

## 1946 ACCOMPLISHMENTS 1950

### HIGHWAYS

During these four years there have been completed 3,165.4 miles of hard surfaced roads.

Approximately four times as many roads have been hard-surfaced during these four years as in the previous four; over twice as many as from '39 to '42; and 50 per cent more than in any four-year period of the State's history. These roads were built without any special bond issues with which to build roads, as some of the previous administrations enjoyed.

### PUBLIC WELFARE

Four years ago there were 48,916 old folks getting an average monthly payment of \$17.88. Today there are 87,592 old people drawing an average check of \$20.20.

Total people receiving help from the welfare program today amount to 121,000, against 62,935 four years ago.

### EDUCATION

During this administration 386 new school buildings have been erected, 228 of which were for the whites, and 158 for the Negroes. Also, 305 additions were made to existing buildings.

This administration has seen a nine months school term come into existence for the first time in the history of Alabama. Today, every school in Alabama is operating full-time on a full nine months schedule.

### STATE EMPLOYEES

During this administration, state employees discontinued working a half-day on Saturday, but they absorbed the four hours which they worked on Saturdays into longer hours for their five work days. Since the beginning of the administration, the average monthly salary of state employees has increased from \$162 to \$214.

### STATE DOCKS AND TERMINALS

The State Docks' facilities for handling freight are equal to the best in the world, and superior to most of them.

The four-year expansion program at the docks amounts to \$10,000,000. This is an amount equal to the original cost of the docks, and more than three times the amount expended on its growth for the 16 year period from 1930 to 1946.

### REVENUE

Four years ago the total state revenue was \$64,401,000. In 1950, this amount was \$94,091,000. This marks a 46.10 per cent increase. And mind you, this increase was made, despite the fact that no new taxes were levied, and no increases in existing tax rates were made.

### STATE PLANNING BOARD

Land capability maps were prepared on each of the 67 counties, and these have been widely used by manufacturing concerns desiring to make factory locations in the State.

## OIL OUTPUT

Since January of 1947 there have been 110 oil wells drilled, 25 of them being productive. Daily oil production has jumped from 997 barrels to 2,250 barrels, and the total production for the four years is 2,375,000 barrels.

## AERONAUTICS

Alabama's airport marking program is one of the nation's finest, and led the entire nation in 1948. Since 1947 more than 40 municipal, commercial and private airports have been added to the Alabama Airport System, there now being a total of 110.

## ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

The Archives and History Department has expanded its stacks and book storage facilities at a cost of \$124,000. This expansion was a long-range one, designed to accommodate the needs for some years to come.

## RECORDS AND REPORTS

The Division of Records and Reports provided regular news service for the weekly newspapers of Alabama. It prepared and distributed 65,000 tourist folders and 45,000 state government primers.

## SELECTIVE SERVICE

As of December 1, 1950, Alabama ranked second among the states of the Third Military District, having not only met its induction calls 100 percent, but oversubscribed them by 19 percent.

## FINANCE

During the first year of my administration the general fund was in such condition that through sound management I was able to allot to the building commission \$1,000,000.

Total annual receipts coming into the state treasury from all sources increased from \$114,207,000 in 1946 to \$193,016,000 in 1950. This was achieved without any new taxes being levied, or any existing taxes being increased.

On October 1, 1946, the debt of the State of Alabama was \$42,580,000. On October 1, 1950, the net debt was down to \$29,230,000. In other words, the debt decreased by a little over \$13,000,000 despite the fact that we provided two million dollars for hospitals.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

In 1955, the mileage death rate was 8.6 deaths per one hundred million vehicle miles of travel, but by 1958, this rate had been reduced to 6.2 deaths, for a reduction during that period of 27.9%.

According to the latest report from the National Safety Council, Alabama is tied for third place with a 20% reduction in traffic deaths in the 1956-1958 period.

During my administration, we have achieved significant pay increases for our Highway patrol. For Patrolmen the minimum was raised from \$250 to \$310 and the maximum from \$326 to \$385 per month.

## DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

For the first time in over 20 years, all domestic insurance companies have been currently examined.

## LABOR

Since 1955 over 1,432 disputes were investigated by this Department. Only 112 of these resulted in strikes.

## INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

I am particularly please to report that the maximum weekly benefit increased from \$22 to \$25 and finally to \$28.

During the past four years, the State Employment Service interviewed 551 thousand applicants for jobs and made more than 400 thousand job placements. Major emphasis was placed on special service to the handicapped. Through the combined efforts of this Committee, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Alabama Employment Service, more than 14,000 handicapped people were placed in gainful employment with an earning power of 17½ million dollars. They will return to the State of Alabama an estimated 345 thousand dollars annually in taxes alone.

Maximum weekly benefits to injured workers were increased from \$23 to \$31 and medical and hospital allowances were increased from \$500 to \$1200.

## HEALTH

Construction of two new state TB hospitals helped to decrease the hazards of TB.

Forty-five projects were constituted under the Hill-Burton program since 1955, of which 15 were General Hospitals, 3 were Chronic Disease Units, and two were TB Hospitals.

## ALABAMA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION

Educational television has developed in Alabama into a network of three stations; Channel 2, Andalusia; Channel 7, Munford; and Channel 10, Birmingham, giving coverage to approximately 75% of the state. Ours is the only educational television network in America.

## CONSERVATION

Alabama ranks as the third largest timber producing state in the nation, and number one in the production of yellow pine.

Alabama ranks first in all the South in protected coverage of forest lands, every acre of forest land, except that owned by the federal government in Alabama, is now under organized forest fire control.

## LABOR

The department investigated over 500 disputes, and has maintained a high settlement-without-strike record of 86 percent.

## CORRECTIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

A new gin has been installed at Kilby. A lake, community house, and a hotel have been built at Draper. Temporary barracks and a hospital have been built at Atmore. A tuberculosis ward has been finished at Julia Tutwiler. Two garden store-houses, four residences, and a warehouse for cottonseed have been built. Once widely-used benzedrine has been brought under successful control.

A plan of segregation has been put into effect. Draper was set aside for teenagers. Six white road camps have been built to accomodate young boys and first offenders. Inmates with bad records, the repeaters, the escapees, etc., are assigned to Atmore. The hardened criminals, robbers, rapists, and those requiring maximum security are confined at Kilby. Misdemeanor cases are assigned to Number Four and Ketonal Road Camp.

Four years ago the prison population of Alabama was 3,525. It rose to 5,300 in June, 1948. Today it has dropped to 4,600. The teenage prison population has dropped approximately 40 percent during the past two years.

The department will leave on hand approximately \$175,000 in cash money when this administration goes out of office.

This administration initiated a program whereby young inmates with good records may have the opportunity to be released from prison to serve in military duty.

## MILITARY

During this administration, the authorized strength of the National Guard has jumped from 3,000 to 13,000.

## CIVIL DEFENSE

Without any state law we have been able to organize our three largest cities into Civil Defense units and about twenty smaller towns and cities.

## INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

On the Alabama Industrial scene as of October 1, 1946, there were 6,825 employers operating under the Alabama Workmen's Compensation law, employing approximately 215,000 workers. This figure increased during the past four years to 13,468 employers who now have on payrolls 425,000 employees. The 1947 legislature passed the second-injury trust fund to encourage and assist the employment of handicapped workers. It also increased maximum weekly benefits from \$18 to \$21; increased death benefits from \$5400 to \$6300; and increased medical benefits from \$200 to \$500. The Child Labor Law was amended to raise the age limit from 14 to 16 years for minors during school sessions.

## PENSIONS AND SECURITY

The old folks were able to get an average of \$50.00 pension this month. So, in four years, the amount of the average check was increased by \$20.00 while the number of old folks receiving pensions increased over 90%.

## HIGHWAYS

More than 6,885 of road have been paved. This is 2,684 miles or almost 64% more than in any other like period in the history of the State Highway Department.

Total disbursements of the Highway Department have been more than \$318 million dollars, of which more than \$245 million was spent on construction. This, too, is a larger expenditure for highway construction purposes than any other like period in the history of the State Highway Department.

## STATE PLANNING AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The past four years have been a period of industrial growth unparalleled in the history of the State. Over \$700 million dollars was invested in new and expanded industry, creating nearly 40,000 new jobs in Alabama. This was indeed an Industrial Revolution.

## THE ALABAMA RIVER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

This authority assisted the various river basin associations of the State in preparing and presenting their appeals for federal appropriations for navigation and flood control works on the various rivers. The efforts of this department resulted in federal appropriation during 1958 of more than \$30 million dollars for Alabama river projects.

## EDUCATION

The past four years have seen more first-time accomplishments in education for Alabama than any other period. When you consider the deep unrest and emotional strains resulting from the Federal Government's forced intergration policy, these accomplishments are even more noteworthy.

The average annual salary of teachers in Alabama has been increased \$643.00. This administration has been able to give them the greatest average salary increase in the history of Alabama.

I promised the people of our state on the stump four years ago that so long as I was Governor of Alabama, I was not going to force the negro children to go to school with the white children. I respectfully, humbly submit that I have kept the vow.

## REVENUE

During the past four years, we have administered the revenue laws with fairness and efficiency and have been able to provide, as a result thereof, more money for schools, welfare, roads, and other important programs.

## FINANCE

I wholeheartedly supported a competitive purchasing law and I was happy to sign it into law. This public bid bill has saved the state much money and will continue to do so down through the years.

## PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

Since 1954, four new regional libraries have been established; 21 libraries or branches were opened, 12 building for libraries were built, 30 libraries were given new quarters in civic building. Library service has been extended since 1954 to almost 650,000 people in 19 counties which were previously unserved.

Twelve new bookmobiles were purchased during this administration--making a total of 23 mobile libraries to serve our needs.

## OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION

During the past four years, Alabama has become a major oil producing State. When I took office there were 111 producing oil wells in the State that had produced 1,583,576 barrels of oil. On January 1, 1959, Alabama had 277 oil wells that had produced a total of 24,037,037 barrels of oil. We are currently producing 474,262 barrels of oil per month.

During the Regular Session of 1957, legislation was enacted giving the State Oil and Gas Board authority to establish the operation of a field or pool as a unit to increase ultimate recovery by secondary recovery methods, to prevent waste, and to avoid excessive drilling of wells.

## AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES

The Agriculture Department spearheaded the giant strides made in developing the broiler industry which has now made Alabama the number 2 broiler producing state in the Nation.

Tighter control has been placed over Cotton storage warehouses.

An egg inspection law now insures the housewife of quality eggs.

A widespread program to kill the Fire Ants has been supervised and carried out by the Agriculture Department.

## PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

Alabama's share of the tourist trade continues to increase. Income from this source rose from 74 million dollars in 1955 to 105 million dollars in 1958.

Over 30,000 tourist inquiries were received in 1958; more than three times the number received in 1955.

## STATE EMPLOYEES

The average monthly salary has been increased from \$261 in 1955 to the present average of \$318, and increase of 22%.

A number of new training programs have been developed. These include an engineering education and training program, regular instruction for Revenue Department Field Men, and an annual institute to provide training in administrative practices for employees.

## BANKING

During the past four years nine new banks have been chartered, bringing the total number of banks operating under State charters to 170. These banks have total resources of \$536,000,000 which represents an increase of over \$100,000,000 since 1954.

## CONSERVATION

The state forestry protection has improved greatly in the past four years. For example, in 1954, 12,000 fires burned 381,000 of the above acres. Up to December 1st in 1958, we had had only 4,800 fires and had only lost 74,000 acres.

In 1954-55 seedling production was 20,208,000 seedlings, and in 1958-59 it will be 162,000,000--about eight times as many as the former year.

We have increased the number of public fishing lakes in Alabama from 13 to 18 in the past four years. In the same period we put back over 17 million bream and almost two million bass in the public and private lakes and ponds of Alabama. Also, game and fish division biologists checked 3,700 ponds and lakes for Biological balance and weed control.

Not forgetting the hunters, the administration restocked 433 deer, 4,336 turkeys, 60,000 bob-white quail, and 93,000 coturnix in the past four years. Also, this division has distributed 7,303,200 lespedeza seedlings to improve game feeding.

More developments and improvements have been made in Alabama State Parks System in the past four years than any other similar period. This enlarged and improved program is evidenced by annual park attendance of 3 million.

## BUILDING COMMISSION

Notable in these building improvements are a new school plant for the deaf and blind, extensions and new facilities at Bryce and Pratlou Hospitals; extensions and additions to the University of Alabama Medical Center; extension and additions to the School of Agriculture, the Agricultural Experiment Station and the School of Veterinary Medicine at Auburn.

## DOCKS

The docks at Huntsville on the Tennessee River are now complete and ready to serve the large transportation needs of those rapidly growing areas. Docks at Florence are ready for service and those at Decatur are nearing completion. In Houston County at the other end of Alabama, future modern docks at Columbia will contribute substantially to the economy of that region. Plans are ready for additional inland docks facilities at Lynn Park on the Locust Fork of the Warrior River in Walker County.

To increase the number of berths available for ships calling at the Port of Mobile, the Alabama State Docks initiated construction of three new cargo berths in 1957 bringing the total to 28. A fifth unloading tower has been added to the bulk material handling plant of the State Docks which will increase this unit's unloading capacity by 30%. The grain elevator, which was acquired by the state in 1955, has been a boon to the soybean farmers of the surrounding countries and our grain farmers in North Alabama.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

By combining the Investigation Bureau with the Highway Patrol, an annual savings of \$75,000 was made possible. The photostatic method of issuing drivers licenses was adopted, which provided for a \$15,000 annual savings over the old method. Six sub-stations were built at Birmingham, Evergreen, Tuscaloos, Dothan, Hamilton and Demopolis.

Patrol personnel was increased from 169 in 1947 to 191 in 1950, plus 29 driver's license examiners, 43 radio operators, and six radio engineers. Alabama now has one of the best organized school traffic safety programs of any state.

## INSURANCE

Twenty-two domestic insurance institutions were organized and licensed during the present administration.

## STATE INSURANCE FUND

At the beginning of this administration the fund was 23 years old, with total assets of \$8000,000. Today, four years later, the fund has increased three times, or to \$2,400,000.

## STATE BUILDING COMMISSION

During the past four years it has carried out a \$28,640,000 construction program. This includes the building of hospitals, schools, college buildings of many descriptions, livestock coliseums, highway patrol sub-stations, and additions to several hundred public buildings. The massive livestock coliseum nearing completion of its first phase here in Montgomery, will provide for Alabama the most modern facilities for cattle shows in the entire nation.

## ABC BOARD

During the four years the net income was \$62,305,000 and of that amount \$53,105,000 was net profit, a \$15,000,000 increase over the previous four years' net profit of \$38,189,000.

## HEALTH

The Health Department has authorized construction of 18 general hospitals with 1,589 beds, one tuberculosis sanatorium with 161 beds, two mental hospitals, five public health centers, two schools of nursing and one dental clinic.

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

The department has administered a vast education and training program for veterans in which 110,000 veterans have received benefits during the past four years. Twenty-one thousand have been helped to secure pensions and other compensation, and the department has handled 138,000 other claims.

## PARDON AND PAROLE BOARD

During the past four years the board has considered 7,193 prisoners for parole. It granted 2,034 of these paroles and denied 5,129 of them. Temporary paroles were granted to 710 and only eight failed to return. The board considered full pardon with restoration of civil and political rights for 391, and granted 354 of that number. It considered 346 for restoration to civil and political rights without pardon, and granted 291.



## ALABAMA ALCHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

The Department of Pensions and Security received more than 23 million dollars, or about half of the net profits, while the general fund received more than 20 million dollars during the past four years. More than 20 million dollars was distributed to the cities and counties. This is more than any past administration.

## COMMISSION ON ALCHOLISM

At the beginning of this four year period, this Commission operated on a limited budget of \$16,000. per year. In 1957, the Legislature voted an annual appropriation of \$150,000 to enable this Commission to initiate a treatment and rehabilitation program for alcholics.

Out-patient treatment clinics have been established in Birmingham, and Montgomery.

## MILITARY

During this period 41 armories were built, seven additions to armories were made, and an aviation shop hanger was built, plus many other construction projects completed.

## SELECTIVE SERVICE

There have been no inductions of employed school teachers. No registrants under 22 years of age have been inducted except volunteers and those who were delinquent, while none have been drafted over the age of 26 years, except those having received previous deferments.

## CIVIL DEFENSE

The State Civil Defense Department has developed a state-wide operational survival plan, merging our Civil Defense units with local governmental units. Operational plans have already been completed for the cities of Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Gadsden, Decatur, and Phenix City.

We have obtained a total of 12 Civil Defense Emergency Hospitals. These augument our available hospitals by 1,600 beds with an estimated overall value of \$1,200,000.

## VETRANS AFFAIRS

During the past four years, this Department processed claims for veterans resulting in the recovery of nearly 10 million dollars.

## AERONAUTICS

State grants were provided for 48 projects in 30 towns. These grants were for 18 new fields, 17 paved runways, runway lights for 7 fields and various other improvements, including field houses, aprons, taxiways, and other facilities.

During the past four years there have been more state funds for airport construction and more airport projects than during the preceding eight years. In 1958, Alabama ranked first in the nation in airway markings.