

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
CONTROLLER OF LUZERNE COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

FOR THE YEAR 1928

HARRY T. BUTTS

COUNTY CONTROLLER

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER OF LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
Wilkes-Barre, Pa., January 28, 1929
TO THE HONORABLE THE JUDGES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS:
In conformity with the Act of Assembly approved June 27, A. D. 1895, I herewith submit the annual report of Luzerne County, showing the receipts and expenditures together with a statement of the financial condition of the County, for the year 1928.

HARRY T. BUTTS,
Controller of Luzerne County.

Statement of Receipts

SOURCES OF REVENUE	
Funds Received for County Purposes	
General Taxes—Paid by Tax Collectors Account of Duplicates	\$2,688,700.86
Personal Taxes—Mortgages, Stocks, Bonds, Judgment Notes and Money on Interest, Paid by Tax Collectors Account of Duplicates	206,474.52
Land Returns—Delinquent Taxes Paid to County Treasurer	5,687.84
Penalties and Costs—Delinquent Taxes Paid to County Treasurer	1,462.97
Commissions on Local Warrants—Due County Account of Collection of Delinquent Taxes for Municipalities, etc.	88.93
Rentals—Paid by Corporations for Use of Bridges, etc.	630.25
Rentals—Messrs. M. E. Moore & Sons—County Houses	4,255.00
Money Returned—Witness Fees, etc.	1,963.43
Money Returned—Unclaimed Wages, Road and Bridge Department	88.93
Sundry Sales—	711.32
Waste Paper from Court House	63.55
Dismantled Still	262.00
Road Machinery	90.00
Old Bridge and Building	77.50
Cement Bags	82.80
Scrap Iron, etc.	107.55
Licenses—Gypsies	101.00
Dancing Halls in Townships	140.00
Telephone Commissions—Booths in Court House	124.34
Temporary Loans—Made from Local Banks Awaiting Receipt of Taxes for Year 1928	1,850,000.00
Special Elections—Reimbursement by Municipalities—Account of Pay of Election Boards, Room Rent, Ballots and Supplies	316.12
Gasoline Tax—Luzerne County's Share from Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	138,256.31
Coupon Bond Interest—Dupont Borough in Payment of Paving Route No. 5	2,322.26
Fees—Mercantile Licenses, etc., for Year 1928, George M. Wall, Treasurer of Luzerne County	1,804.08
Interest on Dulik-Balanced County Funds for Year 1928, George M. Wall, Treasurer of Luzerne County	1,151.07
Sale of Food Products and Maintenance—Boys' Industrial School, Kis Lyn	7,500.00
Aldermen and Justices of the Peace—Fines for Disorderly Conduct and Gambling Devices	177.50
Prison Fees—Maintenance of Prisoners at County Prison—United States Treasury	221.00
Fines and Costs—Paid to County Clerk of Courts	30,144.69
Maintenance of Juveniles—Collected by Order of Court	2,198.19
Cash Fees—Collected by County Fee Officers	96,140.83
Total Receipts—General County Fund	\$5,041,166.11
COUNTY SINKING FUND	
Sinking Fund—Tax Duplicates	\$345,932.94
Land Returns—Delinquent Taxes	1,105.57
Temporary Loans—Made from Local Banks Awaiting Receipt of Taxes for 1928	195,000.00
Total Receipts—County Sinking Fund	\$542,038.51
FUNDS COLLECTED FOR MUNICIPALITIES, POOR DISTRICTS AND TAX COLLECTORS	
Delinquent Taxes Paid to County Treasurer:	
School Fund	\$14,010.10
Boroughs and Townships Funds	9,839.75
Poor Fund	3,067.20
Tax Collectors' Commissions	633.41
Total Receipts—Municipalities	\$27,070.46
GRAND TOTAL—RECEIPTS	\$5,610,275.08
GENERAL COUNTY FUND DISBURSED CASES	
Justices of the Peace and Aldermen's Fees	\$11,874.75
Constables' Fees	19,781.84
Total	\$31,656.59

Expenditures in Detail

COURT EXPENSES	
Justices of the Peace and Aldermen's Fees—Court Cases	\$ 9,019.16
Constables' Fees—Court Cases	2,577.38
Witness Fees—Court Cases	21,715.78
Salaries—Court Officers, Interpreters and Tipstaves	22,146.00
Salaries and Costs—Stenographers	37,242.00
Salaries—Probation Officers—Purchase of Automobile, Gasoline and Repairs	5,220.00
Advertising and Printing—Argument and Trial Lists	1,822.40
Salaries—Sheriff's Court Deputies	2,961.47
Supreme Court Costs—Miscellaneous Expenses	6,968.00
Constables' Returns to Court—Roads, Bad Streets, etc.	140.61
Counsel Appointed by Court	3,228.80
Dockets—Printing, etc.	2,806.05
Expert Testimony and Medical Examinations	1,631.34
Referees' Fees	1,945.00
Van Hire—Transportation of Prisoners from Prison to Court House	180.80
Total	\$127,539.98
ELECTION EXPENSES	
Blank Forms	\$ 467.13
Delivery of Ballots and Supplies	2,750.50
Election Officers' Pay	51,297.52
Printing—Ballots and Supplies	23,067.51
Room Rent—Elections in City Buildings	10,611.00
Registration of Voters—Cities, Boroughs and Townships	29,555.38
Printing and Delivering of Registration Books	3,480.00
Official Count of Return Board and Attorneys' Counting Board Expenses—Printing and Posting	6,968.00
Sheriff's Deputies—Wages, Meals and Automobile Hire	1,494.96
Extra Clerks (Commissioners' Office)—Preparation of Ballots, Registration of Voters, Receiving Election Returns, etc.	1,494.96
Constables' Attendance at Election	3,979.00
Aldermen and Justices of the Peace—Keeping Ballot Boxes	960.00
Special Elections—Municipalities	678.00
Booths and Ballot Boxes	1,067.20
Advertising Elections	1,067.20
Miscellaneous Expenses—Tipstaves, etc.—Guarding Ballot Boxes	311.52
Transcribing Clerks—Registration Books (Cities, Boroughs and Townships)	12,558.27
Total	\$179,095.00
ORPHANS COURT	
Salaries—Stenographers and Typists	\$ 7,700.00
Salary—Stenographer to County Superintendent of Schools	1,000.00
Institute—County and Other School Districts	5,000.00
Assessment Books, Postage, Stationery and Supplies	5,000.00
Transcribing Clerks—Assessment Books for Boroughs and Townships	2,000.00
Total	\$12,700.00
COURT HOUSE EXPENSES	
Improvements to Building, Repairs to Machinery, Plumbers and Heating System	\$ 1,182.40
Ice and Drinking Water	1,000.00
Clock Time Service	1,000.00
Electric Power and Lighting	1,000.00
Salaries—Care of Building and Grounds	1,000.00
Heating	1,000.00
Plants, Flowers, etc.	1,000.00
Water Rent	1,000.00
Building Supplies	1,000.00
Window Cleaning	1,000.00
Rental—Offices Outside of Court House	1,000.00
State Army—Luzerne County's Share of Construction	1,000.00
Total	\$17,154.50
OFFICE EXPENSE	
Dockets	\$ 782.26
Stationery, Supplies and Printing	14,771.51
Furniture, Typewriters, etc.	5,970.76
Telephones—Rental and Toll Calls	5,615.40
Postage	2,214.58
Total	\$36,000.41
BRIDGES—NEW CONSTRUCTION	
Bridge No. 14, Viaduct Over Lehigh Valley Railroad, Jenkins Construction Company (Settlement by Compromise)—Freeland Construction Company	\$ 28,000.00
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre, Engineers' and Architects' Fees—Benjamin H. Davis Estate, David A. Keefe	21,064.01
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre, Walter S. Rae	709,342.35
Bridge Over Route No. 1, Central Railroad of New Jersey, Ashley and Mountain Top, on State Highway, Route No. 170—Anthracite Bridge Company	194.70
Bridges Nos. 536 and 527, Between Derringer and Gowan, Black Creek Township—Joseph Banks Construction Co.	11,041.24
Bridge Over Lehigh Valley Railroad and Central Railroad of New Jersey, Laurel Run Borough—T. J. Boyle	7,661.06
Bridge No. 537, Near Derringer, Black Creek Township—Joseph Banks Construction Company	22,903.05
Bridge Over Nescopeck Creek, Near Straw Hill, Butler Township—Anthracite Bridge Company	9,807.39
Bridge Over Lackawanna River, Duryea Borough—Anthracite Bridge Company	8,842.80
Bridge No. 787, Over Toby's Creek, Near Luzerne Borough, Kingston Township—D. W. Davis & Sons, Inc.	17,120.25
Bridge No. 788, Over Toby's Creek, Near Trucksville, Kingston Township—Walker S. Rae	18,967.48
Bridge Over Toby's Creek and Wilkes-Barre Railway, West Trucksville, Kingston Township—T. J. Boyle	10,439.55
Total	\$926,378.58

BRIDGES—MISCELLANEOUS	
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre—Salaries—Clerk of Works and Inspectors	\$ 7,050.00
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre—Advertising for Proposals for Sale of Bonds	50.20
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre—Engineering Service, No. 1057, December Term, 1927, Verdict for Plaintiff, J. A. L. Waddell	5,201.22
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre—Expert Testimony in re No. 1057, December Term, 1927, J. A. L. Waddell vs. County of Luzerne	471.31
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre—Repairing Approaches—C. E. Goerlinger Construction Company	2,980.00
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre—Valmont Development Company's Injunction—Counsel Fees—John H. Dando	750.00
North Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre—Proposed New Structure—Counsel Fees—Francis Shank Brown—Appeals from Superior to Supreme Court	2,500.00
Fort Jenkins Bridge, Pittston—Purchase of Coal, to be Left in Place Under Bridge—Pennsylvania Coal Company	40,000.00
Fort Jenkins Bridge, Pittston—Recording Agreement and Map—George E. Gwilliam, Recorder	31.85
Fort Jenkins Bridge, Pittston—Counsel Fees—John H. Dando, No. 82, May Term, 1925, Jacob Silverblatt vs. County of Luzerne	1,000.00
Bridge No. 14, Viaduct Over Lehigh Valley Railroad, Jenkins Township—No. 137, October Term, 1925—Freeland Construction Company vs. County of Luzerne—Counsel Fees—John H. Dando	2,000.00
Bridge Over Lehigh Valley Railroad, Laurel Run Borough—Wages of Workmen at Crossing (Temporary Grade Crossing)—Lehigh Valley Railway Company	1,547.52
Bridge Over Roaring Creek, Hunlock Township	180.00
Total	\$61,454.90
BRIDGES—MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	
Fort Jenkins Bridge, Pittston	\$ 1,066.72
Wagon Street Bridge, Pittston	999.83
Wyoming Bridge, Wyoming Township	1,313.93
North Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre	1,348.80
Market Street Bridge, Wilkes-Barre	878.46
West End Bridge, Plymouth	2,332.49
Plymouth Bridge, Plymouth	3,942.62
Nanticoke Bridge, Nanticoke	2,492.20
Shickelshinny Bridge, Shickelshinny	507.00
No. 14 Viaduct, Fort Jenkins Township	324.00
Harvey's Lake Bridge, Harvey's Lake	3,770.31
Duryea Bridge, Duryea	26.25
No. 787, Kingston Township	33.08
Carey Avenue Sewer, Hanover Township	3,983.85
Miscellaneous	45,733.10
Total	\$65,250.64
ROADS—NEW CONSTRUCTION	
Pennsylvania State Highway Route, Sugarloaf and Black Creek Townships, 16 ft. Portion, Luzerne County's Share	\$ 9,946.28
Pennsylvania State Highway Route, Sugarloaf and Black Creek Townships, 2 ft. Portion, Luzerne County's Share	1,322.51
100%—Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	3,439.23
Pennsylvania State Highway Route, Kingston Township, 16 ft. Portion, Luzerne County's Share 100%—D. W. Davis & Sons, Inc.	7,470.99
Pennsylvania State Highway Route, No. 235, Huntington Township, Luzerne County's Share 50%—Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	8,300.26
Pennsylvania State Highway Route, Black Creek Township, 2 ft. Portion, Luzerne County's Share 100%—Joseph Banks Construction Company	9,133.25
Pennsylvania State Highway Route, Black Creek Township, 16 ft. Portion, Luzerne County's Share 50%—Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	21,008.18
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 11, Kingston Borough, Luzerne and Courtland Boroughs, Sections Nos. 2 and 3, 22 ft. Portion, Luzerne County's Share 100%—H. C. Kerstean Company	62,377.53
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 11, Kingston Borough, Luzerne County's Share 50%—Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	81,646.70
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 30, Lehigh Township, Luzerne County's Share 50%—Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	44,870.42
North Street, Kingston Borough (Resurfacing)—C. F. Goerlinger Construction Company	14,411.40
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 11, Luzerne Borough to Trucksville (Relocation of Wilkes-Barre Railway Corporation's Tracks)—D. W. Davis & Sons, Inc.	179,269.54
Kunkle-Alderbrook, Luzerne Township, Luzerne County's Share	58,165.99
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 11, Kingston Township—Retaining Wall—B. G. Coon Construction Company	12,606.47
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 4, Wyoming Avenue, Kingston Borough	691.20
Pennsylvania State Highway, Main Street, Avoca Borough (Resurfacing), County Aid—Avoca Borough	590.37
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 4, Elmwood Borough—Relocation of Water Line—Glen Alden Coal Co.	1,135.26
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 4, Larksville Borough—Removing Dwellings—Howard Brader	2,650.00
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 4, West Nanticoke Borough—Relocation of D. L. & B. Railroad Company's Tracks to Provide Right-of-Way for New State Highway—The Delaware, Lackawanna and Erie Railroad Company	6,757.44
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 4, West Nanticoke Borough—Acquiring New Right-of-Way for D. L. & B. Railroad Company—Counsel Fees—A. Valentine	1,500.00
Total	\$652,231.50
ROADS—DAMAGES CAUSED BY CONSTRUCTION	
Carverton-Trueville Highway, Kingston Township	\$ 654.00
Kunkle-Alderbrook Highway, Dallas Township	385.00
Hunlock-Muhlenberg County Highway, Hunlock Township	5,319.94
Wright-Slocum County Highway, Kingston Township	2,723.00
Dorrance-Slocum County Highway, Dorrance Township	886.15
St. John's-Freeland County Highway, Butler Township	300.00
Dorrance-Hollenback County Highway, Hollenback Township	500.00
County Highway, Luzerne Township	870.00
Pennsylvania State Highway, Plymouth and Hunlock Townships	16,276.30
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 177, Harvey's Lake, Lake Township	5,677.50
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 368, Lehman Township	600.00
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 11, Kingston Township	134,864.88
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 235, Huntington Township	2,114.00
Pennsylvania State, Kingston-Franklin Highway, Kingston Township	5,235.00
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 169, Buck and Bear Creek Townships	6,475.50
Pennsylvania State Highway, Application Route No. 3802, Black Creek Township	1,851.72
Pennsylvania State Highway, Application Route No. 3770, Sugarloaf Township	500.00
Pennsylvania State Highway, Route No. 170, Fairview, Butler and Hazle Townships	17,295.50
Total	\$208,817.50
ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE UNDER SUPERVISION	
Excelsior-Franklin	\$ 5,624.65
Kingston-Franklin	13,199.56
Carverton-Trucksville	21,396.21
Orange-Dallas	3,905.60
Dallas-Franklin	1,074.00
Orange-Sickler	2,954.75
Ferr Brook-DeMuns	4,223.00
Dallas Toll Gate	4,223.00
Hills-Chase	2,281.76
Dallas-Hantsville	1,285.92
Lehigh-Outlet	4,291.20
Kunkle-Alderbrook	8,855.25
Hunlocks-Muhlenberg	3,147.18
Hunlocks-Ross	4,508.96
Muhlenberg-Broadway	3,139.50
Muhlenberg-Harveyville	8,255.04
Harvey-Register	1,254.50
Harveyville-Red Rock	6,031.54
North Street Road	4,983.23
Ashley-Planes-Bear	90,100.83
Pittston-Bear Creek	11,389.75
Parlow-Freeland	42,104.57
Glen Summit	1,050.00
White Haven-Weathered	6,429.85
Wright-Slocum	14,340.65
Nanticoke	28,701.11
Dorrance-Slocum	21,616.07
Foltstown-Lily Lake	6,724.86
Dorrance-Hobbie	2,515.30
Alber's-Blytheburn	25,130.74
St. John's-Harvey	8,828.91
Boisels-Corners-Sybertsville	2,944.70
St. John's-Freeland	12,835.29
Dorrance-Hollabach	17,913.24
Newcastle-Nescopeck	1,550.80
West End Road-Carey Avenue	738.71
Pine View-Blytheburn	3,223.10
Harley-Freeland	9,436.05
Thornhurst	8,687.10
Pennsylvania State Route No. 4, Kingston Borough, Hunlocks Creek	1,303.35
Pennsylvania State Route No. 11, Luzerne Borough, Trucksville	25,791.69
Miscellaneous Roads	99,201.47
Engineers and Office Expenses—Miscellaneous Supplies, etc.	95,467.61
Engineers' and Foremen's Expenses—Miscellaneous Supplies, etc.	6,674.43
Warehouse—Wages	33,340.56
Warehouse—Miscellaneous Supplies	838.35
Machinery—New and Repairs	19,519.50
Automobiles and Trucks—New and Repairs, Gasoline, Storage and Miscellaneous Supplies	34,892.30
Conyngnam-Newport	4,298.90
Total	\$890,904.46
VIEWS	
County Highways, etc.	\$ 2,442.66
Cities, Boroughs and Townships—Streets, Sewers, Roads, etc.	615.85
Total	\$3,058.51
TEMPORARY LOANS	
Satisfaction to Local Banks	\$825,000.00
Interest to Local Banks	42,945.89
Total	\$867,945.89
CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS	
Appropriations to United Charities—Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton, Pittston and Nanticoke Cities	\$ 16,200.00
Crippled Children—Hospital and Surgical Treatment—Wyoming Valley Crippled Children's Association	6,086.68
Care of Juveniles—Privately Maintained Families	27,007.73
Mental Examinations—By Order of Court	850.00
Insane Hospitals—Maintenance of Patients Committed by Order of Court	52,770.54
Removal of Insane Patients to Prisons	4,369.38
Juvenile Corrections—Maintenance of Delinquent Juveniles at Institutions	19,011.43
Criminal Insane and Prisoners—Maintained at Hospital and Penitentiaries	35,234.30
Mothers' Assistance Fund—Widows	53,344.00
Total	\$214,874.15

LUZERNE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS, KIS LYN	
Expenses	
Officers' Salaries	\$ 30,054.36
Teachers' Salaries	7,456.69
Wages	973.06
School Supplies	1,119.80
Office and Postage	37.40
Telephones	278.91
Insurance	334.96
Manager's Expenses	83.58
Advertising	21.30
Stable and Feed	24.92
Soldiers' Memorial Day Expenses	1,099.84
Rewards and Parole Expenses	438.87
Miscellaneous	146.71
Total	\$42,558.04
Maintenance	
Repairs to Machinery	\$ 1,918.61
Lime, Manure and Fertilizer	873.90
Oil, Gasoline and Hardware	2,219.28
Repairs to Buildings	614.01
Miscellaneous	2,765.74
Total	\$8,421.57
Sustenance	
Groceries and Provisions	\$ 4,872.49
Dry Goods and Clothing	7,688.76
Shoes	4,322.44
Medical Services	1,316.20
Drugs and Medicines	221.40
Flour	2,003.34
Sundries	97.40
Light, Heat and Power	5,484.15
Cheekery	2,372.49
Dairy	10,560.00
Laundry	20.39
Piggery	619.00
Total	\$30,655.64
Amount Paid by Luzerne County for Year 1928	\$ 90,665.25
Amount Paid by County for Year 1928	\$ 90,665.25
Cash Receipts—Sale of Surplus Products and Materials	7,500.00
Total	\$98,165.00