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Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association

Annual Actuarial Valuation
December 31, 1987

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ARNE H. CARLSON
STATE AUDITOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
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525 PARK STREET
SAINT PAUL 55103

296-2551

May 4, 1988

Mr. Hal Devereux, Treasurer
Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
2404 Brooklyn Drive
Hibbing, Minnesota 55746

Dear Mr. Devereux:

Thank you for informing us of the erroneous information contained in Note 1 of the Notes to the Financial Statements in our 1987 audit report on the Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association.

Based on information received from you we have revised the note and will provide copies of that change to all recipients of the audit report. This change does not effect our opinion on the financial statements.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gordon E. Johnson".

Gordon E. Johnson
Director of Municipal Audits

Enclosure

HIBBING FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION
HIBBING, MINNESOTA

REVISED NOTE 1B TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 1987

HIBBING FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION
HIBBING, MINNESOTA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1987

1. Plan Description

A. General Information

Firefighters of the City of Hibbing are members of the Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association. The Association is the administrator of a single-employer pension plan available to members hired prior to June 15, 1980, that was established in 1914, and operates under the provisions of Minn. Laws 1935, ch. 192 and Minn. Stat. § 69.77, as amended. It is governed by a board of five members elected by the members of the Association for five-year terms and two members appointed by the City. The Mayor and Fire Chief are ex-officio nonvoting members of the Board of Trustees.

For financial reporting purposes, the Association's financial statements are not included with the City of Hibbing's financial statements because the Association is not a component unit of the City.

As of December 31, 1987, membership data related to the Relief Association were:

Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits and terminated employees entitled to benefits but not yet receiving them.	31
Active plan participants	
Vested	<u>24</u>
Total	<u><u>55</u></u>

B. Pension Benefits

Minn. Stat. ch. 69 authorizes pension benefits for fire relief associations. A member of the Association who has completed 20 years or more of service on the fire department shall, after age 55 at retirement, be entitled to a basic pension of 53 percent of the average monthly salary during the last six months of employment. For each year in excess of 20 years, an annual benefit of \$120 is added, with the maximum additional annual amount being \$600.

HIBBING FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION
HIBBING, MINNESOTA

1. Plan Description

B. Pension Benefits (Continued)

A member is entitled to disability benefits not to exceed the amount that would be paid under the state workers' compensation laws.

A member of the Association who has performed service on the fire department for 20 years or more but has not reached age 55 shall have the right to retire from the department without forfeiting the right to a service pension. The member shall, upon application, be placed on the deferred pension roll of the Association and, after the member has reached the age of 55 years, the Association shall, upon application therefor, pay the member's pension from the date the application is approved by the Association.

Employees of the fire department are required to pay eight percent of their gross earnings to the Relief Association. If a member leaves the employment of the City before 20 years of service, the accumulated contributions are refunded to the member or the member's designated beneficiary.

The City makes annual contributions to the Relief Association equal to the amount required by state statutes.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Plan Asset Matters

A. Fund Accounting

The resources of the Association are accounted for in two funds:

The Special Fund is a pension trust fund for the accumulation of resources to be used for retirement, dependency and disability annuity payments of appropriate amounts and at appropriate times in the future. Resources are contributed by Association members (employees) at rates fixed by law, by the City of Hibbing at amounts determined by law, and from the two-percent insurance premium tax and amortization aid from the State of Minnesota.

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HIBBING, MINNESOTA

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Appendix II	Meaning of Unfunded Accrued Liabilities

July 21, 1988

Board of Trustees
Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
Hibbing, Minnesota

Submitted in this report are the results of the December 31, 1987 actuarial valuation of the assets, actuarial values and contribution requirements associated with the benefits provided by the Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association.

The valuation results contained in Section A provide the actuarial information needed to determine the employer's "minimum obligation" effective January 1, 1989. Section A also contains comments regarding the valuation results.

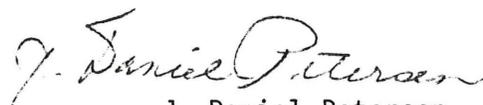
The valuation was based upon information furnished by the Association concerning benefits, financial transactions, active members, terminated members, retirants and beneficiaries. Data was checked for year to year consistency but was not otherwise audited by us. This information is summarized in Section B.

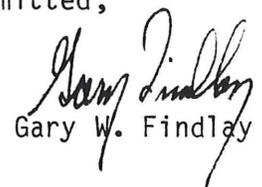
A description of the actuarial funding method and the risk experience assumptions used is contained in Section C. The economic risk experience assumptions, as well as the actuarial funding method to be used, are established by state law.

Information needed to comply with Statement No. 5 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board is contained in Section D.

The actuarial valuation was prepared using generally accepted actuarial principles and practices based upon the methods, assumptions, summary of plan provisions and the member and financial data described in this report.

Respectfully submitted,


J. Daniel Petersen


Gary W. Findlay

Section A



Valuation Results

COMMENTS

Economic Assumptions and Financing Method

The economic assumptions of 5% annual investment return and 3-1/2% annual salary increases are established by state law. State law also specifies that the annual minimum obligation of the municipality shall be determined by adding (i) the employer normal cost percent times covered payroll to (ii) the level dollar amount required to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability by December 31, 2010.

It is worth noting that when the same assumptions and methods are applied to plans which differ in nature, the valuation results may not be comparable. Caution should be exercised when attempting to assess the financial condition of one Association relative to another on the basis of valuation results produced using the assumptions and methods mandated by state law.

Change in Benefit Provisions

The December 31, 1987 actuarial valuation included the change in benefit provisions for the spouse's benefit from \$3,000 per year to 30% of the active member's average monthly salary during the last six months of employment. Also included was a change in the child's benefit from \$300 per child per year to 10% of the active member's average monthly salary during the last six months of employment with a maximum family benefit of 50% of the active member's average monthly salary during the last 6 months of employment. The effects of these changes were to increase normal cost 2.96% of payroll, increase the amortization payment \$30,138 and increase the unfunded actuarial accrued liability \$406,540.

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association

CONTRIBUTION RATE TO PROVIDE BENEFITS

Member portion & Employer portion
Effective January 1, 1989

<u>Contributions for</u>	<u>If Paid Equally Throughout Year</u>		<u>UAAL Dollars</u>
	Normal Cost % of Active Payroll for 1989	+	
Normal cost of annuities:			
Age & service: to members	11.59%		
Age & service: to survivors	1.98		
Disability	3.31		
Death before retirement	1.56		
Refunds of member contributions	0.26		
Total Normal Cost	18.70%		
Amortization of unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities (UAAL) (22 year level dollar payment)			
Retired lives			\$153,902
Active members			133,716
Total			287,618
 Total Cost of Benefits	 18.70%	 +	 \$287,618
 Member contributions	 8.00%		
 COMPUTED EMPLOYER RATE:			
(a) If Paid Equally Throughout Year	10.70%	+	\$287,618
(b) IF PAID AT CALENDAR YEAR END	10.96%	+	\$294,721

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
 Present Actuarial Condition

The Association's accrued actuarial assets were in excess of \$1.6 million on December 31, 1987 -- a considerable sum of money if unencumbered and allocated among a small group of persons. This is not the case with the Association's assets.

The following schedule puts the \$1.6 million into perspective by showing the relationship between accrued actuarial assets, actuarial accrued liabilities, and the number of persons with actual and potential claims on the Association's assets.

	<u>Accrued Actuarial Assets</u>	<u>Actuarial Accrued Liabilities</u>	<u>Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liabilities</u>	<u>% Funded</u>
Retirants and Beneficiaries				
Retired Members (14)		\$2,937,403		
Surviving Spouses (15)		303,336		
Surviving Children (0)		<u>0</u>		
Total (29)	\$1,164,691	\$3,240,739	\$2,076,048	35.9%
Deferred Members (0)	0	0	0	
Active Members (24)	<u>453,253</u>	<u>2,256,997</u>	<u>1,803,744</u>	20.1
Total	\$1,617,944	\$5,497,736	\$3,879,792	29.4%

Actuarial accrued liabilities represent the value, computed as of December 31, 1987 of:

- (i) retirement allowances likely to be paid the 29 retirants and beneficiaries; and
- (ii) the contributions assumed to have been made for the 24 active member from entry into the plan until December 31, 1987.

The value of retirement allowances likely to be paid the 29 retirants and beneficiaries, discounted for investment earnings and mortality, was computed to be \$3,240,739 as of December 31, 1987. To put this amount in perspective, the \$3,240,739, together with investment earnings, will just be sufficient to pay the 29 retirants and beneficiaries their allowances for their remaining lifetimes. This assumes the 29 retirants and beneficiaries live and die according to the assumed mortality and the \$3,240,739 is invested to yield an average annual return of 5.0% over the remaining lifetimes of the retirants and beneficiaries.

With respect to the active members, the actuarial accrued liability of \$2,256,997 represents the amount that would have been accumulated by December 31, 1987. This assumes the normal cost (which is expressed as a level percentage of pay) had been contributed from the date of hire until December 31, 1987 for the 24 actives, and that these amounts had earned 5.0% interest. It also assumes that the members in the past had lived, died, withdrawn, retired and received salary increases according to the actuarial assumptions shown in this report.

Historical Funding Ratio Schedule
(\$ in thousands)

<u>Valuation Date December 31</u>	<u>Actuarial Accrued Liabilities</u>	<u>Accrued Actuarial Assets</u>	<u>Percent Funded</u>
1978	\$1,548	\$431	27.8%
1979	N/A	N/A	N/A
1980	1,903	614	32.3
1981	1,987	745	37.5
1982	2,640	879	33.3
1983	3,232	1,006	31.1
1983*	3,498	1,006	28.8
1984	3,985	1,140	28.6
1985	3,958	1,315	33.2
1986	4,568	1,520	33.3
1987	5,091	1,618	31.8
1987#	5,498	1,618	29.4

* After change in assumptions.

After change in benefit provisions.

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
 Computed Contributions - Comparative Schedule

Year Ended December 31		Total Normal Cost as a Percent of Valuation Payroll*	Contribution For Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liabilities
Valuation	Fiscal		\$ or %
1978	1980	13.33%	\$ 54,513
1979	1981	N/A	N/A
1980	1982	12.21	83,070
1981	1983	N/A	N/A
1982	1984	12.80	117,358
1983	1985	12.31	151,079
1983	1985**	13.59	169,160
1984	1986	14.03	196,957
1985	1987	14.80	186,918
1986	1988	15.17	220,506
1987	1989	15.74	257,480
1987	1989#	18.70	287,618

* Includes employee contributions.

** After change in assumptions.

After change in benefit provisions.

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association

CONTRIBUTION FOR CALENDAR YEAR EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1989

For any period of time the percent-of-payroll contribution rate is converted to dollars. The amount of dollars for any calendar year depends upon the results of the last actuarial valuation, and the timing of contributions within the year. The later the contribution date, the greater the dollar amount will be.

The municipality's dollar contribution for the year may be determined as follows:

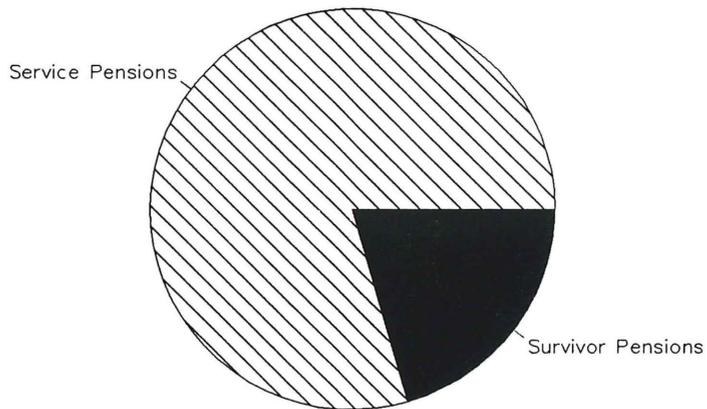
(1)	Estimated covered payroll for 1989		\$ _____
(2)	Total normal cost % from page A-2		18.70%
(3)	Total normal cost (Line 1 times line 2)		\$ _____
(4)	_____ x 1.035		_____
	1987 Administrative expenses paid from the Special Fund		_____
(5)	Amortization payment on UAAL from page A-2		287,618
(6)	Total contributions required (Line 3 plus line 4 plus line 5)		_____
(7)	Employee contributions (Line 1 times 8%)		\$ _____
(8)	(a) State amortization aid based on 12/31/78 UAAL of \$1,117,190	\$16,814	
	(b) State amortization aid based on 1984 legislation	<u>4,007</u>	
	(c) Total State amortization aid		20,821
(9)	Estimated insurance premium aid		_____
(10)	Estimated total contributions from other sources (Line 7 plus line 8 plus line 9)		_____
(11)	Employer's Minimum Obligation if payment is made in equal installments throughout the year (Line 6 minus line 10)		\$ _____
(12)	EMPLOYER'S MINIMUM OBLIGATION IF PAYMENT IS MADE AT YEAR END (Line 11 times 1.0247)		\$ _____

Section B

**Valuation Data
and
Summary of Benefit Provisions**

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
 Retirants and Beneficiaries December 31, 1987
 By Type of Annuity Being Paid

<u>Type of Annuity Being Paid</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Monthly Amounts</u>	<u>Computed Actuarial Accrued Liabilities</u>
Retirants receiving:			
Age & Service	14	\$15,340.14	\$2,937,403
Disability	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	14	15,340.14	2,937,403
Beneficiaries receiving:			
Spouse	15	3,966.49	303,336
Child	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	15	3,966.49	303,336
 Totals	 29	 \$19,306.63	 \$3,240,739



Monthly Amount Paid by Benefit

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
 Retirants and Beneficiaries December 31, 1987
 By Attained Ages

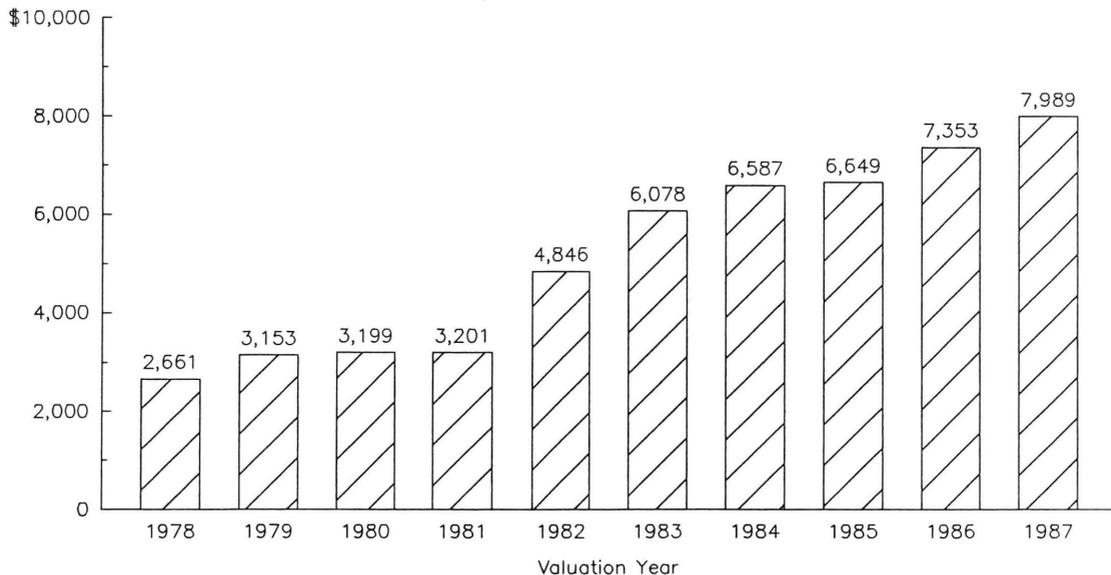
<u>Attained Ages</u>	Number		
	<u>Age & Service</u>	<u>Disability</u>	<u>Death Before Retirement</u>
50-54			1
55-59	6		1
60-64	4		
65-69	1		
80-84	8		
85-89	5		
90-94	1		1
95-99	<u>1</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Totals	26	0	3

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
Retirants and Beneficiaries Added to and Removed from Rolls
Comparative Statement

Valuation Date December 31	No. Added to Rolls	No. Removed from Rolls	Rolls End of Year		Discounted Value of Total Allowances
			No.	Annual Allowances	
1978			32	\$ 85,164	\$ 606,420
1979	2	1	33	104,057	781,399
1980		5	28	89,580	704,371
1981	2	3	27	86,426	708,237
1982*	2	1	28	135,679	1,186,905
1983	3	2	29	176,271	1,932,809
1984	1		30	197,619	2,263,270
1985			30	199,482	2,310,310
1986	3	1	32	235,300	2,905,004
1987*		3	29	231,680	3,240,739

* Includes benefit increases.

Average Annual Allowances



Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
 Active Members December 31, 1987
 By Attained Age and Years of Service

Attained Age	Years of Service to Valuation Date							Totals	
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 Plus	No.	Valuation Payroll
30-34		2						2	\$ 47,832
35-39		3	4	1				8	198,698
40-44			3					3	74,452
45-49			1		5			6	157,000
50-54					1	1		2	51,119
55-59					1	1		2	52,107
60							1	1	38,249
Totals		5	8	1	7	2	1	24	\$619,457

While not used in the financial computations, the following group averages are computed and shown because of their general interest.

Age: 43.2 years.

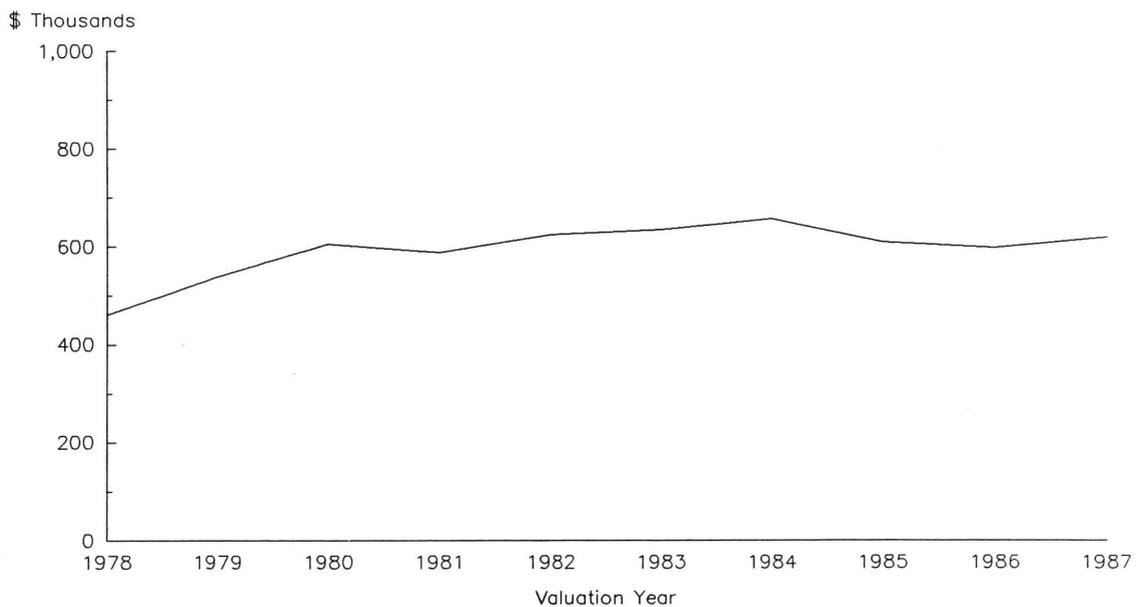
Service: 16.6 years.

Annual Pay: \$25,811.

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association
 Comparative Schedule
 Of Active Members

Valuation Date December 31	Active Members	Valuation Payroll	Average			% Incr.
			Age	Service	Pay	
1978	35	\$460,475	40.9 yrs.	13.8 yrs.	\$13,156	- %
1979	34	538,650	40.6	13.6	15,843	20.4
1980	35	604,858	41.0	14.2	17,282	9.1
1981	34	587,871	41.8	15.0	17,290	-
1982	32	623,989	41.9	15.5	19,500	12.8
1983	29	634,810	41.6	15.6	21,890	12.3
1984	28	656,798	42.2	16.2	23,457	7.2
1985	26	610,446	42.2	15.7	23,479	0.1
1986	24	598,773	42.2	15.6	24,949	6.3
1987	24	619,457	43.2	16.6	25,811	3.5

Valuation Payroll



Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association

Brief Summary (12/31/87) of Benefit Provisions Evaluated and/or Considered

Age & Service Retirement

Eligibility. 20 years of service and 55 years of age.

Amount. 53% of average monthly salary during last 6 months of employment.

For each year in excess of 20 years, an additional annual benefit of \$120 is added with the maximum additional annual amount being \$600.

Disability Retirement

Eligibility.

First Class Disability. Total disability.

Second Class Disability. Less than total but more than 50% disabled.

Third Class Disability. Less than 50% disabled but unable to perform duties of a fireman.

Amount.

First Class Disability. An amount equal to what would be paid under state worker's compensation laws.

Second Class Disability. 75% of first class disability benefits.

Third Class Disability. 50% of first class disability benefits.

Member's Death While Active, Or In Deferred Status, Or Retired

Eligibility

Spouse. Legally married to member at least 1 year prior to separation from service and residing with member at time of death. Benefits terminate upon remarriage.

Child. Younger than age 18.

Amount.

Spouse. 30% of the active member's average monthly salary during last 6 months of employment.

Child. 10% of the active member's average monthly salary during last 6 months of employment.

Family benefit shall not exceed 50% of the active member's average monthly salary during last 6 months of employment.

Funeral Expenses. Lump sum payment of \$300 at time of death of active or retired member.

Vested Deferred. 20 years of service and separated before age 55. Payment beginning is deferred to attainment of age 55.

Post-Retirement Adjustments ("Escalator"). Age & service benefits are increased by 50% of increases in salary of active firemen holding rank that member held before retirement.

Member Contributions. 8% of salary. Member contributions are refundable, without interest, if no monthly benefit is payable upon separation from service.

Section C

Valuation Methods and Assumptions

Hibbing Firemen's Relief Association

Valuation Methods and Assumptions

The Entry Age Normal Cost method was used to determine the normal cost of all benefits. The rate of investment return (interest) as required by state law used in making the valuation was 5.0 percent per annum, compounded annually. Age & service retirement was assumed to occur at age 62, or attained age if older.

Mortality Table*

Sample Ages	Single Life Values: Present Value of \$1 Monthly				Future Life Expectancy (Years)	
	Level		Increasing		Men	Women
	For Life		3.5% Yearly			
	Men	Women	Men	Women		
45	\$177.21	\$189.58	\$280.82	\$314.75	29.50	34.00
50	163.12	177.21	246.55	280.82	25.20	29.50
55	147.50	163.12	212.60	246.55	21.16	25.20
60	130.52	147.50	179.49	212.60	17.42	21.16
65	112.87	130.52	148.28	179.49	14.05	17.42
70	95.20	112.87	119.70	148.28	11.09	14.05
75	77.77	95.20	93.83	119.70	8.52	11.09
80	61.71	77.77	71.69	93.83	6.39	8.52

* UP-1984 Table set forward 2 years for males and set back 3 years for females.

Sample Rates of Separation from Active Employment

Before Retirement, Death or Disability

Sample Ages	% of Active Members Separating within Next Year
20	1.50%
25	1.25
30	1.00
35	0.75
40	0.50
45	0.25
50+	0.00

Pay Adjustment Factor Used To Project Current Pays

<u>Sample Ages</u>	<u>Present Pay Resulting in Pay of \$1,000 at Age 60</u>	<u>Present Increase in Pay During Next Year</u>
20	\$ 253	3.5%
25	300	3.5
30	356	3.5
35	423	3.5
40	503	3.5
45	597	3.5
50	709	3.5
55	842	3.5
60	1,000	3.5

Use of the pay adjustment factor illustrated above is required by state law.

Anticipated Disability Retirements

<u>Sample Ages</u>	<u>% of Active Members Becoming Disabled within Next Year</u>
20	0.08%
25	0.08
30	0.08
35	0.08
40	0.20
45	0.26
50	0.49
55	0.89

Section D

**The Pension Benefit Obligation
and Certain Other Disclosures
Required by Statement No. 5 of the
Governmental Accounting Standards Board**

PENSION BENEFIT OBLIGATION

The amount shown below as the "pension benefit obligation" is a standardized disclosure measure of the present value of pension benefits, adjusted for the effects of projected salary increases, estimated to be payable in the future as a result of employee service to date. The measure is the actuarial present value of credited projected benefits and is intended to (i) help users assess the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis, (ii) assess progress being made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due, and (iii) allow for comparisons among public employee retirement plans. The measure is independent of the actuarial funding method used to determine contributions to the plan.

The pension benefit obligation was determined as part of an actuarial valuation of the plan as of December 31, 1987. Significant actuarial assumptions used in determining the pension benefit obligation include (a) a rate of return on the investment of present and future assets of 5.0% per year compounded annually, (b) projected salary increases of 3.5% per year compounded annually, attributable to inflation, and (c) the assumption that benefits will increase 3.5% per year after retirement.

At December 31, 1987, the unfunded pension benefit obligation was \$3,728,746, determined as follows:

Pension Benefit Obligation:

Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits and terminated employees not yet receiving benefits	\$3,240,739
Current employees --	
Accumulated employee contributions including allocated investment income	453,253
Employer financed	<u>1,654,196</u>
Total Pension Benefit Obligation	\$5,348,188
Net assets available for benefits, at cost (market value was \$1,614,948)	<u>1,619,442</u>
Unfunded Pension Benefit Obligation	\$3,728,746

The total pension benefit obligation as of January 1, 1987 was \$4,438,967. During the year, the plan experienced a net change of \$909,221 in the pension benefit obligation. Of that change, \$357,912 was attributable to changes in benefit provisions used for determination of this value.

CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED AND CONTRIBUTIONS MADE

The Association's funding policy provides for periodic employer contributions at actuarially determined rates that, expressed as percentages of annual covered payroll, are designed to accumulate sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. The normal cost and actuarial accrued liability are determined using an entry age actuarial funding method. Unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities are being amortized as a level dollar amount over a period of 22 years.

During the year ended December 31, 1987, contributions totaling \$297,183 -- \$243,682 employer and \$53,501 employee -- were made in accordance with contribution requirements determined by an actuarial valuation of the plan as of December 31, 1985. The employer contributions consisted of \$41,510 for normal cost and \$202,172 for amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. Employer contributions represented 39.92% of covered payroll.

Changes in benefit provisions during the valuation year ended December 31, 1987 resulted in an increase in the computed contribution rates of 2.96% of covered payroll in the normal cost and \$30,138 for amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities.

Significant actuarial assumptions used to compute contribution requirements were the same as those used to compute the standardized measure of the pension benefit obligation.

Computed Contribution Comparative Schedule

Fiscal Year December 31	Valuation Date December 31	Contribution Rates			Dollar Contribution For Fiscal Year	
		Normal Cost % of Valuation Payroll	UAAL Dollars	Valuation Payroll	Computed	Actual
1987	1985	6.80%	\$186,918	\$610,446	\$228,428	\$243,682
1988	1986	7.17	220,506	598,773	263,438	
1989	1987	7.74	257,480	619,457	305,426	
1989	1987#	10.70	287,618	619,457	353,900	

After change in benefit provisions.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
ANALYSIS OF FUNDING PROGRESS

Valuation Date <u>December 31</u>	(1) Net Assets Available for Benefits	(2) Pension Benefit Obligation (PBO)	(3) Percent Funded (1)/(2)	(4) Unfunded PBO (2)-(1)	(5) Annual Covered Payroll	(6) Unfunded PBO as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (4)/(5)
1987	\$1,619,442	\$5,348,188	30.3%	\$3,728,746	\$619,457	601.9%

Analysis of the dollar amounts of net assets available for benefits, pension benefit obligation, and unfunded pension benefit obligation in isolation can be misleading. Expressing the net assets available for benefits as a percentage of the pension benefit obligation provides one indication of the plan's funded status on a going-concern basis. Analysis of this percentage over time indicates whether the system is becoming financially stronger or weaker. Generally, the greater this percentage, the stronger the plan. The unfunded pension benefit obligation and annual covered payroll are both affected by inflation. Expressing the unfunded pension benefit obligation as a percentage of annual covered payroll approximately adjusts for the effects of inflation and aids analysis of the progress being made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. Generally, the smaller this percentage, the stronger the plan.

Appendices

APPENDIX I

FINANCIAL PRINCIPLES AND OPERATIONAL TECHNIQUES

Promises Made, and Eventually Paid. As each year is completed, the plan in effect hands an "IOU" to each member then acquiring a year of service credit -- the "IOU" says: "The Pension Plan owes you a portion of your retirement benefits, payments to be made in cash, commencing when you qualify for retirement."

The related key financial questions are: Which generation of taxpayers contributes the money to cover the IOU? The present taxpayers, who receive the benefit of the member's present year of service? Or the future taxpayers, who happen to be in town paying taxes at the later time when the IOU becomes a cash demand?

A sound principle of sound retirement plan financing is to have this year's taxpayers contribute the money to cover the IOUs being handed out this year. By following this principle, THE CONTRIBUTION RATE WILL REMAIN APPROXIMATELY LEVEL FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION -- our children and grandchildren will contribute the same percents of active payroll we contribute now.

A PENSION PLAN BECOMES CLOSED

The diagram in this appendix shows two important activities which occur after a plan has been closed to employees hired in the future.

Cash benefits paid continue to increase for decades, while active member payroll begins to decrease to zero.

Funding Method. A funding method is the long-term, planned pattern for employer contributions.

For an open plan (a plan covering future employees), the level-percent-of-active-member payroll funding method is the basic funding method.

The level-percent funding method can also be applied to a closed plan. However, the resulting contribution percent usually jumps to a high rate, because the number of covered active members is decreasing.

A preferred funding method for a closed plan consists of: level-percent funding for normal cost (the cost of members' service now being rendered); plus a level dollar contribution for unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities over a limited period of years. The period of years must be limited so that plan assets don't become zero while benefits are still payable.

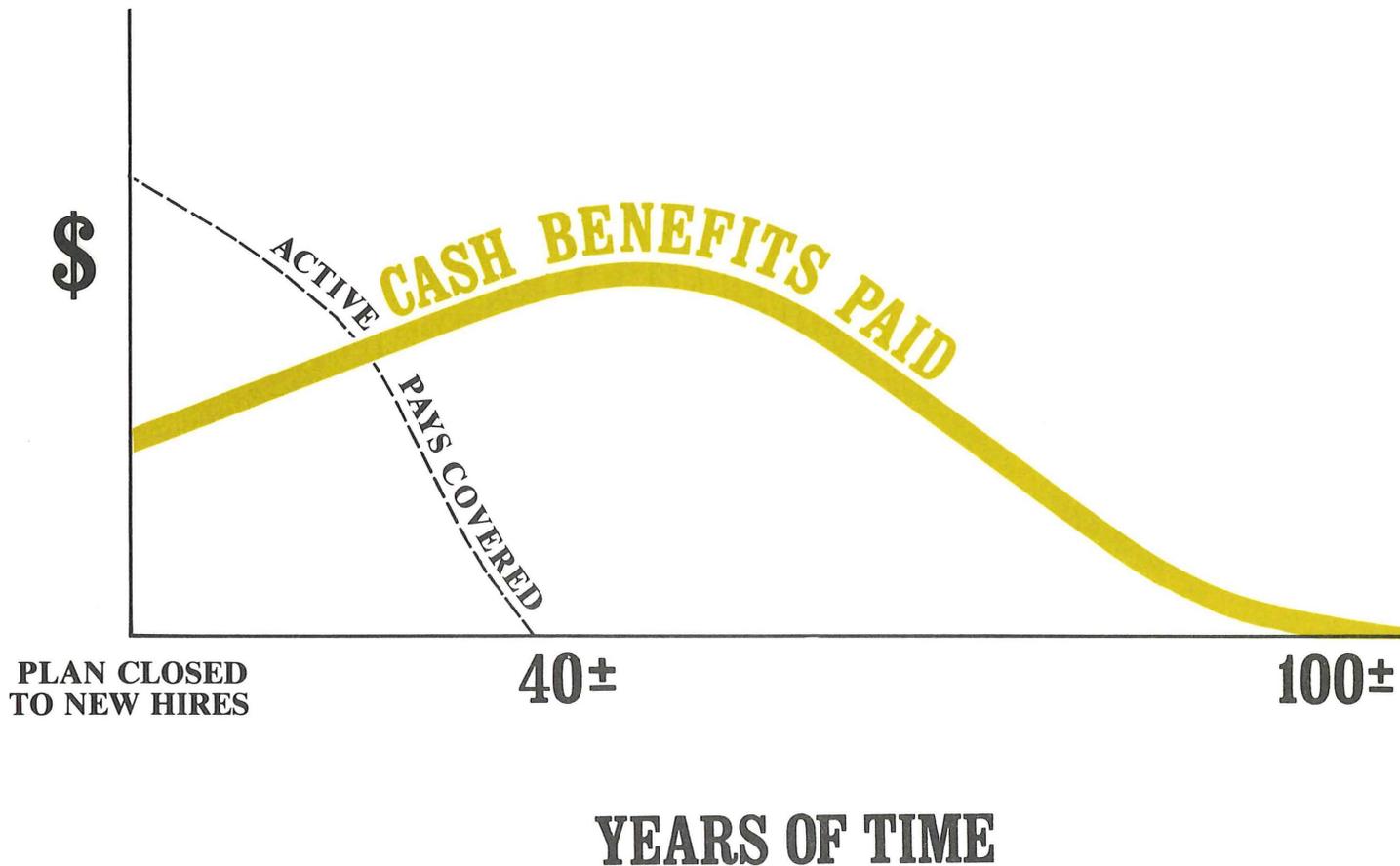
Computing Contributions To Support Plan Benefits. From a given schedule of benefits and from the employee data and asset data furnished him, the actuary determines the contribution rates to support the benefits by means of an actuarial valuation and a funding method.

In making an actuarial valuation, assumptions must be made regarding anticipated financial experiences for the next year and for decades in the future. Only the subsequent actual experience of the plan can indicate the degree of accuracy of the assumptions.

Reconciling Differences Between Assumed Experience and Actual Experience. Once actual experience has occurred and been observed, it will not coincide exactly with assumed experience, regardless of the wisdom of the assumptions or the skill of the actuary and the millions of calculations he made. The future can be predicted with considerable but not 100% precision, except for inflation which seems to defy reliable prediction.

A well-managed plan copes with these continually changing differences by having periodic actuarial valuations. Each actuarial valuation is a complete recalculation of assumed future experience, taking into account all past differences between assumed and actual experience. The result is continuing adjustment in financial position.

A CLOSED PENSION PLAN



A plan becomes closed when no new hires are admitted to active membership. The persons covered by the plan at the time of closing continue their normal activities and continue to be covered by the plan, until the last survivor dies.

CASH BENEFITS LINE. After a pension plan becomes closed, the usual pattern is for cash benefits to continue to increase for decades of time. Eventually the cash benefits will peak, and then gradually decrease over more decades of time, ultimately to zero. The last cash benefit is likely to occur a century after the time the plan is closed.

The precise amounts of cash benefits cannot be known now, and must be estimated by assumptions of future experiences in a variety of financial risk areas.

APPENDIX II

MEANING OF UNFUNDED ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Almost every pension plan (public or private) has "unfunded accrued liabilities", so whatever they are, they aren't rare. Since the term is not part of everyday conversation, it needs some definition.

"Accrued liabilities" are the present value \$ of plan promises to pay benefits in the future based upon service already rendered - - - a liability has been established ("accrued") because the service has been rendered, but the resulting monthly cash benefit may not be payable until years in the future. Accrued liabilities \$ are the result of complex mathematical calculations, which are made by the plan's actuary (which is the name given to the specialist who makes such calculations).

If "accrued liabilities" at any time exceed the plan's accrued assets (cash & investments), the difference is "unfunded accrued liabilities". This is the common condition. If the plan's assets equalled the plan's "accrued liabilities", the plan would be termed "fully funded". This is a rare condition.

Each time a plan adds a new benefit which applies to service already rendered, an "accrued liability" is created, which is also an "unfunded accrued liability" because the plan can't print instant cash to cover the accrued liability. Payment for such unfunded accrued liabilities is spread over a period of years, commonly in the 20-40 year range.

Unfunded accrued liabilities can occur in another way: If actual financial experience is less favorable than assumed financial experience, the difference is added to unfunded accrued liabilities. In plans where plan benefits are directly related to an employee's pay near time of retirement (a common plan provision) rather than his average pay throughout his working career, unfunded accrued liabilities have been increasing in recent years because unexpected rates of pay increase have created additional accrued liabilities which could not be matched by reasonable investment results. Some of these unexpected pay increases are the direct result of inflation, which is a very destructive force on financial stability.

The existence of unfunded accrued liabilities is not bad, then (any more than a mortgage on your house is "bad"), but the changes from year to year in amount of unfunded accrued liabilities are important - - - "bad" or "good" or somewhere in between.

Nor are unfunded accrued liabilities a bill payable immediately (your food costs are payable immediately), but it is important that policy-makers prevent the amount from becoming unreasonably high and it is vital that your plan have a sound method for making payments toward them so that they are controlled.

The existence of large amounts of unfunded accrued liabilities indicates that total contributions in past years were less than level - - - an almost certain history if retired life liabilities are not fully funded now.