday of month

Dunellen Fire Company*—Fire Hall, last Wednesday of month

Library Board—Library, 2nd Monday of month

Magistrate's Court—Borough Hall, 7:30 P.M., every Tuesday

Nurses' Health Committee*—Members' homes, monthly through winter season

Planning Board—Borough Hall, 2nd Thursday of month

Recreation Commission—Borough Hall, last Wednesday of month

Rescue Squad*—Rescue Squad Headquarters, 3rd Monday except Feb., May, Aug., Nov., 3rd Sunday

Welfare Board—Borough Hall, at call of chairman

Well Baby Station—Rescue Squad Headquarters, 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1:00 P.M.

Zoning Board—Borough Hall, 4th Thursday

Zoning Board of Adjustment—Borough Hall, 3rd Thursday (if needed)

* For members only.

Just In Case—

WHERE TO CALL:

POLICE, call OPERATOR or DU 2-6200

FIRE, call OPERATOR or DU 2-6200

AMBULANCE, call OPERATOR or DU 2-6200

HEALTH OFFICER (office) DU 2-6898

(home) DU 2-7002

VISITING NURSE PL 6-2436

DIRECTOR OF WELFARE

(mornings) DU 2-6200

HOSPITALS:

Muhlenberg, Plainfield PL 6-1750

St. Peter's, New Brunswick CH 7-1212

**Middlesex General,
New Brunswick CH 7-8200**