

Decline

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 of estimated appropriations. All estimates in the proposed budget are within reasonable limits of what we can anticipate for the fiscal year, 1951/52. Further refinements will be possible prior to the actual adoption of the budget.
 The following reasons were given for increases or reductions in appropriations:
 Elections: Appropriation reduced because there will be only one election. However, if primary election is moved back to June, a special appropriation will be required.
 Treasurer: Proposed increase provides for one additional employee in bookkeeping section.
 Police: Increase for one additional patrolman, as the 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. shift now has insufficient strength to properly patrol the city. There is also a substantial increase in operating costs which reflects increased prices for signs, printing, etc.
 Fire Department: Increase reflects only hike in salaries. Egbert pointed out that department can't expand much until the city can provide new fire stations. He warned that expansion program shouldn't be delayed any longer for length of time and definite detailed plans should be started within the next year.
 Building inspection: Decrease reflects expected decline in building activity.
 DPW: Increase will be due to anticipated cost in the maintenance of gravel streets. The appropriation doesn't contemplate an increase in departmental personnel, however.

FORESTRY AND PARK: Proposed budget contemplates one additional man in this department. General administration: Increase provides for some additional assistance so certain activities carried on in the manager's office can be assigned to other personnel. Additional costs in heat, light, telephone, postage, and other items reflects increased activity of the city. Unclassified item in this department provides for annual city audit.
 City's share of special assessment districts: This item has been reduced, which anticipates that a portion of the cost of future special assessment districts will be borne by bond issues.
 Street resurfacing: An item of \$40,000 is proposed to permit the city to resurface a substantial amount of pavement. If there is additional money from the gas and weight tax, a major portion of the funds will be appropriated directly to this account.
 Library: Increase contemplates full one-half mill levy on an assessed valuation of \$35,000,000. The library board will undoubtedly request the full mill levy as it has in the past, Egbert said.
 Civilian defense: This is a new appropriation and the sum of \$1,000 at this time is only a guess.
 Contingent fund: This has been increased 50%, anticipating there will be little carry over in the present contingent fund.

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS were given for revenue estimates: Permits: It is estimated that building volume will decrease.

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Moody

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sharply due to federal restrictions. First, there has been a decided reduction in revenue from this source. Fewer cases will be decided in the courts because of the adoption of the uniform traffic ticket.
 Gas and weight tax: Increase in estimate of revenue from this source reflects increased sales of gasoline and license plates and increase in city's population.
 Intangibles tax: Increase reflects greater population.
 Sales tax: This increase will be because of increased population at the present high level of purchasing. Because of civilian goods shortage, estimates are a bout \$3,000,000 below what would be anticipated if present level of buying were to continue.
 Sewer services: Decrease reflects estimated decrease in building volume.
 Rubbish collections: Estimated increase reflects a larger volume of business and increased number of business places in city.

THIS TABLE LISTS the revenue estimates for the next year, together with the figure for 1950-51.

	1950-51	1951-52
Gen. tax lev.	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Permits	2,000,000	1,750,000
Gas	1,000,000	1,200,000
Fine	1,000,000	1,000,000
Intangibles	1,000,000	1,000,000
Use of property	1,000,000	1,000,000
License plates	1,000,000	1,000,000
Unclassified	1,000,000	1,000,000
Traffic lev.	2,000,000	2,000,000
Public meters	1,000,000	1,000,000
Rural fire serv.	1,000,000	1,000,000
Amusement	1,000,000	1,000,000
Sale of salvage	1,000,000	1,000,000
Contributions	1,000,000	1,000,000
Total	12,500,000	12,500,000

PROPOSED DEPARTMENTAL appropriations, with the 1950-51 totals.

	Actual	Estimate
Commission	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Elections	3,200,000	1,200,000
Treasurer	1,000,000	2,200,000
Police	1,000,000	1,000,000
Fire	1,000,000	1,000,000
Public meters	1,000,000	1,000,000
Rural fire serv.	1,000,000	1,000,000
Amusement	1,000,000	1,000,000
Health	1,000,000	1,000,000
City	1,000,000	1,000,000
Forestry & Parks	1,000,000	1,000,000
Building	1,000,000	1,000,000
Library	1,000,000	1,000,000
Employee protection	1,000,000	1,000,000
Group ins.	1,000,000	1,000,000
Street resurfacing	1,000,000	1,000,000
Greenwood cem.	1,000,000	1,000,000
Recreation board	1,000,000	1,000,000
Capital imp. fund	1,000,000	1,000,000
Street resurfacing	1,000,000	1,000,000
Man. bldg. imp.	1,000,000	1,000,000
Plan commission	1,000,000	1,000,000
Contingent fund	1,000,000	1,000,000
TOTAL	12,500,000	12,500,000

To Divide Budget, Consider Parts at Separate Hearings
 Birmingham citizens will not find themselves confined to only a few days' study of the city's 1951-52 budget before it is adopted, city commissioners assured residents this week.
 For the first time, it will be divided into several sections, each of which will be considered at separate hearings, Commissioner Milton F. Mallender said.
 Recent state legislative amendments establishing a new assessment date as of Jan. 1, instead of April 1, now permits municipalities to have their assessment rolls ready early in March.
 Once the roll is approved by the board of review, the city commission knows exactly how much money it can raise through taxes.

FORMERLY THE commission had to wait until late in April or early in May before the assessment roll was known.
 "We've got a good start this year, the first time it is being attempted," declared Commissioner Ralph A. Meador.
 Mallender pointed out that while the present commission cannot commit the new commission, a certain budget, the present group can and should examine City Manager D. C. Egbert's tentative budget, submitted last week.
 "We can get the preliminary studies made so the proposed budget will be more realistic when the new commission takes over April 1," Mallender emphasized.
 The commission agreed to hold the first of possibly several committee hearings on the budget the evening of March 1.

Date 'Dog Tags' Due Here Still Unknown
 No further word has been received here concerning the blood typing tags, Dana Whitman, Birmingham deputy civil defense director said Tuesday.
 They told us a couple of weeks ago the 'dog tags' and money could be expected in Birmingham within a few days," he said. "I have had no word from Lansing since. Organizational plans are constantly shifting personnel around so we can't assume they are doing the best they can."

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Prof. Robert Ward of the University of Michigan's political science department, pointed out that we should not decrease our aid to Asiatic countries.
 "We must recognize the nature of our opponent," he declared. "Russia has a long range and extremely flexible program. She can change her plans overnight and strike where it will be of greatest benefit to her."
 "Asia must be considered of this basis. There are nearly a billion people there and vast resources. If we withdraw Russia will step in at once. Anyone can see what this would mean to the United States."

EUGENE HESZ, authority on American and European economy, suggested we study the international balance sheet.
 "We have a surfeit of money but we are forced to import vital raw materials from all over the world. We must bring in rubbers, manganese, chrome, tin and iron as well as a vast amount of food stuff. Without these foreign supplies we would be lost industrially. We are not a self-supporting nation."
 "Industry is not taking sides in the debate," said Thomas Reid of the Ford Motor company. "Production is the key to both peace and war. Industry will gear itself to fulfill whatever needs the nation has."

WE DO FAVOR decentralization of industry. We suggest to you the decentralization of foreign policies, as well. Teach our nations to produce what they need; send them help in the form of machines and experts; raise their standards of living and you will have taken a great step toward averting war."
 Gen. Stanley Reinhart, who commanded the 65th Division under Patton, told the group bluntly that we must build up our military strength and that we are already five years late in getting started.
 "The bully doesn't knock the golden gloves champ off the sidewalk," he declared. "He picks on the weakling and right now we are weak. Weakness in vitas aggression. Our forefathers fought to give us what we have. If we are not willing to fight to preserve it we deserve the fate of the Roman Empire which grew soft and weak!"

A QUESTION from the floor concerning the support we should be getting from Great Britain brought the answer that they already have many troops scattered throughout their eastern outposts and that they sent as much help as possible to our troops in Korea.
 Moody, answering a question from Joseph Bachman, representing Birmingham youth, said that getting Spain and Yugoslavia on

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