

Philadelphia, January 24, 1927.

ANNUAL REPORT - 1926

The Bureau of Water has added materially to its operation and maintenance field during the year and new structures have been completed for the promotion and provision of more flexible service throughout the Water Works System.

The year marked the absorption of the private water supply formerly furnished by the Suburban Water Company throughout an area of the city known as Oak Lane. For this system of piping, valves, hydrants, meters, etc., the City of Philadelphia paid \$358,525.60 and 1381 services were involved.

The Fairmount Dam was completed as a structure, a few details still remaining for adjustment in the records of the contract.

An embarrassment of service during the early part of the year affecting the areas of Germantown and Chesnut Hill, was due to a reflection of strike by the anthracite coal miners. Extensive work on pumping station equipment was entered into; increased domestic service was furnished throughout the city. To these activities was added piping for the requirements of the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition and the area formerly supplied by the Suburban Water Company in Oak Lane was supplied with City water.

To determine the service given by large mains there has been undertaken a trunk line survey which produced invaluable data. This work has been followed by a water waste determination, which will con-

tinue through the coming year under a contract held by the Pitometer Company of New York.

The quantity of water supplied to the City has averaged 342 million gallons per day which, upon a per capita rate, equals 169 gallons.

The quality supplied to the consumer has been of good character and the typhoid for the year shows a rate of 1.8 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants.

Referring in order to the separate branches of the work there will be listed below a mention covering the costs, scope and results of activities.

River Patrol -

The Sanitary Survey of the Schuylkill River has continued to the profit of the City insomuch as various industrial plants bordering thereon are reducing to a minimum the discharge of contaminating influences.

Pumping Stations: -

At Shawmont there has been the introduction of power to operate pumping units. The boiler plant and auxiliary units have been rehabilitated and new motor driven pumps installed for service.

At Torresdale there has been introduced power to operate new pumping units. The boiler plant has been thoroughly overhauled and a new intake completed between the sedimentation basin and station.

At Lardner's Point, Belmont and Queen Lane, general improvement work has been carried on, activities having been centered on pump

well strengthening and ash handling at the former and intake modifications at the latter.

New stations for high service have been constructed at Torresdale and Oak Lane and new pumps installed at the Booster Station at Roxborough and at Queen Lane Filters for high service duty.

Filters: -

Sand cleaning machines of the Blaisdell type have been acquired and are operating, the service of which may be analyzed during the coming year.

At Torresdale the pre-filter improvements are 75% completed and at Belmont the construction of the mechanical plant is well under way. Efficiency has continued at all plants and laboratory results show satisfactory operation throughout the division.

Distribution: -

The extensive development of housing areas has continued, requiring many feet of water mains.

A satisfactory flexibility has been established in areas jointly supplied by Queen Lane, Roxborough and Oak Lane High Service Stations through new pipe line installation.

Adjustment of mains due to the interruption of service by subway work on Broad street has been made and these lines are now functioning in a satisfactory manner.

Added to the piping system during the year were eighty (80) miles of new mains and fourteen (14) miles involved in the absorption of the Oak Lane private system, making a total of 2256 miles now in service.

Throughout the year this division has been effected by an epidemic of breaks on water mains ranging from 48 to 6 inches in size. A pumping main to give an alternate supply of water to Fox Chase and Somerton with attendant service mains gave additional pressure and stability of service to this remote area.

Meters: -

The total metered services number 153,212 there being added 13,769 meters during the year.

Repairs were made to 11,586 meters at the city shop and 4,562 on premises of consumers.

Revenue:-

There has been returned \$7,036,649.55 contributed from the following sources:-

Water Rents

Flat rates	\$2,996,879.28	
" " fractional	47,540.49	
" " delinquent	<u>196,757.14</u>	\$3,241,176.91
<u>Meter Rates</u>		
Current	\$3,070,323.79	
Delinquent	<u>185,487.39</u>	\$3,255,811.18
Water Searches	\$5,037.00	
Frontage - Water Pipe	361,149.15	
Specials	11,091.28	
New Services	54,597.00	
Meter Repairs	58,066.40	
Miscellaneous	<u>49,720.63</u>	<u>\$539,661.46</u>

\$7,036,649.55

Financial -

The disbursement of funds was as follows -

Salary and wages	\$1,899,608.56	
Material and equipment	<u>2,046,696.81</u>	
	3,946,305.37	
Betterments and Additions	<u>3,394,129.53</u>	
Total		\$7,340,434.90

The Engineering forces were engaged as follows:-

Pipe Lines -

- Twenty-four (24) inch cast iron main for Torresdale High Service
- " " " " " " " " South Philadelphia Extension
- Thirty-six (36) inch Steel Line for Germantown.

Filters:

- Rehabilitation at Torresdale Pre-filters
- Construction at Belmont Filters

Stations:

- Torresdale - pump installation and intake
- Queen Lane " " " " screens
- Oak Lane " "
- Shawmont " " and intake activities
- Roxborough " "
- Cardner's Point Ash handling construction

Fairmount Dam

Contemplated Work:

The coming year will be occupied on work in general as follows:-

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|--------------------------|---|--|
| Belmont Filters | - | Construction of mechanical plant |
| Belmont Station | - | Pumps and ash control |
| Queen Lane Filters | - | Revamping mechanical plant |
| Torresdale Filters | - | Rehabilitation mechanical plant and structure repairs |
| Shawmont Station | - | Floor construction with heating and plumbing |
| Lardner's Point Station- | | Installation of generator baffles for boilers and
pumping unit |
| Torresdale Station | - | Roof repairs and floor. |
| Distribution | - | Extensions in West Philadelphia and work of general
character to parallel activities of street paving and
development. |
| | | Water Waste surveys |
| | | Replacing of stop valve manholes. |