



PLANETARIUM HIT BY FLOOD

Broken Water Main Threatens Expensive Projector

A flood of water from a broken main endangered Buhl Planetarium's delicate \$134,000 projector early today and flooded the downstairs exhibits in the building.

The projector finally was saved when the curator, Dr. Fitz-Hugh Marshall, and two assistants, working in their bare feet, operated the machinery raising the projector to the auditorium floor, out of danger of the flood.

Some Exhibits Flooded

The break occurred about 3 a. m. in a water main along West Ohio St. near the Planetarium and sent water flooding down the streets as far as West Park.

The projector was used to duplicate the night sky and could not have been replaced until after the war had it been damaged.

Exhibits in the basement of the building—the Hall of Light and the Micro Zoo, valued at \$30,000—were flooded, but may be ready for shows late today.

Man Knocked Down By Torrent

The Hall of Light, on the lowest level, was the last to be cleared of water but, upstairs, the regular sky show, "Colors in the Sky," was presented at 10 a. m.

Damage was done principally to the air conditioning machinery and machine shop and to instruments belonging to amateur astrologers.

When the main burst, one man knocked down by the rush of the water said he thought Hitler had arrived.

The man, Nelson Trickle, 23, of 1705 Buena Vista St., rose and spread the word of the flood.

Traffic Routed From Area
The street buckled over an area of about 25 feet square and traffic had to be routed away from the area today.

Fire hydrants in the vicinity were turned on to reduce pressure on the broken main.

WATER, WATER, WATER—The best way to see the Highways of History exhibit at Buhl Planetarium on the North Side today was to use a boat. But the water in the basement won't stop the Planetarium from staging its regular show, "Colors in the Sky." The lower picture shows the water main break that caused the trouble.

WAR BOARD ENDS BLANKET SYSTEM FOR PRIORITIES

Ratings Will Be Assigned on Basis of Specific Requirements.

By **FREDERICK R. BARKLEY**
Philadelphia Record-New York Times Service

WASHINGTON, March 21. — The War Production Board today announced adoption of what it described as a "fundamental change" in the priorities system. Under the plan, a "specific requirements approach" to the control and distribution of scarce materials will replace the blanket or general priority rating orders as rapidly as the necessary new orders and procedures can be put into effect.

J. S. Knowlson, WPB Director of Industry Operations, said most of the blanket rating will be revoked or allowed to expire between April 1 and June 30. Companies operating under these blanket ratings will then be required to apply for priority assistance under the production requirement plan, he said.

Closer Check Necessary.

Explaining the new plan, Knowlson said:

"The rapidly increasing materials requirements of the war program make it impractical to continue use of preference ratings which have been assigned under existing 'P' orders to whole industries, without any exact check of the amount of material which such ratings may be used to obtain.

"Through the production requirements plans, the director of industry operations will continue to assign ratings to deliveries of materials for essential uses, but the rating assigned in each case may be used to obtain only a specified quantity of materials or products.

Quarterly Applications.

"Under the production requirements plan, a company makes a single application for priority assistance covering all of its estimated needs over a three-month period. The applicant must submit full information as to his inventories, the end use of his products, etc.

"Priority ratings are assigned on the basis of such applications to permit producers of products essential to the war effort or minimum civilian needs to obtain specified quantities of materials during a quarter. Interim applications may be filed when a company needs additional material because of increased war or other essential business.

3. State Council supervises civilian protection.

a. The chain of command in civilian defense extends from the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense through the State Council of Defense to the county and local defense councils. By agreement, the OCD will deal directly with the Governor and the State Council of Defense. Federal, as well as State, communications, regulations, instructions and publications are supplied by the State Council of Defense to county defense councils which in turn transmit them to local defense councils.

b. For purposes of co-ordination, co-operation and assistance in civilian protection, the State is divided into eight regions, each headed by a State Regional Director.

c. A Chief Air Raid Warden and a Fire Warden for the State have been appointed by the State Council to co-ordinate and supervise the air raid wardens' service and auxiliary fire organization, respectively, and to act as consultants and advisers in their respective fields. The Chief Fire Warden also supervises the training of auxiliary firemen.

d. A Training Division has been established in the State Council to plan, advise on, and prepare instruction materials for instruction of citizens' defense corps workers in the basic and special duty courses outlined by the U. S. OCD. The Training Division operates through the County Directors of Civilian Defense Schools.

Wardens are assisted by Zone Directors of Fire Training and Fire School Instructors.

(4) The County Director of Civilian Defense Schools, appointed by the county council of defense, is responsible for the basic and special duty training of citizens' defense corps workers in each county.

(5) All publications of the United States Office of Civilian Defense and the State Council of Defense are supplied to the county councils of defense which in turn distribute them to the local councils.

C. Municipal defense councils direct local civilian defense.

(1) The functions of local defense councils are varied. They include the enrollment and training of volunteer workers; participation in salvage programs; planning and conducting of community programs related to defense, such as health, recreation, and welfare programs; study of the defense aspects of such problems as housing, transportation, consumers' interest, and labor supply. Local councils are also responsible for the line function of organizing and directing civilian protection from air raids.

(2) The organization chart (Figure 1) gives a generalized picture of local defense organization. Wide variations exist among communities in Pennsylvania. In most municipalities

which have established defense councils, however, functions and organization conform in a general way to this suggested pattern.

2. Civilian Protection Organization (See Figure 2)

a. Citizens' defense corps protects civilians.

The citizens' defense corps perform the line or action function of civilian protection in air raid emergencies. These service squads are the units operating in the field during air raids to protect civilian life and property.

b. Organization is based on existing government.

The basis of civilian protection organization is the existing municipal government. Police, fire, and public works functions are usually assigned to those municipal departments. The emergency medical services may be organized under the Department of Health. Thus the emergency services, except for the Wardens' Service, merely supplement or reinforce the regular peace-time municipal functions.

c. Commander directs civilian protection operations.

The commander has full control over the operations of the civilian protection organization during periods of air raid emergency. The chiefs of the emergency services, Fire, Police, Wardens, Medi-

cal, Public Works, and Utilities, are subject to his direction.

d. Operations are co-ordinated through control center.

The operations of air raid wardens and auxiliary service units are co-ordinated through the control center. Air raid wardens are responsible for calling the control center when there is need for the assistance of service units. The commander, with the aid of his staff and the chiefs of emergency services, dispatches the necessary units and maintains control over their distribution. Sixteen units comprise Citizens' Defense Corps.

Thirteen of the sixteen citizens' defense corps units provided for by OCD are organized into six emergency services: Fire, Police, Wardens, Medical, Public Works, and Utilities. In addition, staff workers, messengers, and drivers are assigned to the control center and are at the disposal of the commander.

Variations in civilian protection organization exist among Pennsylvania communities. In urban centers, a more or less complete organization is needed and is provided. In smaller communities, maintenance of all 16 corps may not be necessary; in some cases, the functions of several corps units have been or will be consolidated.

(Continued Tomorrow)

C. Local Defense Organization

1. Councils of Defense.

A. Establishment authorized by State Council of Defense Act

(1) The State Council of Defense Act (1941) P. L. 6, Act No. 3) authorizes each political subdivision to establish a local council of defense by proclamation of the executive officer or governing body.

(2) Local councils are established to co-operate with and assist the State Council and to perform such services as the State Council requests. In so far as applicable, local councils have the same powers and duties within their jurisdictions as the State Council.

(3) More than 700 county and local defense councils have been established in Pennsylvania.

B. County defense councils are hubs of civilian protection activities.

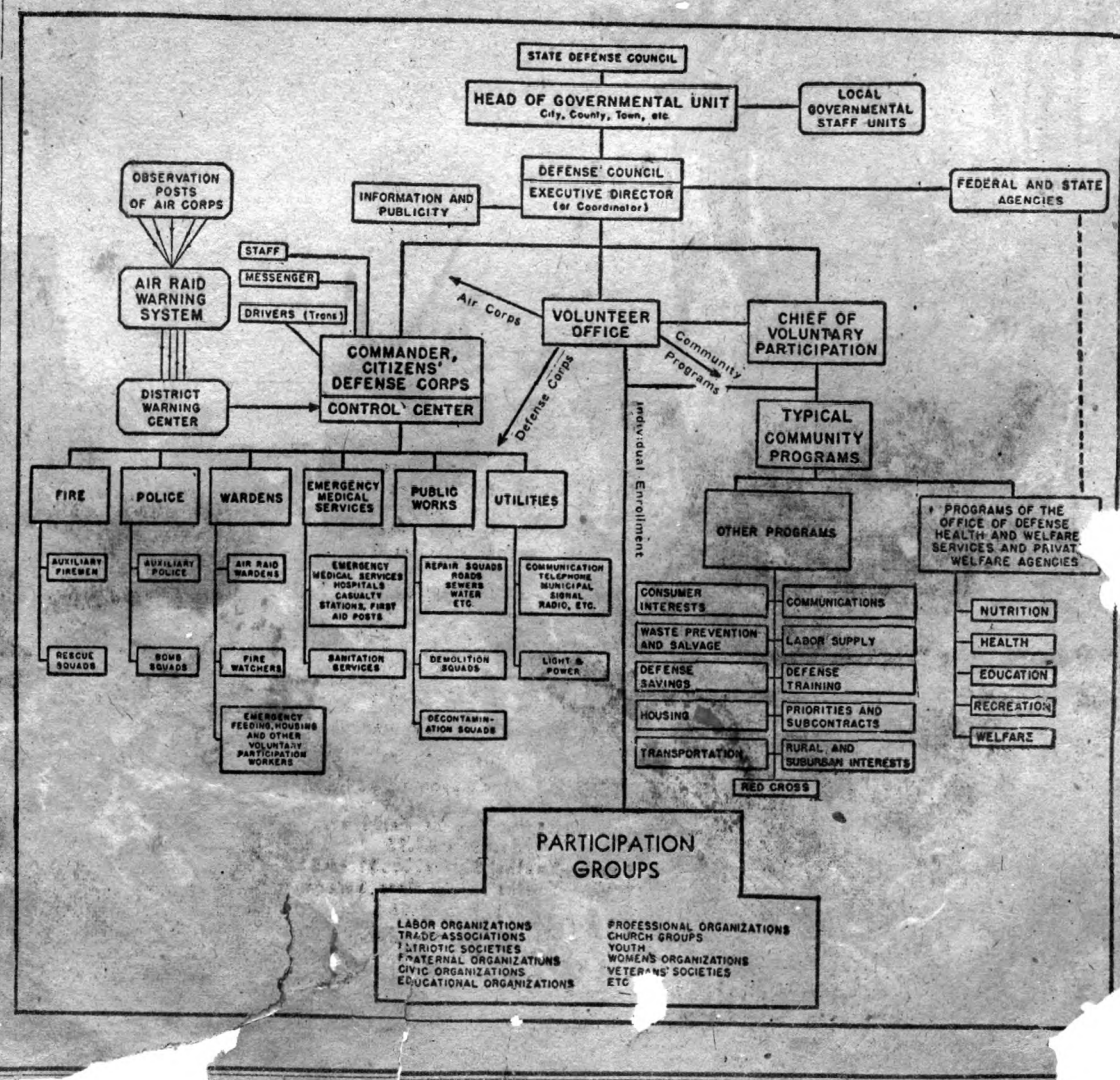
(1) The county council of defense, headed by a chairman, is in control of defense activities in each county. All aspects of the State defense program—training, salvage, rationing, victory gardens, etc.—clear through the county defense council.

(2) In each county, there is a Chief Air Raid Warden who is appointed by and responsible to county defense council. The air raid warden for the county advises on and supervises air raid defense activities in his country and approves the selection of zone, sector and post wardens.

(3) There is a Chief Fire Warden for each county under the supervision of one of the 35 Zone Fire Warden. In the training of auxiliary firemen, County Fire

LOCAL CIVILIAN DEFENSE ORGANIZATION

Suggested by U.S. Office of Civilian Defense





War on Waste Started To Avert Water Famine

City Officials' Aim Is to Save 50,000,000 Gallons Daily To Help Meet Wartime Needs

Faced by a water famine that might bring disaster to vital war production plants, the Philadelphia metropolitan area yesterday began a water conservation campaign to save 50,000,000 gallons each day through elimination of waste.

Headed by Mayor Samuel, city and defense officials called upon all residents to join in support of the campaign which will be continued indefinitely. Originally, it was planned for only two weeks.

PATRIOTISM IS STRESSED

The patriotic phase of the saving campaign was emphasized by the Mayor, who pointed out that "the rapid expansion of defense industries and additional water needs in homes are beginning to tax our water supply, filtration, and distribution systems."

Capacity of the system is estimated at about 400,000,000 gallons a day and, with war plants expanding their production daily, an unprecedented summer peak of 440,000,000 gallons a day is predicted. It is estimated that 50,000,000 gallons can be saved daily if everybody stops wasting—and that would be sufficient to ward off any crisis.

APPEAL TO WASHINGTON

Meanwhile, Director of Public Works John H. Neeson announced that he is going to Washington tomorrow, accompanied by all members of the city's Congressional delegation, in the most concerted effort thus far to obtain a better priority rating for the city in order to get work started on the \$18,000,000 rehabilitation program for the over-taxed water system.

Neeson and the Congressmen will confer with Maury Maverick, chief of the Bureau of Governmental Requirements of the War Production Board, which dispenses materials needed for governmental units other than Federal units. The Congressmen already have discussed the situation with Maverick.

PRESENT RATING 'USELESS'

At present, the city has an A4 rating, which is virtually worthless, Neeson said, and it will attempt to get an A1E rating for purchase of materials necessary for the construction work.

Federal officials have admitted, Neeson pointed out, that this is the most important industrial area for war production in the country, with work being done on contracts worth \$1,600,000,000. The question might easily become one of "no water—no guns," he said.

IMMEDIATE PROBLEM

Rehabilitation of the system, however, he warned, "does not meet the immediate summer problem. That has to be met right away," he said.

The citizens have been asked to stop waste through excessive use and defective plumbing fixtures. "We are not asking them to stop using water for any essential purpose," Neeson said.

The campaign is sponsored by the Mayor, the Philadelphia Council of Defense and the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin in the five-county metropolitan area. Sponsors began distribution of 500,000 circulars in the city and 250,000 in the neighboring counties yesterday. There also will be radio talks.

BATTLING PROBLEM OF CITY'S BAD-TASTING WATER AS RESIDENTS BRAVE RAIN TO FILL BOTTLES AT SPRING

A worker, wearing a mask as protection from dust, unloading bags of carbon to be placed into the water at the Torresdale pumping station to remove impurities. Eight parts of carbon are placed in 1,000,000 gallons, but

the process fails to do away with the bad taste and odor. Meanwhile, residents of the Wissinoming section are shown braving the rain yesterday to fill bottles at a spring in Wissinoming Park, a scene that is being repeated at

springs all over the city. Right: Bruce Campbell, a chemist at the Torresdale station, sniffing a sample of water after it was filtered. A remedy to end the taste and odor has not been found.

Good Water Is Hoped for by 1953

Continued From First Page

and \$2,500,000 for miscellaneous purposes—engineering and surveying fees, etc.

Included in the over-all program was the expenditure of \$1,000,000 for the ozone plant at the Belmont filtration station soon to be placed in operation and which will give West Philadelphia and Overbrook a "pleasant" tasting water, and \$400,000 for machinery to feed chemicals into the water at the Torresdale station.

NEW FILTER MACHINES

Temporary carbon feeding facilities have been installed both at the Belmont and Torresdale stations. It is contemplated that about

\$5,000,000 will be spent annually in the new program which also will include the construction of new filter equipment at Belmont and Queen Lane, giving both stations double filtration. New main distribution lines also will be run into areas with new homes and the city plans to build large reinforcing mains.

The present plans are the result of action taken in November, 1946, following a report to Council by the Mayor's Water Commission.

At that time, it was decided to hold in abeyance plans for a \$284,583,000 upland water supply until the city had exhausted every means of improving local sources.

SAME PROBLEM IN '30

Almost 20 years ago, the problems of taste such as the recent mysterious appearance of phenol were not new to Philadelphia.

In The Inquirer of March 3, 1930, the following statement from the Bureau of Municipal Research was published: "Philadelphia is more fortunate than some cities," it said, "in that it probably would not be necessary to treat the water for the removal of tastes at all times.

"At least, it would be only occasional that doses of phenolic wastes, such as recently contaminated the water supply, would have to be overcome," it said.

However, in those days, the State had a warning system through which it warned municipalities when phenol was accidentally discharged in one of the streams." Forewarned, water bureaus could be ready to remove the obnoxious taste.

Another plan called for the development of huge reservoirs in the Poconos to supply 2,000,000,000 gallons a day to Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey.

May 22, 1945, following a long controversy over the Delaware River project which called for impounding water 95 miles north of this city at Wallpack Bend, and the Pocono Mountain project proposed by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co.

The latter project called for impounding water in four large reservoirs on the headwaters of the Lehigh River, 75 miles from Philadelphia. The company owned and had certain water rights in a portion of this watershed. Under this proposal, the water would flow by gravity through pipelines into the city for filtration at the rate of 445,000,000 gallons daily.

While the commission, upon conclusion of its studies, reported that the Delaware River project was "the best of all proposed sources," it recommended a start on local improvements in two stages, the first of which is now nearing completion.

The commission pointed out that the local improvement program was necessary before contemplating "the more ambitious proposal" and it urged the city to preempt the Wallpack Bend site for Philadelphia's use in the future.

Yesterday, Taylor said that improvements at the Belmont and Queen Lane stations would fit in with any future plans the city might have regarding a new source of water supply.

FEW ATTENDED MEETINGS

He pointed out, however, that the same provisions could not be made at the Torresdale plant because "in event the city should seek an upland source, it would have to be abandoned and constructed on much higher ground to facilitate gravity feed."

Tri-State Survey Of Water Urged

A tri-State water survey project was recommended yesterday by the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin for the purpose of constructing reservoirs on the upper Delaware to give Philadelphia and other municipalities "good drinking water."

This was announced by James H. Allen, secretary-treasurer of INCODEL, who said complaints about Philadelphia's drinking water would continue as long as the city depends upon the "decidedly sub-standard water" which comes from the polluted Delaware and Schuylkill.

"Objectionable tastes and odors in Philadelphia's drinking water will probably be continually encountered despite the river clean-up programs," Allen said.

Allen serves as chairman of an INCODEL subcommittee which has developed extensive plans for a study of a tri-State solution to the city's water problem and which calls for a "cooperative investigation by New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania to determine sources which would provide adequate and suitable drinking water for the areas most directly concerned—Philadelphia, New York City and the North Jersey metropolitan area."

The report recommends that legislation be enacted in the three States authorizing a joint water investigation survey. Cost of the survey, which would take two years, is estimated at approximately \$200,000.

State Aides Join City Search For Polluted Water Source

Continued From First Page

problem because of the pollution going downstream with the outgoing tide and coming upstream with the incoming tide. We are after it, however, and we will catch up with it."

Hoffert, before entraining for this city from Harrisburg, disclosed that while he had no definite appointments for today he had been ordered "because of the seriousness of the situation" to contact Mayor Bernard Samuel and other leaders of the city government.

"We will do everything possible to trace the pollution to its source and track this trouble down," Hoffert said. "The State will fully apply the law if clear-cut violations of the pure stream laws are found."

RAIN FAILS TO HELP

Personnel from the State Department of Health have made visits here for several weeks and yesterday it was disclosed for the first time that more than 200 samples of water had been taken from the Delaware River since Dec. 23. However, it was pointed out "State investigators have not been able to put their finger on anything definite yet."

Those who will be on hand in an effort to aid the city solve its drinking water problems include George Elias, district sanitary engineer in the Philadelphia area; Francis B. Milligan, chief of the industrial water section; Kennett Rhoads, chemist; Edward Edgerley, district engineer, who is checking the Lehigh region; L. D. Matter, assistant chief engineer, and H. G. Knox, technical adviser to the State Sanitary Water

\$30,000,000 Program Proposed in 1939 to Eliminate Pollution

There is no excuse for the coal silt that clogs the Schuylkill and makes every heavy rain rise to flood level.

U. S. Army engineers said so in 1939 after a three-year survey. Their findings hold truer than ever now after three more years of coal waste dumping by operators upstream.

Report Blamed State.
Brigadier General John [Name] reported: [Name] district engineer (at Philadelphia) considers the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the anthracite industry as primarily responsible for pollution of the Schuylkill Valley.

The report then outlined a \$30,000,000 program to clear away the silt, throttling the stream. It called for:

1. State action to bar coal mines from dumping an estimated 6,000,000 to 1,000,000 tons of coal waste into the river annually. Without this, the engineers said, any anti-pollution program is an empty gesture.

Dredging Proposed.

2. Dredging of upward of 20,000,000 tons of accumulated silt from the river from Norristown to its headwaters at a cost of \$6,000,000.

3. Construction of a huge \$1,750,000 desilting basin at Auburn, just below Pottsville, to check silt in the upper river from drifting downstream.

4. Erection of walls in the mine regions to prevent culm from old coal dumps from eroding into the Schuylkill and tributaries, total cost \$2,500,000.

Would Stop Pollution.

The report further said: "The district engineer concludes that culm pollution in the Schuylkill Valley can be economically stopped by carrying out, in general, the plans outlined in the report. He is of the opinion that the work should be undertaken by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in co-operation with the anthracite industry."

Proposed Waste Tunnels.

Meanwhile, the James Administration's indorsement two years ago of a \$30,000,000 project for two mammoth tunnels to drain acid waste from mines into the Schuylkill and Susquehanna was cited as revealing its attitude.

President of the Schuylkill River Valley Restoration Association, said:

"Fortunately, the association and other public-spirited citizens succeeded in defeating the proposal before it completed the ruin of the Schuylkill."

Governor's Attitude.

"But it clearly illustrated the Governor's propensity for helping the coal mines but not the people."

"When \$125,000 might have helped curb floods throughout most of the 150-mile length of the Schuylkill Valley, it was withheld by James."

"But when it came to approving \$30,000,000 to carry waste from coal mines, the James Administration heartily indorsed."

Earle Project Revised.

At that time the Earle administration was leaving office after sponsoring a WPA project under which \$1,750,000 worth of culm retention walls were erected.

The WPA project was revised to involve spending an additional \$1,250,000. Under a 1939 Act of Congress, passed under Republican pressure to check "spending," State sponsors were required to put up 10 percent.

The James Administration refused to spend the \$125,000 necessary for the work. It charged the New Deal with "discriminating" against it, although the 10 percent law applied all over the nation and was urged by Republicans.

The walling project came to a dead halt and none of the other work outlined in the engineers' report has been done.

U. S. Action Considered.

There was conjecture yesterday over whether the Federal Government might take its own steps to prevent future flooding of war plants like Bethlehem Steel.

Major S. E. Potter, at the district engineer's office, said:

"We will survey the damage and the condition that led to it and will make recommendations to remedy the situation. Those may or may not be in line with the 1939 report, as we may find that conditions have changed in such a way as to warrant other steps."

Urged for State Action.

Ladner said that when the organization went to Washington to urge further action on the Army report, it was told that the Government would not act until the State Sanitary Water Board barred further culm dumping.

So it turned to the board, he said, and was told "that presents a very difficult problem, so difficult that it is impractical for some mines." Subsequently, Ladner declared, Howard N. Evanson, chief lobbyist for the coal industry, admitted to a Congressional committee that it would "be no great hardship" to require mines to check dumping.

"And yet," continued Ladner, "the Sanitary Water Board of the James administration pretends there is a difficult problem which even the polluters themselves admit does not exist."

James Assails Ladner.

James, from Harrisburg, yesterday assailed Ladner's statement blaming James for the flood situation as a "preposterous" one in which Ladner sought to make capital for his candidacy for the State Supreme Court.

The Governor said that Honesdale, White Mills and Hawley, the towns hardest hit by the flood, were upstream from Ladner's "highly questionable silt removal program."

Ladner's Reply.

Ladner retorted: "The Governor refers to Lackawaxen Creek. What about the Lehigh and Schuylkill rivers? What about flooding at Reading, Norristown, Pottsville? What about flooding of the Bethlehem Steel and Philadelphia Electric plants?"

No Excuse for Coal Silt Clogging River

U. S. Army Engineers Hold

Coal Sludge (Courtesy of James) Blocks Driveway



A six-foot flood over East River Drive along the Schuylkill left 4000 cubic yards of coal sludge in two blocks between Midvale and Ferry rd., between Saturday night and yesterday. Russell T. Vodges, chief engineer of Fairmount Park Commission, termed it "a slimy, greasy, horrible mixture, 60 to 70 percent coal silt, which will take several days to remove." Meanwhile, that section of the drive is closed to traffic. The silt is some of the stuff which U. S. Army engineers urged the James' Administration to remove from the Schuylkill.

"What about the statement of Philadelphia's Director of Public Works, John H. Neeson, that the flood brought tons of coal silt to Philadelphia and re-emphasized the need for cleaning the Schuylkill before the city's drinking water is affected?"

"The silt removal program would take care of all these things. Moreover, it is not my 'highly questionable' program. It is the program of the U. S. Army engineers, regarded by all experts as the last word in accuracy and practicability."

Park Engineer Concurs.

An official Philadelphia viewpoint was voiced by Russell T. Vodges, chief engineer of the Fairmount Park Commission. He said: "Everybody agrees that the reason for these floods is the piling up of coal culm deposits in the river bed."

Democratic spokesmen in Philadelphia have long been urging control of Schuylkill pollution. John B. Kelly, then Democratic City Chairman, appealed directly to President Roosevelt in 1938 and won a project for dredging portions of the Schuylkill as it passes through the city.

WASTING OF WATER 'MUST BE ENDED'
Mayor and Neeson say it should be Halted for War Effort

Prevention of water waste in industries and private homes was stressed by Mayor Samuel at a conference in his office in City Hall today.

Attending the meeting were John H. Neeson, Director of Public Works; Martin J. McLaughlin, chief of the Bureau of Water; David W. Robinson, executive secretary of the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, and newspaper representatives.

The Mayor and Neeson emphasized that the campaign, originally scheduled from May 23 to June 8, will be continued indefinitely. Neeson told the conferees that conservation of water is a vital factor in the prosecution of the war effort.

Only by conservation can a private water supply be provided for industries and householders, Neeson said.

"The time may come when the city consumption will reach the maximum filter bed capacity of 400,000,000 gallons daily," he said. "The problem is not one of raw water, but solely of manufactured water and the city's ability to supply it in adequate quantities."

Neeson explained that many persons are under a misapprehension that because of heavy floods there is plenty of water available. The city's low water rate was given by officials as one reason for wastage here.

The water saving campaign sponsored by the Mayor, the Philadelphia Council of Defense and the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, and newspaper representatives.

No Matter Whose Fault,— Help Save Water!

Philadelphia and its four surrounding counties face a severe water shortage.

The situation is becoming so acute that war production may be hampered—unless the public co-operates in saving water.

This means a gallon of water wasted today might cause delay in the delivery of a tank on a distant battlefield. Multiplied many times, it might mean the loss of a battle.

Everyone knows who is to blame.

This newspaper has been campaigning for a good water system for more than 10 years. We have pointed to our inadequate supply and lack of maintenance. We have warned of impending breakdowns that would be disastrous.

The GOP organization running City Hall did nothing. Even after the public overwhelmingly approved, two years ago, an \$18,000,000 bond issue for improving the water system, Council did nothing.

All that is now, quite literally, water over the dam.

We feel like the crew of a ship that knows the captain is incompetent. The crew helps man the pumps to save themselves, even though the leaks are the fault of the captain.

Philadelphia has been ruled without plan for 50 years.

But we must all help now—not to save our political bosses, but to help win the war.

The Philadelphia Defense Council, in cooperation with the defense councils of Montgomery, Delaware, Bucks and Chester Counties, has launched an intensive campaign to save water.

Every citizen should help.

It is estimated that more than 50,000,000 gallons of water A DAY are wasted in the Philadelphia metropolitan district.

A large part of this—10,000,000 gallons a day—is due to leaking water mains.

Another large part is due to waste which the individual citizen can control. A drip from a leaky faucet can waste 10 gallons a day, a thin trickle 260 gallons a day. Every householder should see that these leaks are stopped.

Another way the householder can help:

In an air-raid emergency, do NOT fill bath-tub with water.

Dr. A. C. Marts, executive director of Pennsylvania State Council of Defense, who that 60,000,000 gallons of water would constantly demanded in the five-county area all citizens filled their tubs at once.

Pressure in the mains would be dangerously reduced, and fire protection seriously jeopardized.

The fact that we don't have water facilities to meet these emergency needs is the fault of those who have mismanaged Philadelphia.

No matter—

Help save water now. Election day is the time to remember who is to blame.

City Must Fight to Get Water

Philadelphia and the adjacent counties constitute the most important war production centre in the United States, with contracts of close to \$2,000,000,000.

It stands to reason that a water shortage in this area might have disastrous consequences in slowing up essential production in war plants and shipyards.

Yet for some utterly unexplained reason, Government agencies at Washington are obstructing the only sure method of averting such a shortage—the rehabilitation of Philadelphia's broken down distribution system.

We have the money for the improvement project. But we haven't got the necessary materials, and Washington thus far has refused a sufficiently high priority rating to release the materials.

Meanwhile the water situation in the five-county area has become so critical that the Defense Councils have appealed for public conservation of water so that the capacity output of the pumping plants can meet the demands put upon them.

Consumption is already beginning to tax that capacity and with the peak load still weeks away, in mid-summer, a serious shortage is threatened.

If Philadelphia could proceed with its rehabilitation program, replacing and restoring filtration beds, pumps, boilers, piping and other facilities, it could take care of its own requirements, and even, in an emergency, help supply consumers in nearby counties.

But it can't go ahead with the worthless A4 rating that the WPB has granted it. It must have at least an A1E priority to secure release of the needed materials—and it should get it.

For weary weeks on end, city officials have camped on the doorsteps of the various alphabetical agencies concerned, have poured incessantly into bureaucratic ears their appeals for an adequate priority.

All they have been able to obtain for their pains is the admission that Philadelphia's needs are great and the granting of an A4 rating, which might as well be XYZ for all the good it will do in adding one drop of water to our depleted supply.

Today, Director of Public Works John H. Neeson and the Congressmen representing the Philadelphia districts are going to try again. They will confer in Washington with Maury Maverick, chief of the Bureau of Governmental Requirements of the War Production Board, which has charge of materials sought by political subdivisions.

Mr. Neeson, who has become a veteran pleader on behalf of this city, will undoubtedly state our case in clear, factual language. If Mr. Maverick wants war production in this area to be unimpeded by a water famine, he will shear through whatever red-tape may be strewn around his office and see that Philadelphia gets the materials it requires.

If he persists in giving us the run-around, then there is only one thing to be done. No more begging for what is our due, tin-pan in hand, before bureaucratic desks, but a straight-line plea to the President.

Mr. Roosevelt would surely recognize the imperative necessity of an adequate water supply in the all-important Philadelphia area. If the facts in the case were presented to him by the Mayor of Philadelphia, backed by his engineers, by the five-county Defense Councils and by the heads of affected war industries, there can be little doubt that he would take such action as the situation calls for.

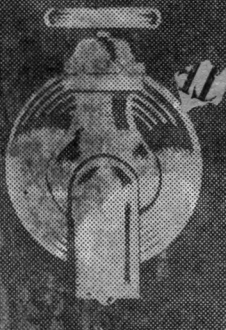
We don't want materials that are needed by the Army, the Navy or other military forces. But the key war industry centre in the Nation is entitled to priority on water equipment ahead of other localities.

Water shortage here means production slow-up. It might become a matter of "No water—no

we all the water we need if we can get priority rating on materials. after 11

Drips Won't Save the Drops

DON'T BE A DRIP!



BE PATRIOTIC

STOP LEAKS

SAVE WATER

PHILADELPHIA COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

The city is distributing 45,000 of these and similar posters urging citizens to conserve water

HEAVILY burdened by the necessity of supplying water wasted through leaks and by careless use, Philadelphia's waterworks are called upon to meet, with limited facilities, the increasing demands for water created by the war. The cooperation of every water consumer is required to relieve the waterworks of this unnecessary burden.

A Report. In the annual report of the Bureau of Water are noted the following: 'War-time activities in general manufacturing, industrial, and commercial lines have greatly increased the demand for water... There is reason to believe that the volume of waste has increased... The ability of the waterworks to respond to the added draft has been diminished by difficulties in obtaining necessary materials... No, this is not the report for 1941; it is the report for 1917, during the last war. However, it cites the principal difficulties now facing the city. During the last war, water consumption reached a peak in 1918 which, for the week of maximum demand, averaged over 30,000,000 gallons a day greater than in that week of the year which for the three pre-war years 1914-1916 had the highest average consumption. As Philadelphia's water system has not been able to maintain adequate pressures in times of heaviest peacetime demands, it is obvious that, unless the burden of waste is removed, the system may not be equal to the wartime task.'

The Burden of Waste. One of two general recommendations made in the report for 1917 was, 'a radical curtailment in the volume of waste.' This recommendation is applicable to the present situation. Water is wasted through broken mains, abandoned service pipes, defective joints, and other openings in the distribution system. However, the city has surveys under way to find and stop these losses, and leaks totaling millions of gallons a day have already been discovered. No doubt, even larger quantities of water are wasted through leaks in

buildings. Such a situation was revealed by surveys made in the years 1926-1931. Thousands of toilets and faucets were found which were wasting millions of gallons into the sewers; and yard hydrants, service pipes, and miscellaneous plumbing fixtures which were leaking added greatly to the waste of water.

Use Water Wisely. Water is also wasted when it is used carelessly or lavishly. For example, street bathing in water from fire hydrants, which has been prevalent in past years on hot summer days, wastes a lot of water. There are, also, ways in which householders do not use water wisely. Lawn sprinklers are left on for hours sometimes all night, and take much water needlessly. Another example of waste is the use of a full stream from a faucet for washing or for some other purpose, when a basin of water or a light flow would do the job. Water is let run to waste in order to secure cooler water, although it would be more economical to cool water in the refrigerator or with ice. Just plain carelessness in not turning off the water, or in not turning it off completely, is the cause of much waste.

Will History Repeat Itself? Reporting for 1918, the Chief of the Bureau of Water was able to say that, despite the heavy demands upon the waterworks, almost normal pressures had been maintained throughout the city. He gave much of the credit to a reduction in waste which resulted from increased metering of consumers' services. A larger proportion of the services is metered now than in 1918, but more than half of them still are without meters. If every consumer of water, whether his service is metered or not, will stop leaks on his premises as soon as they occur, will take water only for essential uses, and will use it sparingly and with care, he will be rendering a real service. Many millions of gallons of otherwise wasted water will thus be made available for war industries, for an increasing population, and for protection in emergencies.

Parley Delayed On Water Priority

Inquirer Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, May 27.—Philadelphia officials came to Washington today to seek higher material priorities for the city's \$18,000,000 water rehabilitation program, only to learn that the Federal officials they expected to confer with had been called out of town.

The Philadelphians, Director of Public Works John H. Neeson and George W. Elliott, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and field director of the Philadelphia Defense Council, announced they would seek another appointment early next week.

Philadelphia now has an overall priority of A-4 on its water program. It wants this raised to A-1E or better because, under the present priority, it cannot obtain the badly needed new pumps for the Torresdale, Queen Lane and Lardner's Point plants. The city's water situation has threatened to become critical by

WATER 'RATIONING'

THREATENED HERE

5/29/42
Public Faces Legal
Curbs If Voluntary
Saving Pleas Fail

Philadelphians were called on by Director of Public Works John H. Neeson yesterday to save nearly 40,000,000 gallons of water a day for war industries by abandoning wasteful and non-essential uses.

Among these he listed excessive use of garden sprinklers and hoses to wash automobiles and sidewalks.

If the people do not voluntarily limit their consumption this way, he said, the city may be forced to seek legislation forbidding use of water for non-essential purposes.

SUPPLY SHORT OF NEEDS

The top capacity of the city's filtration plants is 400,000,000 gallons of water a day, Neeson said. By July and August the peak of the seasonal demand will increase the consumption to 440,000,000 gallons.

Only the elimination of the wasteful practices now indulged in will bring the consumption figure into balance with the total output, he said.

WASTE ON LAWNS ASSAILED

"I see many lawn sprinklers left to run all night long," he said. "That is sheer waste. Lawns usually need no more than 10 to 15 minutes of sprinkling a day. At this season of year, when the grass is just taking hold, once a day is too much sprinkling."

"Similarly, water for hosing sidewalks and automobiles is certainly a non-essential use. We are not asking people to give up water for needed purposes. That is not necessary. It is possible, however, to take a shower with the water running for three minutes. Why let it run for 15 minutes?"

CITY GETS GO-AHEAD ON WATER PROGRAM

The city yesterday received the go-ahead signal to initiate its \$18,000,000 water rehabilitation program as a higher priority rating permitting speedy purchase of needed equipment was given by the War Production Board.

Director of Public Works John H. Neeson announced the Army and Navy Munitions Board of the WPB had given preliminary approval to a change in the city's priority status from A-4 to A-1-J and that a final clearance would come through in four or five days.

DELAYED 8 MONTHS

As a result of the former priority rating, the city's plan to get the water rehabilitation program under way was held up for approximately eight months.

The first move to rehabilitate the antiquated water system, Neeson said, would be to install new pumps at the Lardner's Point and Torresdale stations.

NEW PUMPING STATION

This will be followed by the installation of preliminary mechanical filters at the Queen Lane station, construction of a new Torresdale pumping station and replacement of distribution lines.

Neeson said he also hoped to receive a higher priority rating to purchase 25,000 parts necessary to repair leaking fire hydrants.

U. S. Speeds

Pumps for City Water

Priorities Aid
Assured for
Phila. Program

The city's water rehabilitation program, bogged down for many months by priorities on materials, will receive special attention, Maury Maverick, chief of the Government requirements unit of the War Production Board, promised yesterday.

Following a conference at Washington with John H. Neeson, director of public works, and Nathan B. Jacobs, consulting engineer on the city's \$18,000,000 water program, Maverick asserted that new pumps for the water works would be given a status akin to "an allocation."

PROGRESS REPORTED

Neeson, who has been in the capital several times before to get clearance on the badly needed pumps, said that "more progress was made now than at any other time."

One thing was emphasized by both Neeson and Maverick, however. Under the best conditions, delivery of the pumps will probably be a matter of six months or more. Thus, Philadelphia will not have the new equipment in time for the record-breaking peak loads of water which it must deliver this summer to its civilian population and to hundreds of plants.

BREAKDOWNS FEARED

The city has feared a breakdown in some of its aged pumps and has set aside more than \$50,000 for emergency repairs.

"The pumps," said Neeson, "are needed for the plants at Lardner's Point, Torresdale and Queen Lane. Such pumps are huge, tailor-made jobs. Even in normal peace times, it takes as much as a year for the construction and installation of the largest ones."

HAS HIGH HOPES

"We made definite progress and I am very hopeful for the future on the water program, although our conference may mean a revamping of our entire project. Our rating is definitely to be improved and we feel that we are finally on the way."

Following the meeting with Maverick, Neeson and Jacobs discussed technical details of the city's water rehabilitation program for more than two hours with Leonard Macomber, one of Maverick's top engineers.

Meanwhile, Martin J. McLaughlin, chief of the Bureau of Water, declared the city's conservation program was saving 5,000,000 gallons of water daily.

DAILY AVERAGE DROPS

The average daily water usage for April, he said, was 319,000,000 gallons, whereas for the first day of this month only 311,000,000 gallons were tapped.

McLaughlin pointed out that no forecast could be made whether the peak for 1942 would reach the 395,000,000 gallon high in 1941. The daily average for 1941 was 327,000,000 gallons.

McLaughlin said that the conservation program has resulted in an impressive response from consumers in the form of letters and phone calls for co-operation.

A NEW "PHILADELPHIA STORY"

Or, How a Systematic Water Waste Survey in Progress Has Already Saved Philadelphia a Needed 13,000,000 Gallons Daily to Meet Defense Demands

By MARTIN J. McLAUGHLIN
Chief
BUREAU OF WATER
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Senior Book

DURING the recent depression Philadelphia found herself, in common with most other municipalities, in straitened financial circumstances. Demands upon the water works system instead of increasing began to decrease and the need for making additions to the system ceased to exist. But with this contraction in use there was also a decrease in revenue and many improvements, and even items of maintenance had to be deferred. At length, in 1939, a committee of experts was appointed to investigate the water works system for the purpose of recommending improvements necessary to bring it into first class operating condition. A bond issue of \$18,000,000 was voted to pay for these improvements and engineers from the office of Morris Knowles of Pittsburgh, Pa., were employed to supervise the expenditure of this money.

However, the design of the needed additions would in itself consume considerable time and it seemed desirable to relieve the load on the system as much and as quickly as

possible. During the years from 1926 to 1931 The Pitometer Co. had been employed to make a Pitometer Water Waste Survey of the system. The results of that survey were most gratifying. Underground leakage of about 35,000,000 gallons per day had been located and repaired. House waste of approximately 50,000,000 gallons per day had been stopped and industrial meter under-registration of approximately 4,750,000 had been corrected.

Waste Reduction First Logical Step

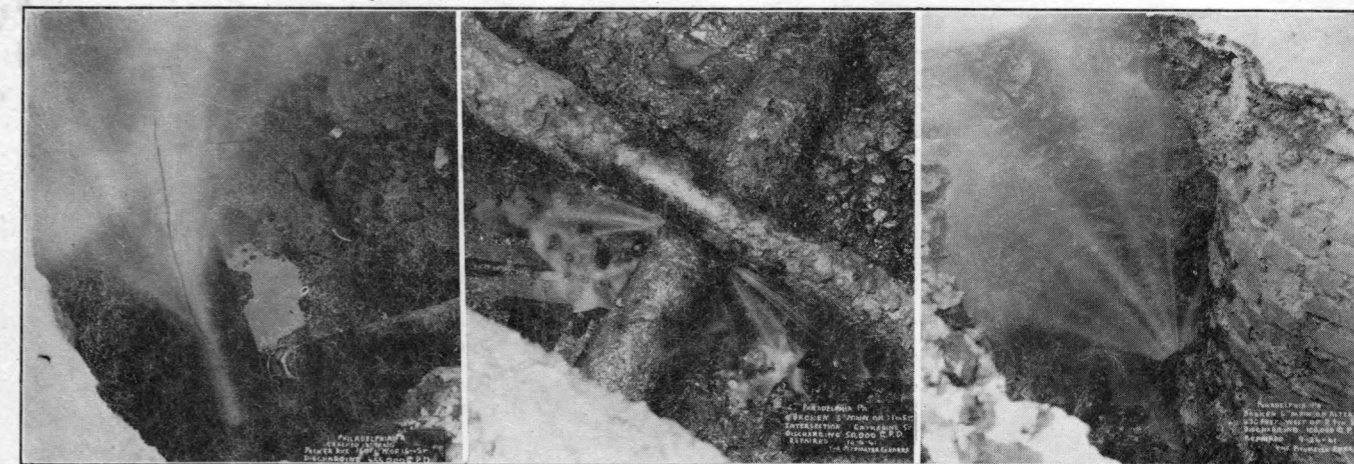
With a definite knowledge of the possibilities of conserving the available water supply by the elimination of the underground leakage which undoubtedly had developed since the previous survey, the city decided to again contract with The Pitometer Co. to make another Water Waste Survey of the distribution system, and arrangements were made with the WPA to furnish most of the labor in connection with the operation. To date all of West Philadelphia has been surveyed and the survey of that

section of the city lying to the south of Callowhill St. is approaching completion. An additional contract has recently been entered into covering a section of the city lying along the Delaware River northeast of the central part of the city.

How the Survey Is Conducted

The survey is conducted in the following manner:

The district which is to be tested, and which includes an average of 8 miles of distribution main, is segregated by valve operation and all but one or two feeds in this district are shut off. Recording Pitometers are installed on these feed lines through 1 in. corporation cocks and the flow into the district measured for a twenty-four hour period. Indirect measurements are then made at night to determine the distribution of the night rate of flow in small one or two block "shut-outs." Manifestly where little or no flow exists at night there can be no leakage, but where the measurements show appreciable flows after midnight in-



A cracked 12" main shooting away 455,000 g.p.d.

More Typical Exhibits
A 6" main carrying the weight of another failed for 50,000 g.p.d.

A good trick if it only worked. A sewer manhole found resting on a 6' main cost 100,000 g.p.d.

vestigations are made to determine the cause of the high flow. The actual location of the leak is determined by the use of sound intensifying instruments in the hands of engineers who have become proficient in this particular line of work through years of experience. It is very seldom that the leak is not located within the limits of the first excavation made for its repair.

Since the inauguration in 1940 of the defense program, the demand for water upon the Philadelphia water works system began to increase and had continued to increase as more and more industries turn to the manufacture of war material. All the water saved to date, by the elimination of underground leakage, has been made available for use by the war industries without further taxing the capacity of the existing system. That the savings to date have been of considerable assistance is evident from an analysis of the findings.

The Most Important Sources of Waste

The largest single source of waste so far discovered has been leakage from the cast iron mains themselves, broken mains, split mains, and blown joints. A number from each source has been found. Up to date, 62 leaks of this kind have been located wasting a total of 4,369,000 gallons per day. In almost every case these breaks were caused by underground conditions, such as the construction of masonry structures by other utilities in such a way that a bearing load was placed upon the cast iron main. Several examples of leaks caused by this loading of the mains are shown in illustrations accompanying this article.

Next in importance based on the average size of the individual leak, though not in total waste, is the waste from leaking abandoned services. As is to be expected, leaks on dead services will average greater losses than leaks on live services because after a leak on a live service becomes large enough to affect the pressure, the consumer complains and the leak is repaired, but an abandoned or uncompleted service can become completely severed without being discovered unless the water finds its way to the surface. So far, 127 abandoned services have been found leaking, a total of 2,273,000 gallons per day.

There have also been located a large number of leaking services in use, and it is surprising to note how much water can escape each day from a leak in an ordinary domestic service before the pressure is affected to such an extent that the customer complains. A total of 373 live services have so far been found to be leaking 2,754,000 gallons per day.

Six miscellaneous leaks not included under any of the above headings were found to be wasting 146,000 gallons per day.

Under-Registration of Large Meters an Important Item

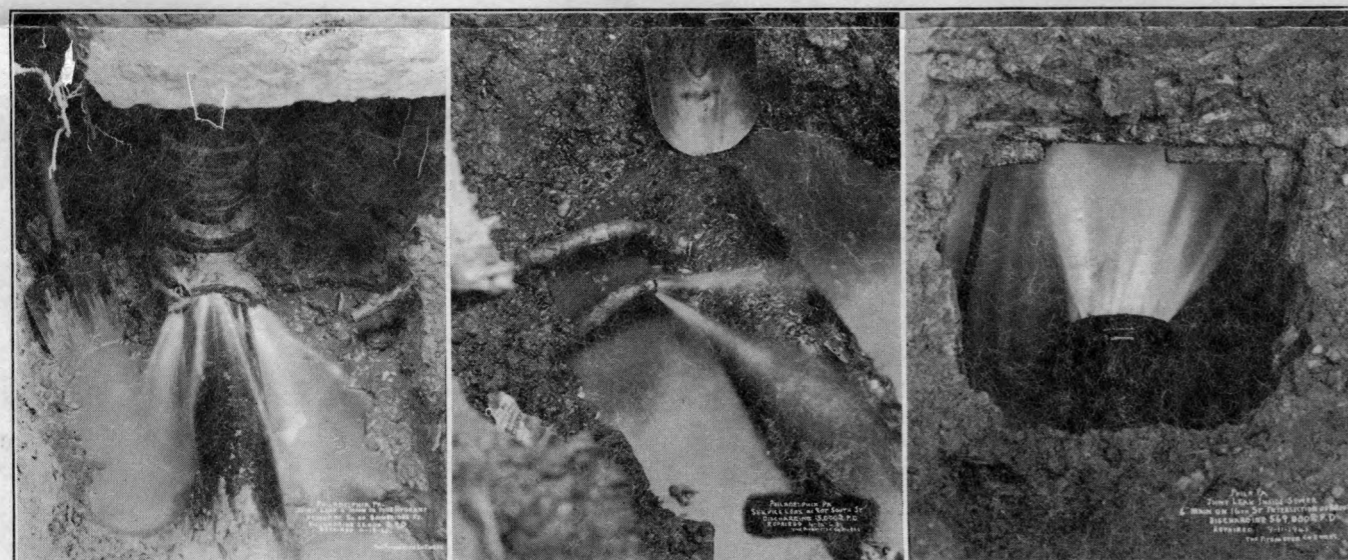
One feature of the survey, not previously mentioned, is the testing in place of industrial meters on 4 in. and larger services. Increased revenue resulting from the repair of defective meters discovered in this manner has been considerable. A total daily under-registration of 3,060,000 gallons has been discovered to date. Not all of this has been reflected in increased sales as a very large percentage of this amount was found on the meters supplying a semi-charitable con-

sumer. As the result of these findings this consumer greatly reduced its consumption of water so that the benefit to the department was in the nature of decreased consumption rather than increased revenue.

Altogether, a total of 13,000,000 gallons per day has been saved so far. About 40 per cent of the city has been covered and it is hoped and believed that savings will continue at about the same rate as the survey is extended into other parts of the city. Some idea as to how valuable a saving of 13,000,000 gallons per day is, can be visualized when we realize that it is enough water to supply an average American city of 130,000 persons with all the domestic and industrial water normally used. In this city, about a ton and a half of coal is required to pump a million gallons of water, so that the indicated savings from this one item are about 7,000 tons, or 150 freight cars annually. Aside from the cost this is a distinct contribution to the war effort by the relief it affords our over-burdened railroads. There have been additional savings of power, chemicals, etc. While Philadelphia uses very little chlorine, when compared to most cities, it is still true that the savings of a million gallons of water per day results in the saving of approximately a ton of chlorine per year. Although the money value of the twelve or thirteen tons saved each year is not large it is a distinct contribution to the war effort as it conserves a critical material.

A By-Product of the Survey

A by-product of the survey has been the location of closed and defective valves and many valves have been found in each category. The



The effect of traffic on a 6" fire hydrant joint—25,000 g.p.d.

Some of Our "Philadelphia Story"
A typical service leak of which there were many—15,000 g.p.d.

This 6" main, actually in a sewer, was discharging 569,000 g.p.d.

closed valves were opened and the defective ones repaired. This has not only put us in a better shape to make shut downs for routine repairs, but has also improved our ability to quickly cut out sections where mains may at some future time be broken as the result of enemy bombing.

Although the financial savings to the city have been more than enough to justify the survey, the greatest present benefit has been the relief which it affords to our water system.

heavily loaded as it is with war demands. We realize its full value when we contemplate the effect of adding to our present demand the necessity for filtering, pumping, and distributing an additional 13,000,000 gallons of water per day. This is equivalent to the construction of a pumping station, filtration plant and transmission main of sufficient capacity to supply 13,000,000 gallons per day.

Due to the difficulty in obtaining priorities and the inability to secure

the necessary materials, the water works improvement program has of necessity been materially slowed up, and it is questionable whether or not the benefits from this program will be felt in time to assist in the present emergency. It can, therefore, be seen how essential it is to conserve every available gallon of water in the City of Philadelphia, by the elimination of all sources of waste, such as is being done by the Pitometer Water Waste Survey now in progress.

Philadelphia Record 10/18/41
Those Mythical Mains
 Philadelphia's City Hall repeatedly has been held up to public censure for doing nothing about the scandalous water situation.
 Now we are able to report the City Hall are doing something about it.
 Yes, indeed. While factories, households and all users of water are being urged to save every drop they can—
 We find from the newest report of the Committee of Seventy that the City is *wasting*, not by the drop but by the million, that \$18,000,000 fund which voters approved in 1940 for rebuilding the water system.
 In two and a half years since the water bond referendum, the committee reports, \$1,200,520 has been spent.
 Of this, only \$742,740, or about 60 percent, has been spent for materials and supplies.
The other 40 percent, or \$457,780, has been spent—you guessed it—on the payroll, where 100 jobs have sprouted.
 The committee consulted engineers who returned an opinion that while further tech-

Daily Times Chicago Oct 8 1941
City's water safe despite pollution, Hewitt declares
 Despite the fact that water pollution at the Dunne crib off the South Side has set a new high, Oscar E. Hewitt, commissioner of public works, gave assurance today that the water is safe for drinking.
 Amounts of chlorine used for purification have been doubled on many days, Hewitt said, to guarantee that water for the 1,500,000 persons served from the crib would be safe.
 During September, the bacteria coli test showed an average of 6,907 per 100 cubic centimeters, double the count for August, and far above the high of 1,424 set in September of 1941.
 Mayor Kelly, who returned from Washington yesterday after a conference with Rep. A. J. Sabath on his bill to increase water diversion for Chicago, said he was confident something soon would happen on the bill, now before the rivers and harbors committee.
 The hearing, however, has been delayed, he said, because the committee has been unable to get a quorum recently. That he blamed on members being absent for election campaigns.

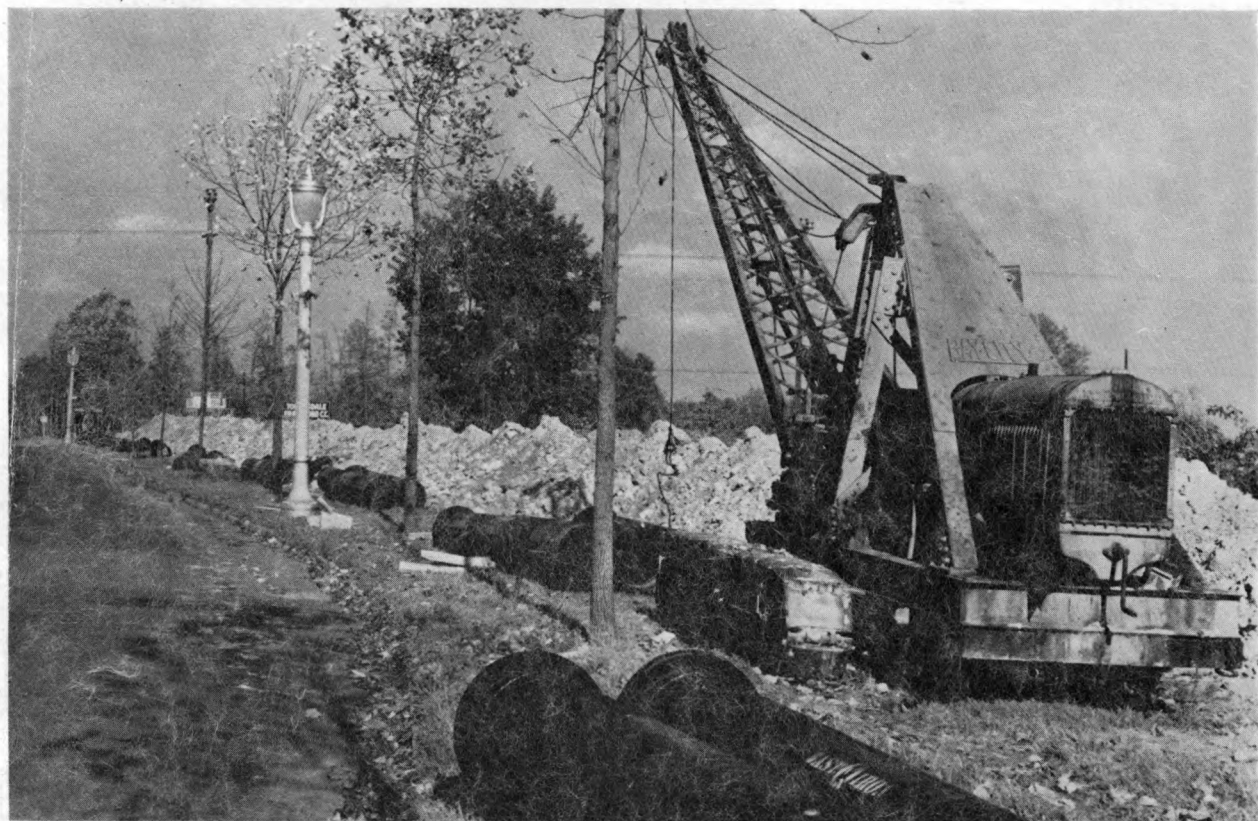
CITY ASKS 2 BIDS ON WATER PLANTS
New Pumping Station and Filtration Treatment Works Planned.
 The city took its largest single step in the \$18,000,000 water system improvement program yesterday with a call for bids on \$3,500,000 worth of construction.
 The job comprises two separate contracts. One is for the building of a new pumping station at Torresdale, expected to cost about \$1,800,000. The other is for a preliminary treatment plant at the Queen Lane filtration station, to cost around \$1,700,000.
Work to Take Year.
 Bids on the first contract will be opened September 28. Those on the second, which is being re-advertised, will be opened September 23. The contract is being re-advertised because the low bid on the first advertising recently was slightly in excess of the \$1,700,000 limit set by city engineers.
 The work is expected to take a year to complete. The two projects will bring to about \$8,000,000 the sum spent or committed thus far under the \$18,000,000 program.
Delayed by Priorities.
 The program was approved by Philadelphia voters in the spring of 1940. Preparation of engineering plans consumed about a year. Recently difficulties over Government priorities for materials have been blamed by the city for the apparent tardiness of the program.
 Though priorities undoubtedly are a factor now, the entire program could have been launched and completed long ago if City Council had been willing to accept Government funds for the purpose.
 The Water Bureau also announced yesterday a saving of nearly 4½ percent in water consumption last month as a result of the drive to conserve water for war needs.

A SINGLE BIDDER ON \$1,000,000 JOB
Philadelphia Record 9/4/41
Metal Shortages Prevent Others From Seeking City Contract.
 The city received just one bid yesterday for construction of a building for the new Torresdale pumping station, together with water piping, valves and equipment.
 Kaufman Construction Company, of Philadelphia, asked \$1,088,888 for the job. Officials attributed absence of other bids to difficulty in obtaining critical metals.
 The city has an A-1-a priority covering about one-fifth of the \$18,000,000 water program and an A-1-j for the rest. A-1-a is sixth from the top—AAA and AA-1 to AA-4 are ahead of it.
 The pumps themselves were contracted for more than a year ago and will be ready for installation late this year or early next.

Philadelphia Record 10/10/41
WPB AIDE TO INSPECT WATER SYSTEM HERE
 The Philadelphia water system will be inspected today by Arthur E. Gorman, head of the WPB water production section, it was announced yesterday at a regional conference of the American Waterworks Association.
 Gorman will be conducted on the tour by M. J. McLaughlin, chief of the Bureau of Water, who told the conference the system "is not expected to meet the abnormal demands imposed on it by war time conditions."

Major Improvement Program for Philadelphia Water System is Under Way

Phases Most Essential to War Effort Given Green Light by W. P. B.



16" Pipe Strung Out Along One of Main Traffic Arteries

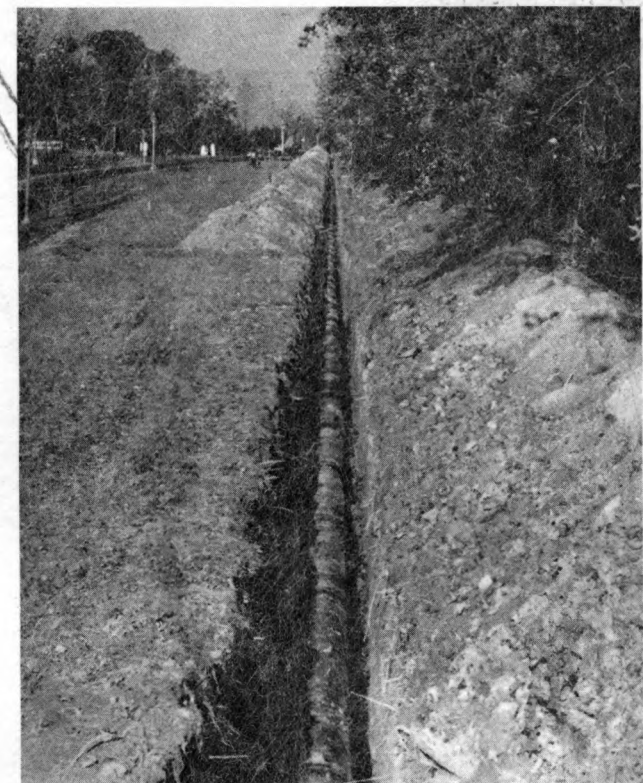
CITIES have a tendency to outgrow their utility facilities. The history of the water systems of the three largest cities in this country furnish substantiating evidence of this fact. New York's water problems were solved for many years in the future when the famed Croton Aqueduct was completed in 1842. Shortly after the turn of the century, it was indicated that provisions should be made for an additional supply, so the Catskill Aqueduct was built and put into service in 1917. Growth of the city with a corresponding increased demand for water made it advisable

to start construction of the Delaware Aqueduct, which will, when completed, bring about 500 M.G.D. from the East Branch of the Delaware River and its tributaries.

Chicago's problem has been similar to New York's as far as the demand for more water is concerned. Since Chicago has long used Lake Michigan as its source of supply, it was not necessary to construct long lines from distant watershed to increase their supply. It involved the construction of more intake cribs in Lake Michigan with the necessary pumps, pipe and appurtenances to handle the

increased quantity of water.

Philadelphia has two convenient sources of supply as it is situated along the Delaware River and has the Schuylkill River running through the city and joining the Delaware River within the city limits. Philadelphia's first water works was built along the Schuylkill River in 1799. Water was pumped from this station along Chestnut Street to a reservoir in Center Square from which it was distributed. In 1822 several thousand feet of 10-inch cast iron pipe were laid along lower Chestnut Street passing in front of Independence Hall. This line is still in service and is the oldest cast iron water pipe in this country. As the city grew and water demand increased, pump stations were built along both the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers. It is from these two rivers that Philadelphia obtains its



Long Straight Run of 16" Super-deLavaud Pipe



Lowering Length of 16" Pipe Into Trench

water today.

With the increased growth of population and industrial activity along the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers above Philadelphia, the quality of the raw river water became increasingly worse. Cognizant of the quality of the present river water supplies, a commission was appointed in 1920 to study the advisability of continuing to use filtered water from these sources or develop an upland supply. Their recommendation was in favor of an upland supply, however, the recommendation was never carried out. There were two schools of thought about Philadelphia's future water supply problems, those who favored continued use of the existing sources with improved water treatment facilities and those who advocated a much purer and distant upland supply. Until this fundamental question was

settled, there was little incentive to expend large capital sums to improve existing supply and treatment facilities.

As a result of a very thorough study and after careful consideration, the Mayor and City Council decided to submit a \$19,000,000 bond issue to the voters based on the continued use of present sources of supply and the improvement of the water quality by added treatment facilities. The bond issue was approved in the 1940 election. Thus the water supply question was definitely settled and funds were provided to proceed with this major rehabilitation and improvement program.

The program includes construction of facilities for double filtration at the purification plants. Steam pumping stations will be electrified and new stations built. Larger mains will be laid in districts where existing mains are too small. Feeder mains will be installed



12" Pipe Strung Out Along Line of Installation

to reinforce deficient sections of the gridiron. Extensions will be made to eliminate dead ends and supply newly built-up sections of the city.

Unfortunately, the normal time required to carry out this program coincided with our accelerated defense program of 1941 and our rapidly expanded war effort since December 7th of that year. The ability of manufacturers to make various types of needed equipment was no longer the controlling factor in how long it would take to complete a certain project. Materials needed were in many cases critical materials that required high priorities as a condition precedent to their procurement. As a result, some phases of the contemplated work have been completed, others are now under construction and some will have to be postponed until after the war.

(Concluded on Page 14)



12" Pipe Being Installed Under Sidewalk

Corporate Personnel Changes

AFTER fifty-four years of valuable and devoted service to this Company and one of its predecessor companies, the Addyston Pipe and Steel Company, David P. Hopkins has resigned as Vice-President in charge of operations. Speaking for his host of friends within and without the Company, the Editor wants to express regret over his relinquishment of active participation in the affairs of the Company and wish him many more years of the best that life has to offer.

Richard K. Haughton has been elected to succeed Mr. Hopkins as Vice-President in charge of operations. He was formerly manager of our Birmingham, Alabama Plant and

has been for the past three years General Works Manager.

Donald Ross has been elected Secretary and Treasurer of this Company filling these offices which have been vacant since Donovan H. Tyson, former Secretary-Treasurer, resigned to join the U. S. Army as a Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) in the service of Supply.

John S. Coleman, president of the Birmingham Trust and Savings Company, was elected director of this Company replacing James C. Brady, who resigned to serve as a Lieutenant in the Navy.

Christopher R. Wynne, acting comptroller, was appointed comptroller.

PROGRAM FOR PHILADELPHIA WATER SYSTEM IS UNDER WAY

(Concluded from Page 13)

Two projects involving the installation of cast iron pipe were started early and have now been completed. One project required 4100 feet of 12-inch cast iron pipe. This was laid in the University of Pennsylvania section of West Philadelphia to reinforce the gridiron system in that area. The other project included 20,000 feet of 16-inch cast iron pipe. This was laid in the northeast section of the city to serve as a supplemental feeder main to that area. All the pipe for these two projects was furnished by this Company. Standard cement lined pipe with seal coat was used throughout. With the exception of a short run of 16-inch pit-cast pipe, all was Super-deLavaud centrifugally cast iron pipe. Both of these installations were made by M. & J. B. McHugh, Contractors, Philadelphia.

SALVAGE AND REUSE OF CAST IRON WATER PIPE BY PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

(Concluded from Page 7)

one large M1A locomotive, illustrated herewith, can hold 21,000 gallons which it will consume in ninety miles when pulling a train of capacity length.

In addition to furnishing the necessary water for the operation of the railroad, these water companies are of great potential value to the communities adjacent to their lines. They represent an alternate source of water supply which could be utilized in case an emergency was caused by the bombing of the municipal supply. Most of these water companies are already interconnected with community systems and many other communities could be connected if the dire need arose.

▲ ▲ ▲

INQUIRER 6-26-43

City Told to Convert Heating Units

A directive to the city to convert fuel oil heating units to coal in municipally owned buildings or face the prospect of heatless days next winter was given yesterday by Lawrence R. Snyder, regional engineer for the Petroleum Administration for War.

At the same time, John H. Neeson, director of Public Works, said the city was willing to convert wherever possible, but that work will not be started until the critical material needed for conversion "is on the ground."

our heating plants," declared Neeson, "and then find that some vital part, which is needed, cannot be obtained."

We Almost Had Some New Pumps

There is no particular reason to greet with loud cheers the plan to lease four water pumps, now being completed for this city's use, to Detroit for the balance of the summer. Perhaps the arrangement represents the best that could be gotten out of a bad deal, but that will be scant comfort if the antique pumps that we had hoped to replace break down in the middle of a hot spell.

COUNCIL IS TOLD OF PUMP SHIFT

U. S. to Pay City Bonus and Priorities are Promised

The four 40,000,000-gallon pumps which were to have been installed at the Lardner's Point Pumping Station will go to Detroit under a modified form of "lend-lease," Frederic D. Garman, president of City Council, announced today.

31

Anti-Pollution Group Says City Was 'Sold Down the River.'

Action of the Federal Government in depriving Philadelphia of the pumps it needs for its silt-polluted water supply is adding insult to injury, the Schuylkill River Valley Restoration Association decided at its annual meeting last night.

Will Protest to WPB.

He was referring to the recent War Production Board order transferring to Detroit four 40,000,000-gallon pumps which were to have been delivered here next month.

Urges 4-Point Plan.

He urged a four-point program for carrying on the anti-pollution fight:

Brunner Raps Walkout.

Representative Charles H. Brunner, of Montgomery county, sponsor of the anti-silt bill, assailed the 70-odd legislators who refused to vote on the bill either way.

Officers Re-elected.

All the present officers of the association were re-elected, with the addition of Clarence Ebert, of Reading, and Mrs. C. C. Zanger, chairman of the Women's Relative Committee, as vice presidents.

MAXEY SAYS SUIT WON'T SOLVE CITY WATER PROBLEMS

Pocono Supply Only Way Out, He Says of Plea to Ban Silt Dumping

Chief Justice George W. Maxey, of the State Supreme Court, yesterday predicted Philadelphia will never solve its water problem until it utilizes streams in the Pocono Mountains as its source of drinking water.

Gives Informal Opinion

The Chief Justice's opinions were voiced informally as the city moved to have the high court review a 46-year-old decree restraining coal companies from dumping silt into the river.

Court Suggests Plan

The court thereupon suggested that the orderly procedure would be for the City Solicitor to file a petition for use on the various companies to show cause why the proposed amended bill should not be filed.

Asks About Bootleggers

When the City Solicitor informed the court of the city's desire to name new defendants, Chief Justice Maxey asked whether any coal bootleggers were among them.

Neeson Signs Pact To Lease Pumps

Director of Public Works John H. Neeson and Government officials yesterday signed an agreement in Washington by which Philadelphia loaned Detroit four 40,000,000-gallon water pumps and four motor generators designed for use in the city's water system.

Justice Drew Displeased

Justice James B. Drew seemed displeased with the form of the city's procedure. "I don't see how you can add new defendants to this old action," he said.

Justice Drew Displeased
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Green insisted that the city was prepared to present evidence to show that the 22 additional defendants were contributing to the nuisance the court had ordered abated.

Advices New Supply

It was at this point that Maxey suggested that it would be cheaper in the long run for the city to get its drinking water from the Poconos.

Coal Firm Accuses City

A formal answer to the suit, filed by Robert W. White, president of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, accused the city itself of responsibility for pollution of the rivers.

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The equipment is to be used in Detroit until Oct. 31, when it is to be returned to Philadelphia.

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RIVER SILT TAXES FILTERING PLANTS

Aging Machinery Must Cleanse Water Growing Constantly Muddier
Philadelphia's filtering plants must remove more silt and other substances from the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers now than when the plants were new.

The plants must do this even though they are greatly in need of rehabilitation and improvements, according to a survey made by the Bureau of Municipal Research.

At the Delaware River, Torredale plant, official records for the first 10 years, 1914-1923, show a yearly average of daily sediment tests was 1.3 parts per million; the last 10 years, 1933-1943, average was 78 parts.

The Torresdale plant during 1942 pumped 549 billion gallons of water and removed 10,210 tons of sediment. The Schuylkill River Belmont plant removed 8687 tons of sediment from 20.9 billion gallons.

NEW CITY CONFERENCE ON PUMP TRANSFER

The problem of whether Detroit is to get four 40,000,000-gallon pumps originally destined for Philadelphia's \$18,000,000 water improvement project was thrashed out yesterday by War Production Board and city officials in the office of Director of Public Works John H. Neeson.

NEED AS GREAT

Neeson and other city officials hold that Philadelphia's needs are just as great, because the pumps are to be installed at Lardner's Point, where they will serve such war plants as the Navy Yard, Cramp's, Frankford Arsenal and Midvale Steel.

The pumps now are being manufactured for the city, and are expected to be completed by July 15. The motor sets already are delivered and are in storage here.

Accompanying Gorman were Herbert S. Marks, acting director of the power division of WPB, and Harvey S. Howe, chief of the water equipment section of WPB.

NELSON COMMENDS CITY 'LEND-LEASE' DEAL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—The diversion of Philadelphia's four 40,000,000-gallon water pumps to Detroit last May was termed "the first municipal lend-lease" deal today by War Production Board Chairman Donald Nelson in a letter to Major General Philip B. Fleming, Federal Works Administrator.

Mayor and Council Decide on Lease to FWA at \$6000 Rental.

The city decided yesterday to embark on its first "lend-lease" venture.

At an informal meeting of City Council with Acting Mayor Samuel in the Mayor's City Hall reception room, it was agreed to lend Detroit—for three and a half months—the four water pumps sought by the War Production Board for that city.

The agreement, suggested by WPB, is scheduled to be confirmed formally by a resolution of Council at its regular meeting today, and by the Acting Mayor's signature afterward.

According to the resolution, Director of Public Works John H. Neeson will be authorized to lease to the Federal Works Agency for \$6000 the four pumps and four accompanying motor generator sets to run them.

After that the equipment will be returned to the city. In consideration of the loan, the WPB will assure the city of the needed priorities for critical material necessary to install two of the pumps and motor sets at Lardner's Point pumping station.

The WPB also will reopen the question of the city's water system needs, and on the basis of this summer's experience will consider the granting of priorities for transmission facilities, switch gear and transformers to install the remaining two pumps and motor equipment in time for next summer's requirements.

Yesterday's decision followed a trip by Director Neeson to Detroit two weeks ago to ascertain the situation there at first hand.

After his trip, however, Neeson is said to have been convinced that Detroit's needs during the summer would be critical, and he and the Acting Mayor are understood to have reversed their stand.

The pumps now are being manufactured for the city, and are expected to be completed by July 15. The motor sets already are delivered and are in storage here.

Sensible Compromise

THE spirit of accommodation in which the disposition of the City's new water pumping equipment has been settled reflects high credit on everybody concerned.

Philadelphia concedes that Detroit faces a water supply crisis this summer and lets it have the pumps, not forever, as originally proposed, but until October 31.

By agreeing to the delay Philadelphia may have won for itself better understanding of its needs at Washington and better co-operation in completing the overhauling of its water works.

Philadelphians naturally feel that since they ordered this equipment they should have it. In such times as these many matters previously purely local in import must be regarded from the standpoint of national welfare.

The ancient equipment at Lardner's Point will have to stumble along a few months longer than had been expected, so it behooves all patrons of the city waterworks to make its burden as light as possible.

A breakdown would be most unpleasant.

Neeson Outlines Phila. Postwar Projects Plan

An ambitious \$350,000,000 program for the expansion and development of Philadelphia, immediately after peace releases labor and materials, was outlined last week by Director of Public Works John H. Neeson.

He disclosed projects, mapped by the Philadelphia Planning Commission, at a one-day session of a Postwar Planning Conference sponsored by the construction industry and the Pennsylvania Committee of the American Roadbuilders Association at the Bellevue-Stratford.

Specifically, Neeson outlined plans for: An elevated, super-highway over Delaware ave. from a point near Oregon ave. northward for a distance of about five and one-half miles, with selected interchange points for local traffic.

Widening of the approaches to the Delaware River bridge, a project for which clearance already has been obtained through condemnation proceedings.

Highway improvements on Henry, Aramingo, Stenton and Pennsylvania aves., revision of Roosevelt boulevard from Oxford Circle eastward, with an underpass at Hunting Park ave. and an underpass at the East River Drive and Ridge ave.

Improvements in sewage disposal, drainage and water works, extension of flood control, expansion of railroad terminals, hospitals and other institutions and development of parks and other recreation areas.

Opening to industry potentially usable areas adjacent to the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, through completion of road plans for Penrose and Essington aves., 26th st., and the Oregon ave.-Vare ave.-34th st. network to Gray's Ferry.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 1, 1943

Cheaper to Tap Poconos For Water, Maxey Says

Litigation Is No Solution, Supreme Court Justice Tells City at Silt Hearing

The city will find it cheaper in the long run to bring its drinking water from Pocono Mountain streams than to eliminate coal silt from its present Schuylkill water supply, Chief Justice George W. Maxey of the State Supreme Court declared here yesterday.

He made the statement during argument before the court on the city's petition to file an amended bill of complaint against coal mining companies operating in the Schuylkill Valley. The city seeks to prevent them from dumping mine and breaker refuse into the river and its tributaries.

The court yesterday granted City Solicitor Robert McCay Green permission to file a petition asking amendment of the original bill, so that the names of 22 companies which have come into existence since the bill was filed in 1896 may be added to the two remaining original respondents.

1907 INJUNCTION RECALLED

In 1907, the high court handed down a decree restraining the principal coal companies of the valley from dumping silt into the Schuylkill, but the order was held in abeyance when attorneys for the companies informed a master in the case that they were taking measures to prevent further pollution.

The city contends that such measures were not taken, and that the companies are still responsible for conditions which make the waters of the stream virtually unfit for consumption.

In answer to the city's suit, also filed yesterday, the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. denied that mining operations were responsible for pollution of the Schuylkill and accused Philadelphia itself of causing the present condition.

CITES INDUSTRIAL WASTES

"Any inferiority of the Philadelphia water supply for drinking and domestic purposes is not in any respect attributable to mining operations," Robert V. White, president of the company, charged in its answer, but "is primarily due to the discharge into the river, both above and in Philadelphia, of the wastes of manufacturing plants." The company asked dismissal of the city's petition, filed last May 15, and of the original bill of complaint.

Thomas C. Egan, representing two of the companies named in the amended bill, pointed out that one was formed in 1939 and the other in 1943. Arguing against the city's petition, he said that they should not be bound by the record of the original proceedings, and that they could not be held responsible for dumping silt into the river when they did not exist.

MAXEY GIVES VIEWS

In informal discussion of the city's water supply problem during the hearing, Chief Justice Maxey told Green that an estimate of \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 as the cost of dredging the silt now blocking the river "sounds absurd to me." He said he had heard previously that the cost would be nearer \$50,000,000. Though conceding Green's right to file the petition, he added:

"I'll predict that eventually you'll have to go into the Poconos and dam those beautiful streams to get your water. I do not think this situation can be solved by litigation. The solution lies for statesmanship."

"In the long run, I think it would be cheaper for the City of Philadelphia to tap the abundant streams of the Poconos than to try to get the mine people to spend all this money to prevent silt in the river."

Five Fined For Violating Food Laws

Magistrate N. Edwin Lindell yesterday imposed fines totaling \$300 on five individuals and firms on charges of violating the Pennsylvania food laws. Six other store owners were permitted to sign affidavits charging jobbers and packers with having sold them foodstuffs below the quality standards set by the State Department of Agriculture.

James Calio, an official of the Philadelphia Ice Cream Co., S. 9th st. near Ellsworth, paid fines of \$25 each on two charges preferred by Raymond Regan, chief agent for the Bureau of Food and Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture.

INSUFFICIENT BUTTERFAT

Regan testified that analysis of ice cream sold by the firm showed it contained 7.6 butterfat. The State requirements call for 10 percent butterfat. Calio was also fined for selling ice cream containing brine.

Max Lions, of N. 12th st. near Spring Garden, was fined \$50 on a charge of having meat in his show case which was termed by Regan "unfit for human consumption."

TWO FINES IMPOSED

Two fines of \$50 each were imposed on the Giant Tiger Co., operators of a store at 41st and Chestnut sts. They were charged with selling sausage with excessive fat content.

Leo Smith, of W. Huntingdon st. near 26th, had his fine of \$50 paid on a sausage violation by Edward Collins, an attorney, who said he was representing the Rath Packing Co., which Smith said sold him the sausage.

Mrs. Pauline Kimelman, Ridge ave. near 27th st., paid a \$50 fine for selling frankfurters containing cereal.

AFFIDAVITS SIGNED

Affidavits were signed by five store owners, alleging that sausage purchased by agents were furnished by packers, who will be arraigned later, said Regan. They were: Louis Feldman, of W. Lehigh ave. near 24th st.; Victor Santella, of S. 58th st. near Hadfield; Samuel P. Oszuto, of Lindbergh boulevard near 61st st.; Samuel Torrans, of N. 12th st. near Columbia ave., and Mrs. Reba Rudnick, of Haverford ave. near 60th st.

Mrs. Bessie Skorupsky, of N. 12th st. near Poplar, signed an affidavit saying she purchased lemon pie, alleged to have contained coal tar, from a bakery. She was not fined.

INQUIRY 33

Pocono Water Called Costly

JULY 2, 1943

Cheaper to Clean Up Schuylkill, Is Neeson Reply to Justice Maxey

Director of Public Works John H. Neeson declared yesterday that the proposal to tap Pocono Mountain streams for a new source of water supply would be 10 times more costly than ridding the Schuylkill of silt, provided the stream were kept clean permanently.

Chief Justice George W. Maxey, during a hearing Wednesday on the city's suit to prevent further pollution of the Schuylkill, described as "absurd" municipal engineers' estimate that the river could be cleaned up for between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000. Justice Maxey added that the cost probably would "be nearer \$50,000,000."

Neeson declared yesterday that the estimated cost of removing silt from the river had been reduced after many surveys by competent engineers.

CAN HAVE GOOD WATER

Neeson said if Philadelphia residents were to choose between Pocono Mountain water and the present water supply, they would undoubtedly select the mountain water.

"But," he said, "Philadelphia can have good water from the Schuylkill if the stream is cleaned up and no further silt or debris is emptied into it."

"Contrary to public opinion, Pocono Mountain water is not virginal or free from contamination. It would have to be treated, although not to the extent that is required for our present supply."

'EVIDENCE OF FAITH'

Commenting on remarks by the Court that up-State communities were contributing to the pollution of the Schuylkill by emptying sewage into the river, Neeson said all the towns and cities joining with Philadelphia in fighting pollution were taking steps to prevent further contamination of the water.

"All of these communities," he said, "have installed some sewage disposal equipment and are planning to improve it. The fact they have joined with Philadelphia in an effort to clean up the river appears, to me, to be evidence of their good faith in the matter."

Water, Water Everywhere But Not a Drop to Drink



INUNDATED BY WATER FROM A BROKEN MAIN was this portion of Thirty-second St., looking toward Liberty Ave. Water seeped up through the ground and then covered the street several inches deep.



TRAFFIC MOVED SLOWLY THROUGH THE FLOOD zone at Thirty-second St., where the road was blocked off to prevent possible damage. The water gurgled up out of the ground in numerous spots and then roared down lifted curbstones six inches into the air in

List of the City's Many Water Surveys

1798 **JAN 5 1944** 1920
 Benjamin H. Latrobe, engineer of "superior talent and industry," engaged to study the practicability of obtaining a water supply within a reasonable distance of the city.

1811
 Further investigation of the Schuylkill and of Wissahickon and Spring Mill Creeks by John Davis and Frederick Graff.

1866
 After preliminary surveys of sources, H. M. P. Birkinbine, Chief Engineer of the Water Department, recommended the Perkiomen.

1867
 Park Commission reported that the Schuylkill could be relied upon for many years if properly guarded from pollution.

1875
 A commission appointed to investigate the water problem made no recommendation as to future supply, simply stating that although it was too costly to be considered at that time, only practicable scheme for the future was the Perkiomen Reservoir and Conduit.

1882
 Board of experts recommended increasing the capacity of existing works. This led to a survey which recommended that no water be taken from the Schuylkill or from the Delaware below Trenton because filtration was not considered practicable.

1883-86
 A series of reports by Engineer Rudolph Hering.

1899
 Commission of engineers recommended filtration. Recommendation followed by the city.

1920
 Board of four consulting engineers reported on inadequacies and defects. No action.

1924
 Water Commission thought existing sources too badly polluted to be treated with single filtration (some water is now double filtered); recommended abandonment of Schuylkill and use of Tohickon and Perkiomen creeks; leaned toward abandonment of Delaware if it could be financed.

1933
 Army engineers recommended dam at Tock's Island on the upper Delaware.

1937
 Commission appointed to elect a new source recommended, after a month's study, the upper Lehigh Valley and Poconos. Mayor Wilson stated the cost would be \$74,000,000. A revised estimate by a subcommittee of the Commission put the figure at \$173,000,000.

1939
 Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin recommended that the city discontinue the Schuylkill. Schuylkill River Valley Restoration Association advocated cleaning the Schuylkill and continuing its use.

1940
 Morris Knowles, Inc., consulting engineers, advised that "modern purification plants are capable of producing a safe and potable water" from either the Schuylkill or Delaware, and that the supply would be adequate for a population of 2,500,000 if waste were eliminated through metering and otherwise.

1944
 Mayor Samuel proposes a commission to study "upland sources."

Upland Water Again

MAYOR SAMUEL'S inaugural address contains definite pledges of action along various lines of civic progress. It is sound in its selection of priorities among Philadelphia's needs. Water, sewage disposal, transportation, highway improvement, efficient city planning—all these receive their due emphasis. The Mayor is also alive to the critical problems involved in the coming change to a peacetime economy.

There is just one fly in the ointment. The Mayor is going to appoint a Commission to study upland sources of water supply. This is a subject various Commissions have studied off and on for more than 50 years.

There is something perennially alluring about the idea of bringing water long distances through aqueducts to Philadelphia. It conjures up pictures of crystal-clear bubbling springs in virgin forests—and of fat and profitable contracts involving many millions. On the latter account there will always be some one to push such projects and sell them on the first account to administrators of unquestioned probity.

When the Delaware and the Schuylkill supplies of gravity-delivered water show signs of inadequacy to meet Philadelphia's needs it will be well to look upland. But when that time comes, if ever, let nobody imagine that pure, wholesome water can be delivered by artificial means to our reservoirs. We shall then import, at tremendous cost, a raw product for processing into a safe potable water.

Taxpayers who stop to think—who realize that what they get they pay for—will not greet with three loud cheers any proposal that looks toward expenditure of fifty to a hundred million dollars for something we already have. The Mayor, to be sure, is not proposing any such expenditure; he promises to spend the people's money where it will do the most good. But it is disturbing to feel that somebody is bent on reviving schemes which have repeatedly blown up in the faces of their proponents when spotlighted by informed public opinion.

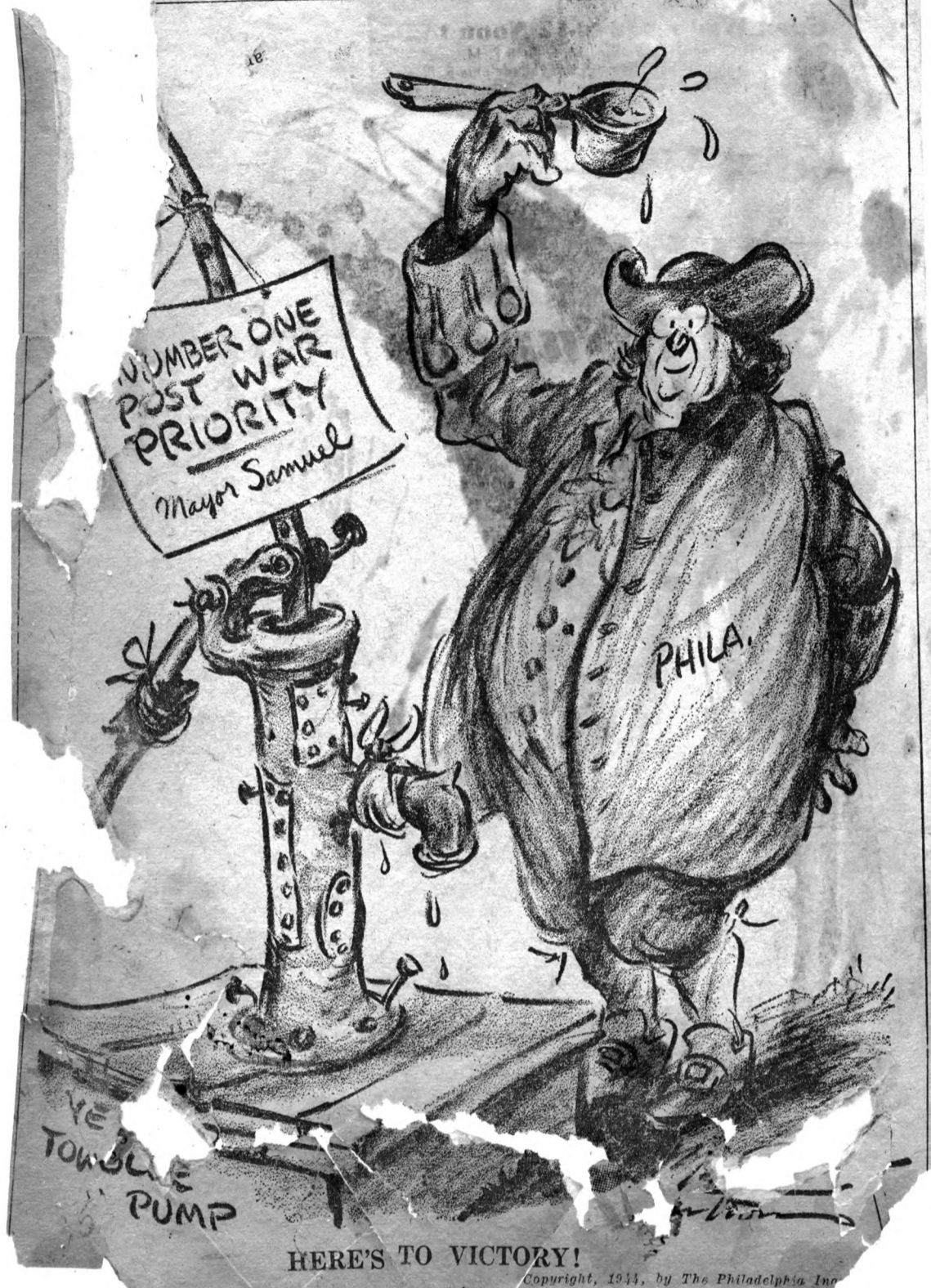
Upland Water History

THE Commission promised by Mayor Samuel to study upland sources of water supply will be able to keep busy for quite a while simply reading the reports of other commissions and experts. A list of these, with brief summaries of their conclusions, appears elsewhere on this page.

A great deal of what is said in the reports of earlier times has no present applicability except that it gives valuable perspective. The Commissioners would learn the extent to which present notions of what should be done are mere survivals of past notions which have lost their validity through advances in water purification techniques.

Thus, early proposals for abandoning the Schuylkill and lower Delaware were predicated on the supposed impracticability of filtration.

If the new Commission examines the situation in the light of modern waterworks practice, and with an eye on the taxpayers' pocketbooks, it is more than likely to decide that after modernizing the waterworks and cleaning up the upland sources, the city would be well to sit back and cash in on its good luck in having fresh water rivers right in its back yard.



New City Water Supply Is Pledged by Mayor

Inquire Illustrated on Page 6 1-4-44
 BY JOSEPH H. MILLER
 Mayor Samuel, inducted into a full four-year term yesterday, assured Philadelphians he intended to provide the city with a new upland source to supply adequate and pure drinking water.

The proposal was outlined in the Mayor's inaugural address at the Academy of Music as he presented a comprehensive and constructive post-war improvement program to provide jobs for returning service men and women.

WATER BOARD PLANNED
 First step in the plan to provide the city with a new source of water supply will be the appointment of a Water Commission to survey sites and make recommendations, he asserted.

While this is being done, the Mayor said that during his Administration he would complete the city's sewage disposal system, and extend underground drainage, in a move to end pollution of the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers so that more "potable water" will be furnished the city's residents.

1500 ATTEND CEREMONY
 Samuel's oath of office was administered by Judge Raymond Mac-

observed inauguration day by taking time out between 9:40 A. M. and 9:50 "because of the heavy and unexpected load" brought on by the crowds that converged on the building to witness the induction of City Councilmen and other officials.

"Despite what we have named Bill said, we have the finest, greatest and best city in the United States. The people of Philadelphia chose wisely when they elected Barney Samuel as their Mayor of our great city and these 21 men as members of Council. I wish them four happy years and a wonderful administration."

Republican City Chairman David W. Harris, who is State Secretary of Revenue, said he was "particularly pleased to hear Mayor Samuel say that campaign promises and pledges are to be kept."

Governor Sends Best Wishes
 George I. Bloom, secretary to the Governor, extended the Chief Executive's compliments and best wishes. Secretary of Internal Affairs William S. Livengood, Jr., brought greetings from Western Pennsylvania.

Occupying a place of honor at the ceremonies was the Mayor's wife, Mrs. Eleanor Samuel. She sported a rare orchid presented by Charles H. Grakelow, a florist, who is Director of Supplies and Purchases. The flower, mottled green, was described by Grakelow as "the only one of its kind in the world." It was of the species of the Order of Cypripedium and came from a valuable plant, the property of Grakelow, which produces one bloom a year.

City Hall lights and elevators

Without further ado, the Mayor, attired in double-breasted suit of grayish blue, went into his speech, which covered 12 typewritten pages and required 25 minutes to deliver. Samuel spoke without attempts at oratory or gestures and was not once forced to pause for applause. At the end, he received a cordial ovation.

At the beginning of his speech, the Mayor pledged himself and the 21 Republican members of Council elected with him to carry out their campaign pledges.

"Those pledges were sincerely made," he said. "Today, we rededicate ourselves to their fulfillment. We shall keep faith with the people of Philadelphia and with the help of Almighty God we shall not fail."

Water Dominates Speech
 It soon became apparent that water was uppermost on the Mayor's mind and that in his heart he was not convinced that the present sources of supply could be put in satisfactory shape. "There are, of course," he said, "two projects which stand out only as preferential in my administration but in the estimation of our citizens, as sorely needed to our mutual best interest. The first, of course, is water. The other is the earliest possible resumption and completion of our sewage treatment facilities and extension of our underground drainage system."

City to Complete Dredging in July

The work of dredging the rowing course on the Schuylkill will be completed in time to insure holding of scheduled regattas on the river this summer, Director John H. Neeson, of the Department of Public Works, announced yesterday.

The Director said the job got under way May 9 and, barring unforeseen delays, would be finished early in July. He said the course, extending a mile upstream from Columbia Bridge along the east bank, is in such shape it can be used pending completion of the work.

4 LANES TO BE DREDGED
 The \$70,000 appropriated by City Council, Director Neeson explained, is sufficient to dredge only four of the six lanes. Each of the four lanes, he said, will be six feet deep and 50 feet wide when the work is concluded.

"The dredging, which is being done by the Conduit and Foundation Corp., of Philadelphia," said the Director, "is confined to lanes three to six inclusive. At the present time we can do nothing about lanes one and two, which have been turned into mud flats due to dumping of silt in the river."

COULD 'ALTER POLICY'
 "Now that the State Sanitary Water Board has prohibited further

PHILADELPHIA RECORD
Pure Water
 CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE
 By THOMAS P. O'NEIL

dumping of silt," continued Director Neeson, "we will be able to alter our policy of dredging merely to keep abreast of the silt and concentrate on actually cleaning up the river.

Meanwhile, as a further aid to oarsmen, the city—with its own maintenance men—is digging a channel in front of boathouse row to permit rowing shells to enter and leave the boathouses. This will be completed in a month.

Pure Water Pledged City By Samuel at Inaugural

Mayor Promises to End River Pollution by Improving Sewage Disposal; Will Name Commission to Study Upland Sources; 1000 Attend Ceremony

By THOMAS P. O'NEIL

To the tune of "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here," trailing off somewhat unhappily into "All We Do Is Sign the Payroll," Bernard Samuel yesterday stepped into office as Mayor of Philadelphia.

Pledges Pure Water Program

As he dropped his title of Acting Mayor, Samuel immediately pledged a pure water program. Without reservation, he committed himself, his administration, City Council and the new City Planning Commission to:
1. Purification of the city's present sources of drinking water—the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers—by the elimination of pollution through completion of sewage disposal facilities and extension of the underground drainage system.
2. Consideration of the feasibility of tapping upland sources for the city's water supply, the question to be studied by a commission to be appointed by the Mayor and its report to include the basis of a plan for financing the project.

Was Promised Before

In making water the principal topic of his inaugural address, heard by a rainy day crowd of about 1000 in the Academy of Music, Samuel set no precedent, but rather repeated the promises of a long line of predecessors.

Read editorial, "The New Mayor Faces a Great Opportunity."

But the pledge to appoint a commission to look into upstate sources of supply, while not new, represented a concession.

Defended Present System

In the campaign that preceded his decisive victory at the November 2 election, the Mayor repeatedly and emphatically defended the present water system—the principal target of the Democrats.

While Samuel made it clear that the cleaning up of the Delaware and Schuylkill is to be first in his program, he left no doubt that he is willing to yield to public opinion if it insists on something better than "Chlorine

Cocktails" of river water.

"Because of the apparent desire on the part of our citizens for a new water supply and the controversies that have been going on for years over this question," he said, "I will appoint a commission to make a complete and thorough survey of sites and recommendations."
Past Reports Available

After pointing out that many reports of past surveys will be available to his commission, the Mayor continued:

"The people of Philadelphia have a right, if they desire, to receive a supply of water drawn from upland sources rather than from the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, regardless of whether or not those streams could be made free of pollution. Unless a new source is secured, it may be that our city's would continue to hold restorations in their hands as to the quality of our water."

"More adequate transportation must be provided for the great northeastern section, particularly between Oxford Circle and Pennypack Circle," he said. "There a great area awaits development and will provide housing facilities for many thousands of families and substantially increase the tax revenue of the city."

Refers to Bullitt

The first political touch—exclusive of the band's pardonable "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here" serenade—was given to the inauguration by Lieutenant Governor John C. Bell, Jr., who represented the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Obviously referring to William C. Bullitt, Democratic candidate for Mayor, the Lieutenant Governor said:

City Warned Of Shortage In Water

\$250,000 Asked To Clean Basin

Warning that Philadelphia faces a water famine this summer unless the sedimentation basin at the Torresdale pumping station is cleaned, Director of Public Works John H. Neeson yesterday urged members of City Council's Finance Committee to make an immediate appropriation of at least \$250,000 to do the work.

The basin, which has not been cleaned in 30 years, is so clogged, declared Mr. Neeson, that the pumping capacity of the station has been reduced by 60 to 70 percent.

WAR PLANTS AFFECTED

Martin J. McLaughlin, chief of the Water Bureau, told the committee that further curtailment of the water supply would seriously affect war plants in the highly industrialized area served by the station. It has a daily capacity of 240,000,000 gallons and serves the section along the Delaware River, as well as Fox Chase and Somerton.

Chief McLaughlin explained that the situation was further complicated by lack of manpower to clean the filter beds at the pumping station and approved a recommendation by Councilman George D. Mansfield that convict labor be used to do the work. He said at least 70 workers were needed, and only 30 regular employes were available at present.

Director Neeson said he had anticipated such a proposal and revealed that plans were being prepared to employ 40 inmates from Holmesburg County Prison on the filter beds.

NO IDLE FUNDS AVAILABLE

L. Wallace Egan, chairman of the committee, explained that while the city had no idle funds for the basin cleaning job it might be possible to obtain the money through departmental transfers. Councilmen Clarence K. Crossan and Mansfield, however, proposed that an emergency loan be floated.

Council, at its weekly session, approved the Mayor's appointment of Dr. John L. Haney, former president of Central High School, to the board of trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia, and the reappointment of Joseph Carson, president of the Fairmount Park Commission, and Giuseppe Donato, sculptor of the Art Jury.

Pledged City by Samuel at Inaugural



Bernard Samuel is shown taking the oath of office as Mayor of Philadelphia from President Judge Raymond MacNelle yesterday at inauguration ceremonies at the Academy of Music.

PHILADELPHIA RECORD, FRI

CITY IS FACING 'WATER CRISIS,' NEESON WARNS

He Reveals Plan to Clean Torresdale Filter Beds With Convict Labor

Philadelphia faces a possible "water crisis" this summer, Public Works Director John H. Neeson warned yesterday in announcing a plan to clean the Torresdale filter beds with convict labor at a cost of \$250,000.

The beds have not been cleaned in 30 years, Neeson told the City Council Finance Committee, and "sedimentation is so bad that capacity has dropped 60 or 70 percent." Decreased supply and increased demand from war industries make a water shortage certain unless action is taken now, Neeson said.

Mayor Samuel and Superintendent of County Prisons Frederick S. Baldi have approved the use of convict labor, the Councilmen were told. The regular maintenance force of 80 men at the filter beds is now down to 30, Neeson said, because many have left the city employ to enter war industry. The city used convict labor at the Torresdale pumping station to safeguard the water supply during the recent strike of municipal employes.

On Neeson's recommendation the committee approved transfer of an unused \$100,000 WPA appropriation to a special fund to be used for a survey of leakage in city water mains.

Professor Offers New Water Plan

William S. Pardoe, professor of hydraulic engineering at the University of Pennsylvania and chairman of the Committee of 70's water committee, last night advanced a new proposal for Philadelphia's future water source which he estimated would cost less than a third of the Wallpack Bend plan favored by City Council.

Mr. Pardoe outlined his proposal at the fourth in a series of meetings, and the first held at night, of the Council's Public Works Committee.

COST PUT AT \$110,423,000

He asserted that his "Trenton-Warrington" plan would entail a capital cost of \$110,423,000, as compared to approximately \$347,000,000 for the Wallpack Bend plan. It would involve, he said, using Delaware River water below the Trenton Falls, rather than above them.

The operating costs of his plan, he added, would be \$4,455,000 a year, or \$330,000 less than Wallpack Bend, and an annual income of \$11,805,000 would be realized—an amount 61.5 percent of \$7,300,000 above the current income.

'1000 DISPLACED PERSONS'

Joseph Barnes, speaking for 100 Warrington township residents, protested against any water project which would make displaced persons of more than 1000 citizens of his community.

Discussing the Wallpack Bend project, now favored by City Council, James H. Allen, executive secretary and chief engineer of the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, said that the State of New Jersey was "ready and willing to share the cost and operating expense of Wallpack," and that a Pennsylvania-New Jersey water contract would be approved by both State Legislatures at their next sessions.

Mayor Samuel's Constructive Plan

When Bernard Samuel took the oath of office yesterday as Mayor of Philadelphia for a full term he accepted one of the heaviest responsibilities ever placed upon a new executive.

The job of Mayor the next four years will be no picnic. A period of wartime strain will be followed by that of post-war readjustment, with its employment problem for those returning from military service and those now engaged in war industry. Clamoring for attention, too, will be multitudes of public improvements long needed by this city and long withheld.

It is good to know that Mayor Samuel is not only conscious of the magnitude of the job ahead but is prepared to attack it in a practical way. He has a blue-print for action already laid out. He presented it in his inaugural message and it shapes up as a sensible, constructive plan.

Two agencies will handle the details, the already-at-work City Planning Commission and a separate Commission soon to be appointed for the specific task of studying new water sources for Philadelphia.

Water supply, denominated by Mayor Samuel as the Number One Project, is to be brought at last out of the cedar-chest after years of procrastination. The incoming administration is going to work on it.

The sewage-disposal project is also to be whipped into final shape, ready for action the minute manpower and equipment are freed for the work.

These two improvements rightly top the list, but Mr. Samuel's schedule is not confined to them by any means. He looks ahead to a great system of highway betterments, to the completion and extension of high-speed transit lines, to the removal of the "Chinese Wall" and to the addition of new parks, playgrounds and institutional buildings.

It is noteworthy that all these projects were urged by Inquirer readers in the recent symposium. That survey revealed the public's intense interest in needed improvements. Mr. Samuel's inaugural message shows the importance he places upon getting those improvements under way.

The Mayor is in an exceptionally fortunate position. He has his own wide experience in municipal matters to rely upon. He has the co-operation of a large Councilmanic majority elected on the same ticket with him. He has the good-will of Philadelphia citizens, who kept him at the Mayor's desk by a large vote plurality and who wish him every success.

He told the people yesterday, as he brought his address to a close, that he holds that "Government is a trust . . . created for the benefit of the people." That is a solid foundation for any public administration. Standing firmly on that, he can't go wrong.

Break Stops Supply Of Water Down Town

(Continued From Page 1)

Children had a picnic in the water and one resourceful Negro boy, about 12, set up a plank bridge on stones across flooded Strawberry Alley, charging "customers" three cents to cross.

Many downtown restaurants feared they would have to close before the noon lunch hour because water pressure was so low it was difficult to wash dishes and make coffee. Most of them, however, remained open, although in some cases patrons were served one glass of drinking water.

Supply Is Diverted

What water there was in the Lawrenceville and Downtown districts was coming in principally through a main over the Point Bridge and another under the Allegheny River at Twenty-seventh St.

Water was diverted into these mains by the City after the break was spotted. Also unaffected was the main over the Tenth St. Bridge which feeds water primarily to the outer Fifth Ave. area.

Many housewives were forced to forgo cooking. Hundreds of homes and business establishments were unable to use lavatory facilities, but the City Health Department said it did not fear any health hazard would arise.

Fire Engines Checked

Meanwhile, the Fire Department prepared for any possibility by checking booster tank capacity.

Fire Chief William H. Davis explained that trucks carry 100-gallon booster tanks and that, in event of fire, alarms will be sounded for additional trucks if the answering the initial call should be close to exhausting their supplies.

Chief Davis explained that a shuttle service of fire trucks could be instituted if necessary, whereby one group of trucks would fight the fire while another replenished its booster tanks by drawing water directly from the rivers.

Break Not Found

The water main is about four feet underground but workers were having difficulty in finding exactly where the break had occurred. Pending that, the city refused to specify a possible cause for the break.

Managing Engineer J. H. Kennon of the Bureau of Water Aid the water pressure at the city's gauge at Thirtieth St. and Twenty Ave. dropped from a normal 100 pounds to 30 pounds within hours.

SEWER RENT PLAN 'DISCRIMINATORY,' EXPERT DECLARES

But Witness Admits
Charge Based on Water
Use Is Fair

Philadelphia cannot have a fair sewer rent until all its 460,000 properties using water are metered, Prof. William S. Pardoe, of the University of Pennsylvania, declared at a City Hall hearing yesterday.

Pointing out that only 225,000 properties have meters, Pardoe declared an \$8 minimum rate for metered as against a \$15 minimum for nonmetered properties is inequitable and discriminatory. The proposed sewer rent, based on water rates, would be equally unfair, he said.

Sole Witness in Suit

Testifying as an expert hydraulic engineer, Pardoe was the sole witness yesterday in an equity suit before Judge Gerald F. Flood in Common Pleas Court No. 6 to halt the new levy, designed to finance the city's \$42,000,000 project to end its pollution of its rivers.

In cross-examination, however, City Solicitor Frank F. Truscott scored a point in defense of the new rent when he brought out that property owners have the privilege of installing water meters, though not forced to do so.

"Even if metered, though," Pardoe insisted, "the rent would be inequitable because so few people use the amount of water they are allowed under the minimum charges."

Pardoe also said: "I admit that the principle of basing sewer charges on water use is fair."

City Defeated Twice

The city has failed in two other efforts to devise a "sewer rent" that will pass legal muster. The two prior rents, based in whole or in part on real estate assessments, were ruled out by the State Supreme Court as being disguised real estate taxes. The new and third rent, ranging from 50 to 100 percent of water charges, is under attack by a taxpayer, by the Philadelphia Real Estate Board, by five neighborhood realty associations and by the United Businessmen's Association.

Truscott won a ruling by Judge Flood knocking out part of Pardoe's testimony. The hydraulics teacher cited tests at the university showing that different sizes of water pipe hooked up with the same size stopcock or "ferrule" permitted various rates of flow.

Since minimum rates vary according to the size of the ferrule, Pardoe contended those rates are not a fair measure of water use. That testimony was stricken out, however, when Truscott elicited an admission that Pardoe's tests were "based on an illegality" because of legal limitations on sizes of connecting pipes, ferrules and water meters.

City Gets 28 Allies

To the city's aid yesterday came 28 allies who were allowed to intervene in defense of the controversial sewer rent, which is intended to yield interest and carrying charges on the contemplated \$42,000,000 sewage-disposal loan. Intervening were the State, the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, the Schuylkill River Valley Restoration Association, the Philadelphia Boosters Association, the Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade of Philadelphia and other civic organizations.

The Philadelphia Real Estate Board, leader in the attack on the rent, yesterday pointed out that real estate taxpayers contribute nearly 50 percent in property taxes to the support of the city government. Attorney J. Wesley McWilliams told Judge Flood that such taxes, city and school, comprise \$71,000,000, or over 60 percent, of the \$118,000,000 collected by the city and the School District this year. The hearing will resume today.

Philadelphia
Water Department
Historical Collection
2004.019.012A

Post-War City Projects may Provide 120 Million Man-Hours of Jobs

A vast reservoir of jobs—120,000,000 man-hours of employment to cushion workers against the let-down from war activity—was envisioned today as one possible result of adoption of the City Planning Commission's program for a bigger and better Philadelphia. Announced yesterday by Mayor Samuel with the comment that the city will support the recommendations to the limit of its financial resources, the \$385,203,718 program is intended to be carried out in large measure between 1945 and 1950, inclusive. It calls for completion of these projects first:

1. Sewage collection and treatment.
2. Waterworks rehabilitation.
3. City-State highway program.
4. Removal of the so-called "Chinese wall," extension of the Mar-

ket st. subway to 42d st., at a cost of \$24,490,000; full development of the 30th St. Station facilities.

1,108 Projects on List

There are other projects—1,108 in all, including eventual erection of 16 new schools, work on the port and the building of a \$17,000,000 vehicular tunnel under the Delaware River. Of the construction projects there were 604 which the committee definitely recommended for quick action at an estimated cost of \$205,600,000.

The six-year summary was the first such report from the commission, of which Edward Hopkinson, Jr., is chairman. Under the ordinance by which it was created, the committee will submit annual reports in the future, each to cover a six-year period.

(Continued on Page Four, Column Five)

PHILADELPHIA RECORD

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1944

SECOND SECTION

Sewage a Fragrant Problem Since 1907



ABOUT 100 YEARS AGO it was possible to catch live fish in the Delaware at Tacony. Now the only fish in the river have been dead so long they add to the stench.

By LEEDS MOBERLEY

"The most important and urgent problem confronting the city is the collection and treatment of its sewage."

So declares the City Planning Commission in the report transmitting its first public improvements program to City Council—a preliminary schedule of projects recommended for development during the next six years.

"At the present time," the report continues, "the city discharges into the Delaware River at numerous points south of the Northeast sewage treatment works (at Wheatshoaf la.) and into the Schuylkill River below Fairmount Dam a daily average of 400,000,000 gallons of sewage, of which more than 80 percent does not receive even primary treatment."

DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

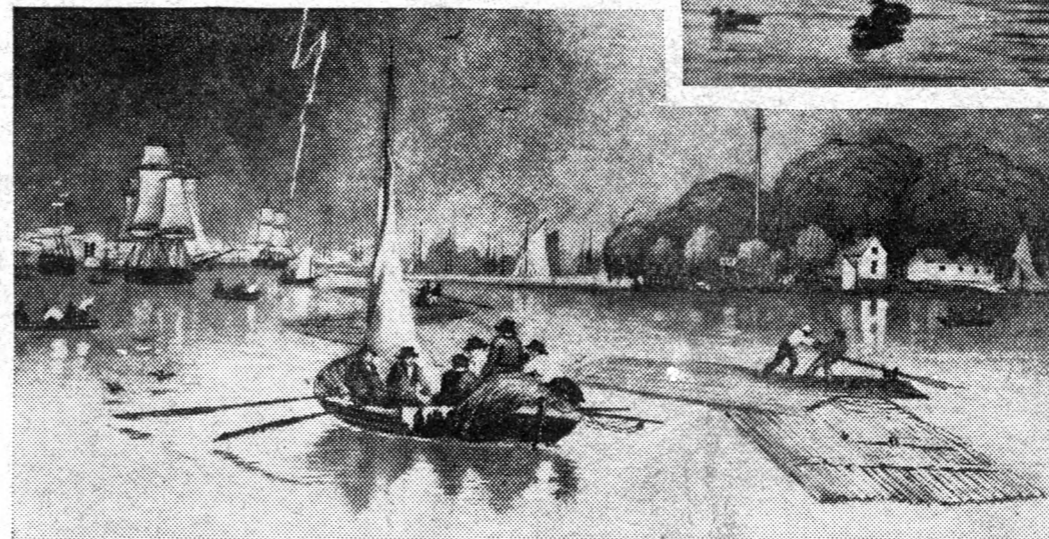
"This situation does not result in pollution of the city's own water supply, because of the protection already provided at the Northeast plant. However, it does produce evil-smelling, unsanitary and sometimes dangerous conditions in the principal watercourses of the city, with serious effects on the welfare of Philadelphia and on the commerce of the port."

"The protection already provided" at the Northeast plant doesn't amount to much; only a fraction of the sewage handled there is treated and the rest is dumped raw into the river. For all the commission's optimism on that point, many authorities declare that at low-water periods the incoming tide undoubtedly carries sewage upstream to the Torresdale intake.

But there is no disagreement about the other, "evil-smelling, unsanitary and sometimes dangerous" conditions which have converted our two rivers into open sewers and our port into a cesspool.

FISH CAN'T LIVE

Some of the older Philadelphians may remember the days when there was a big catch of



TRAFFIC JAMS on the river were common between here and Camden during the early days of the last century. Now shipowners complain that the water is so bad it damages the hulls of their vessels.

shad every year in the Delaware, but no fish can live in water that is so polluted it makes battleships turn green around the gills.

The port is busy now because of the war. The stuff has to move and Philadelphia has the facilities to move it—belt line railroads, good piers, easy accessibility, excellent loading equipment, efficient organization, an adequate and well-lighted channel.

The port, in fact, has everything except water fit for a ship to float in. Freshwater ports ordinarily are highly regarded by shipping men because a ship's hull does not become fouled with barnacles in fresh water—and because there is an unlimited source of fresh water for the boilers.

WATER HAZARD

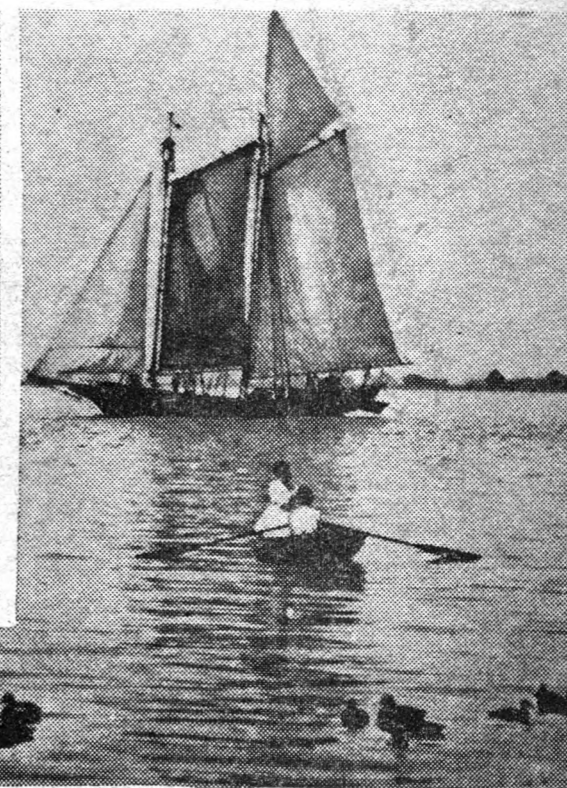
But nobody would dare pump Delaware River water into his boilers. Just the gases released by the putrefying sewage change the color of a ship's paint, corrode the exposed metal work

and nauseate men working around the waterfront. The chemicals in the water will eat through the plates of the hull in time.

The port is handling more than double its supposed capacity now (tonnage figures are a military secret) and the Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, through its merchant marine committee, is working on a program to keep it humming—and expand its business further—after the war.

It's a salesmanship job, a job of convincing shippers of Philadelphia's advantages, including the close link with Baltimore (now a favored port) through the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, which was finished only four years ago. For that reason, the committee lists correction of pollution as the port's greatest need.

As George E. Bartol, president of the Bourse and chairman of the committee, observes: "A shipowner will bring his vessel in here now if there is a



IN 1857, ducks used to paddle in the Delaware, as this old photograph shows. Now no self-respecting duck would be caught within a mile of the stream of his own free will.

fish and even swimming. Philadelphia is not the only city dumping sewage into the rivers, but is the worst offender and has been in no position to insist that other communities stop polluting the streams which provide its water supply. The State Sanitary Water Board recently ordered an end of the dumping of coal mine wastes into the Schuylkill, but generally the cleanup job has waited on Philadelphia.

PROBLEM SINCE 1907

Philadelphia has been dealing with the sewage disposal problem since 1907. A start was made on the construction of intercepting sewers in 1916 and approximately 50 miles have been built. But it took prodding by the State; and finally in 1922 the city made an agreement to spend \$3,000,000 a year on sewage disposal work.

It fell behind in 1929, and has done no construction since. It will take about \$39,600,000 to finish what needs to be done—extension and rehabilitation of the Northeast plant, construction of the Southwest and Southeast plants, on the lower Schuylkill and Delaware, respectively, together with construction of 57 miles of intercepting and other sewers.

Plans are about 65 percent completed and Mayor Samuel is counting on a start of construction the moment materials and manpower are made available after the end of the war in Europe.

Third of a series. Tomorrow's article on plans for hospitals, parks and playgrounds will appear on another page of The Record.

30 Groups Aid City in Sewer Suit

Support Given
To Rental Plan

More than 30 civic, professional and business groups yesterday came to the support of the city in a taxpayers' suit attacking the constitutionality of the sewer rent ordinance passed last April 20.

Hearing in the case, which opened yesterday before Judge Gerald F. Flood in Common Pleas Court No. 6, Room 696, City Hall, is on a suit in equity seeking to restrain the City of Philadelphia from putting the ordinance in effect.

SEWER RENTAL PLAN

The various groups were permitted by the Court to intervene to aid the city in its fight for the measure which would provide a sewer-rental plan to raise approximately \$42,000,000 to finance a sewage-disposal program to relieve pollution in the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers.

Plaintiffs in the action are John J. Gerick, 2537 S. 16th st., a Federal employe, the Philadelphia Real Estate Board, five real estate organizations and the United Business Men's Association.

TESTIMONY BARRED

The plaintiffs in the suit are being represented by J. Wesley McWilliams while City Solicitor Frank F. Truscott is arguing the case for the defendants, including Mayor Bernard Samuel and other city officials.

Testimony of W. Sprague Pardoe, professor of hydraulics of the University of Pennsylvania, regarding a number of tests he had made with various sizes of water pipes, ferrules and meters was ordered stricken from the record by Judge Flood who sustained an objection of Mr. Truscott.

DEFENSE OBJECTED

The Court ruled out testimony about the tests on the defense's objection that the sizes of pipes and meters used did not conform with existing ordinances.

Mr. Pardoe also testified that there could be no equitable sewer rates unless the entire city was metered 100 percent on water. He also told the court that the new sewer rent would be based on the amount of water bills now rendered but there would be no direct relationship between the new sewer bills and the quantity of water supplied.

AIDED BY DUFF

Mr. Truscott is being aided as intervenor by State's Attorney General James H. Duff, by Ellwood J. Turner, who filed an appearance for the Interstate Commission of the Delaware River Basin, and by James Allen Montgomery, Jr., who intervened in support of 23 civic organizations.

The Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce also intervened as a defendant, as did Judge Grover C. Lainer in behalf of the Schuylkill River Valley Restoration Association and the Philadelphia Boosters.

WATER RENT BASIS AIRED AT HEARING

Metering is Not Essential to Determine Fair Rate, City Engineer Says

Water metering is not an essential factor in determining a fair and equitable water rent, Nathan B. Jacobs, city consulting engineer, testified today at the third day of hearings on the equity suit to determine the validity of the proposed imposition of a sewer rental. The proceedings before Judge Gerald F. Flood, Room 696, City Hall, represent the third attempt to validate a sewer rental in connection with the financing of the city's proposed \$42,000,000 sewage disposal and sewer program. Two other city ordinances have been thrown out by the State Supreme Court. Jacobs' testimony contradicted that of Professor W. Sprague Pardoe, of the University of Pennsylvania, who testified yesterday for John J. Gericke, complaining taxpayer. Pardoe had testified it is impossible to have fair and equitable water rents, on which sewer rent is to be based, unless all properties are metered. At present only 47 per cent are metered. **Calls Metering Desirable** Jacobs conceded that metering of water is highly desirable, from a standpoint of water conservation, but said many other factors enter into the determination of a fair rate. "It is standard practice in large cities," said Jacobs, "to charge both a flat rate for unmetered service and a minimum rate for metered service." He said even the best meters are not absolutely accurate, and in connection with sewer rents which would be based on a percentage of the water rate rent, declared he never heard of the invention of a satisfactory sewer meter. Jacobs disagreed with the recommendation of Pardoe that standby or service charges included in water rents should be a flat rate based on the actual consumption of water. Such a formula has been ruled out by the Pennsylvania Utility Commission—for use by private companies, Jacobs said. Judge Flood pointed out the P. U. C. does not control the city's rates. **Calls Allowance too High** Jacobs agreed that the 8,000 cubic feet of water allowed for metered service at the minimum price of \$3 is too much, and said he would recommend that the quantity be reduced. He said the service given justifies this charge, of which \$5 is listed as a service charge. The chief purpose in cutting the minimum water allowance was to conserve water and prevent wastage, Jacobs said. Samuel A. Greely, of Chicago, a hydraulic and sanitary engineer, said a nationwide study of city water rents shows that the best type of sewer rental for Philadelphia is the proposed percentage of the water rent as set forth in Council's ordinance, enacted April 20.

Early Charge Denied

When Director John H. Neeson of Public Works was recalled briefly, J. Wesley McWilliams, counsel for Gericke, sought to show that the city would attempt to enforce the new sewer rents before the end of the war, even though the sewage disposal program should be held up. City Solicitor Frank F. Truscott denied this. Truscott told the court the language of the ordinances provides that rent cannot become effective until contracts for the work have been awarded. Beside Gericke the complainants who have joined the suit as intervenors are the Philadelphia Real Estate Board, represented by Philip Sterling and McWilliams; the North and West Philadelphia Realty Boards, for whom Oscar G. Bender is counsel; South Philadelphia Board, represented by Morris F. Levitt; Germantown board, John K. Coxe.

Flotation Plant To Remove Silt In Mine Water

Construction of a flotation plant by an anthracite coal company to remove silt from its waste waters was announced today by the Pennsylvania State Department of Commerce in its weekly compilation of new and expanded industry. Said to be the first plant of type, the new mill is being built by the Lehigh Navigation Coal Company at Tamaqua, Schuylkill County. The Tamaqua plant and two other proposed water clarifying units at the company's Coaldale and Lansford collieries will cost an estimated one million dollars. The new plant, built after years of experimentation, expects to make a profit on its coal recovery operations which will more than pay for its attempt to clarify mine waste waters. The project will be closely observed by other coal producers who may erect similar plants if the Lehigh project is successful. A New York manufacturer has leased a building in Scranton containing 10,000 square feet of floor space where 100 persons, mainly women, will be employed in the manufacture of misses' and junior dresses. The new company, said to be operated by Kenneth Wurga and Benjamin H. Lapin, will start operations in the factory formerly occupied by the Power Loom Rug Company after the first of the year. The rug company will move to a vacant building, formerly the E. Robinson Brewery, which it recently purchased. The Scranton Record Company has purchased three buildings from the Lackawanna Mills in a move to expand production facilities. The properties are in the South Scranton industrial area. Frank C. Douds and Company, Inc., has purchased from the Greater New Castle Association a property and lot on which it will build a plant enabling an increase in production facilities. The Douds Company, a long established local industry now working on high priority war material, plans to use the new building for peace time work. The Reading Chamber of Commerce reports the following industries have located in its area in the past thirty days. DeGeorge Clothing Manufacturing Company, L. D. Adams Engineering Company and the Wernersville Welding Company. Usually the more intelligent a conversation is the less there is of conversation.

Schuylkill Cleanup Near After 100 Years Pollution

By LEEDS MOBERLEY **Aggravation** The small quantity of water in the river aggravates the pollution; the sewage and industrial wastes discharged along the way reach Philadelphia's pumping stations in such a concentrated form that the bacteria count of raw Schuylkill water is even higher than that taken from the Delaware—which is polluted by Philadelphia's own sewage. At times of freshet, the river overflows because the shallowed channel is unable to carry the additional water. And as for navigation—the Federal Government, by dint of constant dredging, contrives to keep the lower part open, but only rowboats and canoes can navigate the upper reaches. Now the silt is even threatening to close off Boat-house Row. **Problem Acute** The mine waste problem is probably more acute in the Schuylkill valley than in any other coal field in the world. Mining is difficult in the area because of the formation of the coal measures, the Army Engineers found in an exhaustive survey in 1938, and "there is a tendency toward a higher production of undersized fine coal in mining than is encountered in any other field. This is one explanation for the large production of silt refuse which must be disposed of." About 15 percent of the coal mined even with modern methods is wasted. In the old days the waste was even higher. The coal was separated from the rock, slate and dirt dug up with it by dry screening and the residue was piled up in culm banks. Erosion of these old culm banks is one source of the present pollution clogging the river. About 1900 the wet process of coal recovery was introduced and the silting of the river was speeded up. The wet process is simply a matter of separating the coal from the wastes by washing. Under this process the residue is largely coal dirt—silt. Some mines, particularly the bootleg operations that sprang up during the depression, discharged this silt-laden waste water directly into the river. Others settled out the solids and piled them on culm banks, but these banks were far less stable than those from the days of dry screening and the erosion was rapid. A few of the larger operators have built settling basins which effectively retain the silt and prevent its being washed into the river. **Remedial Efforts Blocked** But efforts at remedial legislation to force all the operators in line were consistently blocked by the mining interests, which were able to get special exemptions whenever a pure streams bill was under consideration in the Legislature. It was not until 1937, during the Earle Administration, that a law was enacted covering both sewage and industrial pollution. Now, seven years later, the long overdue cleanup finally seems to be in sight. The State Sanitary Water Board, under prodding from the Schuylkill Valley Restoration Association and the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, finally cracked down on the mines last summer. This was the start of a \$25,000,000 industry-State-Federal program to restore the Schuylkill in a six-year period. **Details of Plan** The mines are to install proper equipment for removing the silt from their waste water and preventing erosion of their culm banks, at a total cost of \$6,000,000. The State is to dredge out the upper Schuylkill above Norristown at a cost of \$7,000,000 and build a \$2,000,000 desilting basin at Auburn to intercept the coal wastes from uncontrolled sources which will continue to move down from the headquarters for several more years. Gov. Martin has given the program his indorsement and legislation is now being drafted for introduction at the session which opens today. Meanwhile, efforts are being made to induce the Federal Government to dredge out the 9,000,000 tons of silt between Fairmount Dam and Norristown—a job estimated at about \$10,000,000. **Planned by Army Man** The cleanup program was drafted by the same man who plotted the D-Day landings in Normandy for Eisenhower—an Army engineer named John C. H. Lee. In 1938 Lee, now a lieutenant general, was a lieutenant colonel and district engineer stationed in Philadelphia. At that time the Federal Government declined to do any dredging in the non-navigable part of the river. The plan was to let the silt between here and Norristown gradually wash over the dam into the navigable part of the river, when the Government would scoop it out. **Want U. S. to Do It** Now the cleanup forces, led by Orphans' Court Judge Grover C. Ladner, president of the Schuylkill Valley Restoration Association, and the quasi-governmental Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, contend that since the Federal Government is going to do the dredging eventually anyway, it would be better to do it all at once and get it over. The Army engineers at Congress' direction are restudying the 1938 report and bringing it up to date with that proposal in mind. The restudy will be finished in about two weeks. **This is the second of three articles. Tomorrow: Do we need a new source of water?**

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M'GURK ASSAILS GOV. MARTIN FOR KEEPING STEWART Register of Wills Candidate Blames City for Water Problem

By THOMAS P. O'NEIL Edmund B. J. McGurk, Democratic leader of the 38th ward, last night criticized Gov. Martin for retaining Dr. A. Hamilton Stewart as State Secretary of Health. Dr. Stewart's removal had been requested by the U. S. Civil Service Commission for complicity in violation of the Hatch Act. **Recalls Martin's Praise** McGurk, Democratic candidate for Register of Wills, addressed a meeting of the 26th Ward Democratic Executive Committee, Broad and Moore sts. Recalling Gov. Martin's praise of Dr. Stewart in announcing Wednesday that he had no intention of dropping his health director, McGurk said: "What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." He referred to Hatch Act stipulations that no Federal employes can take part in politics. Scores of State Health Department employes are partially paid by Federal funds. Early this year Dr. Stewart was accused by the U. S. Civil Service Commission of "sharing the responsibility and participating in the coercion of Health Department employes to make political contributions" to the 1942 Republican campaign, a violation of the Hatch act. **Accuses City Administration** McGurk also urged Philadelphians to "see what has happened in connection with the \$18,000,000 bond issue issued by authority of the people in 1941 for improvement of Philadelphia's water system." He accused city officials of "frittering away more than \$850,000 of the money making preliminary surveys." "Mayor Samuel," said McGurk, "has now appointed a new commission to study the water situation. All he needs do is dust off some of the more than 50-year-old reports that have been accumulating dust." **High Wage Tax** He estimated that taxpayers "earning any sort of a decent wage" are paying between \$35 and \$50 annually in wage taxes. "These people are not getting anything for this money, but they continue voting the same old gang back into office," McGurk said. **Wanted to Study Water** McGurk also urged Philadelphians to "see what has happened in connection with the \$18,000,000 bond issue issued by authority of the people in 1941 for improvement of Philadelphia's water system." He accused city officials of "frittering away more than \$850,000 of the money making preliminary surveys." "Mayor Samuel," said McGurk, "has now appointed a new commission to study the water situation. All he needs do is dust off some of the more than 50-year-old reports that have been accumulating dust." **High Wage Tax** He estimated that taxpayers "earning any sort of a decent wage" are paying between \$35 and \$50 annually in wage taxes. "These people are not getting anything for this money, but they continue voting the same old gang back into office," McGurk said.

City Appoints Body to Study Water Supply Sullivan Chairman Of Group That Will Recommend Steps

Mayor Bernard Samuel yesterday announced the names of 20 members of a Water Commission created to study all available data on the city's water situation and to make recommendations for steps to be taken in the future. Ernest V. D. Sullivan, president of the Terminal Warehouse Co. and consultant in this area for the Federal Surplus Property Commission, was named chairman, and Samuel H. Rosenberg, executive secretary to the Mayor, was designated as secretary. **WILL REVIEW ALL DATA** Mayor Samuel asserted that the new commission would review all previous recommendations for the improvement of Philadelphia's water supply; examine data in the Department of Public Works files and all other reports and estimates relative to water supply, and, with the aid of technical advisers, make final recommendations for approval or disapproval at the polls, probably in 1946. In stressing that he felt the commission should make its own alternative suggestions, he declared that the body should: "First, set forth in detail what could be expected from the improvement of the present source of supply, in adequate quantity and quality of water required by the city, showing its cost. **SOURCE OF SUPPLY** Second, give a recommended source or sources of supply outside the city, showing the cost, the quantity and quality of water which could be received from them, and the methods suggested to finance the undertakings." He added that the commission, in determining "whether or not an improved present water source would insure a better quantity and quality of water required by the city," should consider "the improved and increased facilities in pumping stations, filtration plants and extended distribution being undertaken in the current \$18,000,000 water service project." **WORK DELAYED BY WAR** The project was authorized several years ago, but work on it has been delayed by the war. Mayor Samuel further stated that he "has in mind the preparation of a definite program, to be known as the Philadelphia Plan for the Improvement of its Water Supply," and said he wished to "re-emphasize the importance of the project and its bearing on the future" of the city. The project, he said, "is part of

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City Names Body To Study Water

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our post-war plan, and no time should be lost in the preparator and execution of plans that will establish our place permanently as a leader in industry and commerce and improve living conditions in our city." **OTHER MEMBERS OF GROUP** Other members of the water survey commission are: John H. Neeson, Director of Public Works; Martin J. McLaughlin, chief of the Bureau of Water; Frank F. Truscott, City Solicitor; Frederick Garman, president of City Council; Councilman Phineas T. Greer; Judge Grover C. Ladner, Robert J. Remmey, Jr., of Richard C. Remmey Son Co.; Lee Ellmaker, publisher Daily News; Gilbert J. Kraut, vice president and general counsel, Philadelphia Record; Robert McCay Green, assistant general manager, The Philadelphia Inquirer. Also, Herbert W. Goodall, president, Trademans National Bank; William H. Harmon, president, William Sellers & Co.; Joseph Burke, president, Building and Construction Trades Council of Philadelphia and Vicinity; James H. Allen, executive secretary, Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin; Earle N. Barber, president, Philadelphia Real Estate Board; George Cushing, president, United Businessmen's Association; Thomas Mallon, regional director, American Federation of Labor, and Harry Block, president, Philadelphia Industrial Union Council. **How Much Water?** The new Water Commission will find itself studying the quantity as well as the quality of water that can be taken by the city from the Delaware and Schuylkill. And in past reports it can get plenty of instruction on how to avoid going wrong on the amount that will be needed. A Water Commission that reported in 1924 put the average daily consumption at that time at 325,000,000 gallons and estimated that in 1975 the figure would be 500,000,000. But in 1944, 20 years later, the consumption averaged only 320,000,000 gallons a day. Summer conservation campaigns have been effective, but the savings from them have probably been more than offset by increased demands of war industries. One thing the 1924 Commission may have overlooked is the saving possible through detecting and stopping underground leaks. The latest pitometer survey is credited with saving 2,700,000 gallons a day. Another way to go wrong is to overestimate the city's future growth. A survey in 1914 predicted a population of 3,095,000 in 1950—leaving over a million to go in the present decade. Statistics like that easily build up a false case for acquiring additional sources. The firm of engineers that advised the city in 1940 believed that with proper conservation measures, including universal metering, the present sources were adequate for a population of 2,500,000.

Levy Asks Mayo Action On Clean

CARSON TO QU... Tees May Be

Levy Raps Committee Delay Asks Quick Action By Mayor

Isaac D. Levy, chairman of the board of the WCAU Broadcasting Company, urged Philadelphia citizens to support his radio crusade for better drinking water by writing letters and cards to Mayor Bernard Samuel demanding immediate action on purification measures. His plea was made in an address over WCAU last Friday night.

Levy's campaign, which has been almost completely ignored by newspapers here, has been steadily gaining supporters. Following his broadcast last week the station was swamped with telephone calls and mail.

In his talk last Friday night Levy declared "it is the duty of the Mayor to convene with Council and effect legislation to remedy the water condition. From previous reports he has all the necessary data. It was unnecessary to appoint another committee. The water sources from which we could receive excellent water have not change since previous reports were made.

The complete text of Mr. Levy's address follows:

On May the first I told you that WCAU urges and, if necessary, intends to compel the public officials to give the people of the city of Philadelphia the best drinking water obtainable. In that talk I pointed out to the Mayor, the city council and the members of the committee, whom the Mayor appointed, how the necessary legal mechanism could be set up in thirty days if they acted promptly. I sent all of these gentlemen a copy of my talk I want to inform the people who did not hear my previous talk that WCAU proposes to

(Continued on Page Two)



ISAAC D. LEVY

29th

Urges

November Vote on Water

Levy Asks Speedy Action To Place Issue On Ballot

The radio crusade of Isaac D. Levy, chairman of the WCAU Broadcasting Co., to provide decent drinking water for Philadelphians went into high gear last Friday night when the radio executive blasted Mayor Samuel's plan for a referendum on the issue.

Levy, who is conducting his campaign with little support from newspapers, charged that the people do not want a referendum on whether to "drink filthy or clean water." He stated that citizens want action, not "buck-passing."

Levy urged the Mayor to consult immediately with city engineers, arrange loans with banking institutions and start work on the project.

The text of Levy's speech follows:

On May 18th, I spoke to you
(Continued on Page Nine)

Phila. Water Plan Called Impractical

Legal difficulties in the way of the Wallpack-Yardley plan for using the upper Delaware River as a source for Philadelphia water make it impractical.

Robert L. Boyd, assistant secretary of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., so declared last night at the monthly meeting of the United Businessmen's Association at the Sylvania Hotel.

Boyd asserted that not only would New Jersey and Pennsylvania laws passed in 1783 and prohibiting diversion of river water have to be repealed, but that an interstate contract among New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania would have to be approved by Congress and the Army Engineers before the plan could be put into effect.

Levy Asks Speedy Action To Place Issue On Ballot

(Continued from Page One)

about the insistence of WCAU that the public officials of this city perform their sworn duty to see that you are able to get a glass of decent drinking water instead of the filthy liquid that is now given to you. In that talk I reminded you of our promise to dramatize the condition of our city water in such a manner that would awaken you to its perils, and also to stimulate the city officials to action for fear of your condemnation of their inactivity, of their incompetence, or worse.

Recently I received a letter from Senator George Wharton Pepper. Let me quote from that letter. "I was delighted with your suggestion that the function of the existing committee is not to appoint another committee but to get busy itself. If you are driven to the 'big bottle' experiment, I hope to be on hand to see demonstration but should like to be excused from drinking anything but out-of-town water!"

Mr. Mayor, if you force us to act, it will be your fault.

Mayor Bernard Samuel completed the unexpired term of Mayor Lambertson, then was elected to the office of Mayor, and has been in that office for a total of 45 months. He has been in politics for 35 years or more and was a member of city council for a long time. He knows all about our water condition.

In response to the letters that you sent him condemning our water situation and asking him to stop fooling around and do something about it, he replied to some of you that his appointed committee is engaged in preparing two plans for the people to vote on. One was the improved use of local sources and the other was the utilization of upland sources. He stated in that letter that while there have been reports by other water committees in the past, that this is the first time the voters will have an opportunity to express their preference in a clearly defined referendum. If it was necessary to have a referendum, why was it that every candidate who has run for the office of Mayor during my memory has gone out of his way to promise to remedy the water condition of this city? Does Mayor Samuel think that after being in office for 45 months that the best he can now offer is a referendum? Shades of Rip Van Winkle!

Duty and Responsibility
When you elected Mr. Samuel the Mayor of this city, you entrusted him with a duty and the responsibility of correcting this water situation. The Mayor has decided not to assume this responsibility himself. Very few people like to assume responsibility. It is easier to appoint committees and usually nothing happens. This is called passing the buck. It is born of laziness and fear. If only public officials could learn that straight, clear thinking and hard work produce results. So many are afraid of imaginary shadows, listen to whispers, wink a wise eye and look in all directions before they dare tell you it's a nice day. It is up to the Mayor to determine how to proceed and, while we disagree with him on the method, nevertheless, during the term of his office we must abide by his decision.

Our form of government may have its faults, but it is still the best government on earth.

Since 1917, the people of the city of New York have been receiving their water from the Catskill Mountains. It is very good water. The people like it. They do not mind spending a few extra pennies for it. The public officials of the City of New York acted promptly. They had no referendum. They did not bother about appointing a committee after committee. The people of the city of New York acted and you will be rewarded by the gratitude of the people of this city for generations to come.

For the referendum, Mr. Mayor you promised certain information to the people. We are not trying to embarrass you, so we are going to make a sporting proposition. I insist of the referendum, relaxed and take until September 1st of this year to present to the people the information you will give them. You neglected to state to the people to whose letters you replied whether or not you expect to hold this referendum in November. Do you? If so, the people are entitled to know it. You promised in your letter, Mr. Mayor, that this administration "is determined to settle the problem once and for all." but you didn't say when.

Time to get busy

Mr. Mayor, as we have said before, we have no desire to dramatize this situation, and we will resort to it only if you do not act. If you want to get this referendum on the November ballot, if that is your desire, you had better get busy. If it does not appear on this ballot, the people may very well ask you where you have been and what you have been doing for the past 51 months. By November you will have served as Mayor 5 months. We are determined to fight for good water until we obtain it. If the people fight hard enough for anything, they get what they want. It is only when they do not care enough to fight that they are compelled to accept water of the character this city offers.

The committee the Mayor appointed, through its chairman Ernest V. D. Sullivan, stated that in the shortest possible time you will be offered a chance to vote or whether you want to continue to receive the water you are now getting from the present heavily polluted sources or from new sources. A sub-committee was appointed as I knew it would be, to receive advice from competent engineers to be selected immediately. Immediately means promptly; it means no time shall lapse; it means now. In the past, engineers have taken months and years to prepare their reports. All the information they can acquire is already on file. We will not be satisfied with pigeon-holed, delayed reports.

Mr. Herbert W. Goodall, the chairman of the sub-committee, is president of the Tradesmen's National Bank. How long do you think it would take him to decide whether or not a loan should be granted to an applicant? Mr. Goodall, get your committee to act promptly, just as you would in your own business affairs. Show the public you are a man of stature and also that you are interested in giving them their birthright. **Prefer Clean Water**

Let me read to you a paragraph of an address delivered by Edgar W. Baird, Jr., the city treasurer of Philadelphia, before the Lindley

Onley Lions Club on March 7. He said: "Why are we drinking water from sources in which is being dumped the sewage and industrial wastes of not only our own community, but that of many other towns and cities, when within a comparatively few miles of Philadelphia and at the lowest comparable per capita costs, we have a source of pure, clean water, finer than any other city in America enjoys today. It's because the citizens of Philadelphia have not strongly enough indicated that they would prefer clean, sparkling mountain water to the highly chlorinated product they now receive and that they are willing and anxious to pay the price for it."

Now, Mr. Baird is our city treasurer. He is a public official, his statement is no different from the statements of all other candidates for Mayor. You, Mr. Mayor, said the same thing many times. WCAU sponsors no, particular water source. We want good water and we do not care where it comes from, but it must be the best obtainable. Pay a few pennies more for water and pay less to the doctor.

The Mayor and city council, and certain politicians, may be satisfied with our water. If so, they can have all of it as far as we are concerned. If they are satisfied with it, however, why is City Hall loaded with bottled water, which they drink and for which the citizens of this city pay? Everybody can't afford bottled water. The doctrine will do for the rich, but not for the poor.

What shortsighted people are our executives! Don't they realize how much it would help the city just to have good drinking water?

Do you people in this city realize how corroded your pipes are and how full of mud they are? How many of you have driven through the parkway when you were almost suffocated by the stench of the Schuylkill River? That comes from your water.

Will Hold Forums

In the near future, WCAU intends to hold forums, at which time the various people who are acquainted with the water problem and prominent physicians will be invited to inform you, over this station, about the condition of our water and how it affects your health.

Mr. Mayor, you have suggested the referendum, but it is not too late for you to start over again. You are big enough to change your mind. Call in your city engineers who know all about the water condition: then consult with our leading bankers and arrange for a loan. This could be done in no time. It is as simple as that. You have as much information now as you will ever get. The people don't want a referendum. They want you to act now. Mr. Mayor, don't you hear the bugle?

Is 'Half Cent a Day' Too Much for Pure Water?

Pure water for Philadelphia was an issue way back in 1899.

The Record on Friday published a facsimile of part of the front page of the defunct Philadelphia Times, dated March 29, of that year—47 years ago.

A Grand Jury with "power to act at once" was to take up the question of foul water.

The automobile has developed since from an experiment to an industry. The airplane has grown up. Two world wars have been fought. The atom bomb has been invented.

But Philadelphia water remains the same—an unholy chemical experiment.

Why? Because we have had the kind of thinking in city government as exemplified Thursday by Public Works Director Martin J. McLaughlin.

Before City Council's Public Works Committee, he stated that city engineers were opposed to a plan of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company to bring pure water here from its property in the Poconos.

A new, unadulterated source of drinking water! What the city has needed for more years than the oldest inhabitants can remember. Many plans have been advanced during the years.

The chlorine cocktail is still with us.

We do not know the merits of the coal firm's proposal, which the company estimated would cost the city \$142,000,000.

But the point is that neither does McLaughlin.

He objected to the project because:

"Our engineers believe the cost would be millions and millions of dollars more than the company's figures."

An engineer doesn't talk that way. Not if he knows his business. The project may be worthless. But if it is to be opposed it should be for a good reason backed by facts.

No plan should be damned because it will cost "millions."

Of course, a new water supply will cost millions. It can't be had for a song.

This is the same kind of uninformed obstructionism that was employed to block the construction of a depressed, rather than a surface, superhighway over Vine st.

It would cost too much!

How much is too much?

Way back in 1937, The Record showed that Philadelphia could have pure, fresh water, that the cost would run about \$150,000,000. Yes, that's a large sum.

But it means, when transferred into non-frightening terms, that the people could have pure water for only half a cent a day for each adult.

Is that too much?

It is no coincidence that Philadelphia has been burdened by Republican machine rule over all those years the people have been clamoring for good water—and not getting it.

Millions were squandered on municipal white elephants.

But now necessary improvements are obstructed by the unsubstantiated cry—"They cost too much!"

MAYOR RAPS U. S. DELAY ON POSTWAR AID

Says City Will Take All Federal Funds It Can Get

Mayor Samuel, now eager to accept all the Federal money Philadelphia can get, scolded the Government yesterday for its "hesitancy and delay" on postwar public works.

Says City Has Program

This city, he said, has plans for an "extensive" program of improvements. But much of the program depends upon "substantial (Federal) financial aid" for an early start.

"The policy of my administration," he declared, "has been and will be to recommend to Council the acceptance of Federal funds for public works and improvements in Philadelphia if there are not imposed requirements or conditions which are burdensome or prejudicial to the best interests of the city."

Letter to Congressmen

This statement—or restatement—of the Mayor's position was set forth in an 11-page letter addressed to Sen. Francis J. Myers and the six Philadelphia Congressmen.

The letter did not indicate what "conditions or requirements" he might consider burdensome or prejudicial. It was said unofficially he meant any condition which would take away the city's control over some municipal facility, such as an airport, and place it under Federal control.

Insists He Means It

Nobody could recall any instance in which the Government had imposed such control. Sources close to the Mayor, however, insisted he was speaking in good faith and not merely trying to raise obstacles.

Samuel, as a matter of fact, has said repeatedly since he became Mayor that he would take all the Federal money that may be made available to Philadelphia.

His reaffirmation of that policy served to launch him on his fifth year in the Mayor's office—the longest tenure of any incumbent since Rudolph Blankenburg (1911-16).

In Answer to Query

The letter, however, was in reply to a query addressed to him by Myers and the Congressmen on August 16. Seeking information to guide them in voting on proposed Federal public works appropriations, they asked three questions:

1. Will the city administration continue to refuse in the future, as it has in the past, to accept Federal funds for public improvements for this city?

2. At public works projects has the city planned as a cushion against unemployment? How soon can they be placed in operation and how soon after they are authorized will they provide employment? How much will they cost?

3. What public works projects has the city planned which can be wholly financed out of city and State funds?

Held Finance

They presumably had in mind the fact that Samuel was at least partly responsible for the city's rejection of Federal funds during the depression. He was chairman of City Council's Finance Committee at the time, and one of the most influential men in council.

But the Mayor's reply gave no hint of his one-time reluctance. Instead, he called for more and more Federal aid. The city, he said, will be in a position to borrow only about \$57,000,000 for public improvements, aside from those which are self-supporting.

Highlights of his letter: **Public Works Program:** He pointed to the City Planning Commission's preliminary program, recommending some \$205,000,000 worth of projects, including water works improvement, sewage disposal, extension of the Market st. subway and removal of the Chinese Wall.

The commission's report, issued last fall, figured about \$95,000,000 worth of projects, providing some 26,500,000 man-hours of work, could be started whenever money, materials and labor were available. A second report, bringing the data up to date, is in preparation.

Plans: City Council appropriated almost \$700,000 in the 1944 budget for preparation of plans and specifications. Philadelphia expects to get \$200,000 from a

Continued on Page 6, Column 2.

Mayor Samuel Hits U. S. Delay On Program for Public Works

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE

\$1,000,000 fund of the State Postwar Planning Commission. It also will obtain an as yet undetermined amount from a \$10,325,000 appropriation to the State Department of Health and a \$16,500,000 appropriation to the Department of Forests and Waters. (Some of the latter funds may be available for actual construction as well as planning of sewage disposal plants.)

By contrast, the Mayor complained that the city's share of Federal funds available for plans will be only \$200,000 to \$250,000—which, unlike the gifts from the State, will have to be repaid.

Sewage Disposal: Plans and specifications are completed for the first stages of the work. An \$8,000,000 loan ordinance is pending in City Council to provide funds for a start as soon as priorities are obtained or wartime restriction on materials are removed. The whole \$42,000,000 program can be financed "if necessary" by the new sewer rent—assuming it is upheld by the Supreme Court as it has been by the Common Pleas Court.

Waterworks: The \$18,000,000 loan authorized in 1940 takes care of the financing here, although increased costs in the interim may require some additional money. The work has been largely halted during the war, but contracts have just been signed for \$90,000 worth of pipeline mains.

Bids for another \$1,000,000 worth of work, principally for the reconstruction of the Lardner's Point reservoir, "will be asked for immediately." Bids will be invited on an additional \$3,000,000 in September.

Highways: Expenditures up to \$12,000,000 a year are contemplated, but most of this will come from the State motor license fund, together with Federal funds made available through the State. The city's share will be relatively small.

Airports: Loan ordinances to \$15,000,000 for extension development of the two airports are pending in Council. "However, we with interest the long pro-legislation, not yet acted by the Congress, to provide

I will appoint engineers to make expensive studies which will take months. Then the engineers will report back to the committee. It will be a report like all others I will be expensive and nothing will happen. Mr. Mayor, you are capable of a better effort than this one. Go before this committee and tell them what you know about our water from the information on hand, and tell them to recommend to you and to council that legal machinery be set up immediately to bring good water to our people. Mr. Mayor, you are capable of doing this job. Go ahead and do it and you will receive the applause, the thanks and the gratitude of all the people of Philadelphia. You will be entitled to it, but you won't.

\$18,000,000 FUND IS NOT ENOUGH TO FIX WATERWORKS

War Forced Construction Costs Above Original City Estimate

By LEEDS MOBERLEY

The \$18,000,000 loan voted so hopefully six years ago to fix up the water works won't be enough to finish the job.

You can blame the war. But for the war, the program would be just about completed by now. As it is, the work has advanced far enough that there is no longer any immediate danger of a major breakdown.

More Money Needed

But construction costs have risen so sharply in the meantime that it will be necessary either to cut corners on the remainder of the planned improvements—or to go to the voters for more money.

So says Elbert J. Taylor, new Chief of the Water Bureau. He ought to know if anybody does, for he probably has been closer to the problem than anyone else. Until two weeks ago he was resident engineer of Morris Knowles, Inc., Pittsburgh engineering firm which is serving as consultant on the waterworks rehabilitation. In that capacity he has been working on its program since its inception.

No Telling How Much

At this point, however, not even Taylor can say how much more money will be required. In fact, he confessed yesterday in his first interview since assuming his new job, he can't even suggest how much of the original plans ought to be carried out.

"Construction costs have risen from 30 to 70 percent since 1940," he said. "There are studies under way now to determine how much these increases will add to the cost of the work still remaining and how the available money can best be spread out."

But there is another important question involved, he pointed out. That is the question of what Philadelphia is going to do about its future water supply.

Source May Change Plans

If we decide to tap a "pure" upland source, we will have no future need of the elaborate treatment equipment called for in the present program, which is based on continued use of the grossly polluted Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers.

Mayor Samuel has promised a referendum on a new water supply at the May primary. The Water Commission's engineers now are making detailed cost estimates on a proposal to tap the Upper Delaware at Wallpack Bend, and also are preparing a report on what can be done with the present sources.

Taylor is 43 years old. He was graduated from the University of Cincinnati in civil engineering in 1923 and worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad for the following two years on bridge construction. He made his connection with Morris Knowles in 1925 and branched out into sanitary engineering soon afterward. He has been here since 1940.

"Despite the hesitancy and delay to formulate programs and adopt policies at the national level, State and local governments in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania have proceeded to be prepared for action that might be taken with or without Federal participation."

WATER IS THREAT, LANGBORD SAYS

Democratic Candidate for Coroner Warns of Disease

Dr. Joseph A. Langbord, Democratic candidate for Coroner, last night warned of the danger of drinking Philadelphia water.

"It is unfit to drink on the basis of taste, odor and appearance alone," he said in a radio address. "But the matter is far more serious than that. The latest medical researches support the suspicion that we doctors have held for years—that our city water may be actually dangerous. These researches indicate that our water, for all its dosage of chemicals, may be dangerous—that illness and death may be lurking in your spigot."

"Raw Water Direct"

Dr. Langbord, director of the Deborah Tuberculosis Sanitarium, director of the Union Health Center and medical chief of Northern Liberties Hospital, also charged that "raw, contaminated water is pumped direct from the rivers into our water supply."

"The United States Public Health Service made an inspection of the Philadelphia waterworks last spring. I can state on the best of authority that it found raw water being used without filtration at the Torresdale plant because some of the filter beds were blocked up by silt and sludge.

Blames Republicans

"Must we wait for another disastrous epidemic of water-borne disease before there is any improvement? The answer apparently is yes—if the Republican organizations remain in power.

"But there is another way. The Democratic party is pledged to give you pure, healthful, really safe water. This is a basic phase of our three-year program. The time for action is at hand. We will not wait for new epidemics."

3 Electric Pumps Ordered by City

Another set of steam-driven pumps used in the Philadelphia water supply system was on its way out in favor of more efficient electrical equipment yesterday when Mayor Bernard Samuel signed a contract for installation of three electric units at the Lardner's Point pumping station on Wheatseaf lane at the Delaware River.

The new pumps have a capacity of 105,000,000 gallons a day, in contrast with the 60,000,000 maximum of the old steam pumps. The contract was awarded to the Kaufman Construction Co., whose bid of \$230,000 covers half the reconstruction work planned at the station. The money for the work is being provided from the \$18,000,000 waterworks program.

DIRECTOR DENIES WATER CHARGES

Says Langbord Assertion Filters are By-Passed is not True

Charges that "raw, contaminated water" is being pumped directly into the city's water system were made by Dr. Joseph Langbord, Democratic candidate for Coroner, in the opening of the Democratic election campaign last night.

Dr. Langbord declared this discovery was made by the U. S. Public Health Service during an investigation of the city's water system last spring. Filters and the Queen Lane pumping station were by-passed, Dr. Langbord said, because their beds are blocked with sludge and silt.

He added that city water, "is dosed with chlorine" and "isn't fit to drink under any consideration."

David W. Harris, chairman of the Republican City Committee, in a radio talk, accused the Democrats of raising "phony issues" saying that the candidates to be elected November 6—the Register of Wills, Coroner, City Treasurer and City Controller—have nothing to do with the solution of the water problem. He said the Republican administration is "bending every effort to speed to completion the new and modern water system which is being studied by the commission appointed by the Mayor."

Director Martin J. McLaughlin of the Department of Public Works, who is also acting chief of the Bureau of Water, said Dr. Langbord is "entirely wrong in his statements."

"No raw water is used in the Philadelphia system," McLaughlin declared. "It is all filtered and chlorinated. The Torresdale filter beds are constantly washed with

machinery and are not blocked by silt."

McLaughlin added that the Queen Lane station or other stations are "by-passed."

"Similar charges, made last spring, were completely disproved at that time," declared the Director, adding that the city operation is supervised by the State Department of Health and the U. S. Public Health Service.

James P. Clark, chairman of the Democratic City Committee, called on Harris to answer two questions (1) what have the Republicans done for Philadelphia citizens and (2) what improvements have been installed in return for taxes collected.

WATER BUREAU GETS NEW CHIEF

Elbert J. Taylor Appointed to Job Formerly Held by McLaughlin

Director of Public Works Martin J. McLaughlin yesterday announced the appointment at last of a new Chief of the Water Bureau—filling a job that has been vacant for six months.

The appointee is Elbert J. Taylor, resident engineer of Morris Knowles, Inc., Pittsburgh engineering firm which is serving as consultant on the \$18,000,000 waterworks rehabilitation program.

McLaughlin Pleased

Despite McLaughlin's complaint to City Council last fall that the job's \$800 starting salary is not high enough to attract "competent" men, the choice finally was made from among 30 applicants. And McLaughlin had high praise for the man he got.

He pointed out that Taylor's work on the waterworks program (he has been here since 1940) makes him "completely familiar with our water problem in all its details."

"I am confident he will make a good chief because of his background and his familiarity with the personnel of the Bureau," the Director added.

Vacant Since Sept. 6

The position has been vacant since September 6, when McLaughlin, who was chief up to that time, was promoted to Director of Public Works to succeed the late John H. Neeson. McLaughlin tried in vain to get City Council to boost the starting salary to \$900 in the 1946 budget, declaring other cities pay "\$12,000, \$15,000 and even \$25,000 for similar jobs."

Gets Yearly Increase

The \$800 will represent a boost of \$2000 a year for Taylor over the salary he was receiving in his old job. Also, it goes up \$200 a year to a top of \$9000 after five years.

Taylor, a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, worked from 1923 to 1925 as an engineer on bridge construction in the Cincinnati division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and had been associated with Morris Knowles since 1925. He is 48 years old, married, has a year-old daughter, Phyllis, and lives in the Franklin apartments, Chew and Duval sts.



ELBERT J. TAYLOR
He knows the problem . . .

WATER WORKS FIGURE CALLED TOO HIGH

BULLETIN - 4/17/46
Official says Pocono Plan would Cost \$120,000,000

Estimates of the cost of an upland water supply have been placed far too high, said Glen O. Kidd, secretary of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., in a talk today before the Philadelphia Committee on Public Affairs at the Princeton Club.

Kidd, speaking on behalf of the Pocono Mountain water plan favored by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., praised City Council for deferring action on a referendum until the public has further opportunity to study all plans.

"The resolution recently proposed by the Water Commission indicated that an upland water supply would cost \$285,000,000 plus \$63,000,000 for filtration and repairs or a total of \$348,000,000," Kidd said. "As a matter of fact, the city could have an entirely adequate mountain water supply for only \$120,000,000."

"By adopting the Pocono Mountain proposal the city could have one of the finest water supplies in the nation which could be financed and operated at a cost less than the present revenue received by the city."



WATER BUREAU GETS NEW CHIEF
Director of Public Works Martin J. McLaughlin (left), former Water Bureau head, is shown in his City Hall Annex office, outlining the duties of chief of the Water Bureau to his successor, Elbert J. Taylor, whose appointment to the post was announced yesterday.

Engineer Appointed Water Bureau Chief

Elbert J. Taylor, 48, a consulting engineer was appointed yesterday to fill a six-month vacancy as \$8000-a-year chief of the Water Bureau. Mr. Taylor, whose firm has been retained by the city for several years for consultation on water problems, took over a post that was vacated last September when former Chief Martin J. McLaughlin succeeded the late John H. Neeson as Director of Public Works.

TEST MAY BE WAIVED

Under Civil Service procedure his appointment was provisional. Public hearings will be held to determine whether the job shall be exempted from a competitive examination. The appointee may take such an examination if he wishes. Mr. McLaughlin predicted that Mr. Taylor would prove "a very good chief."

"He is thoroughly familiar with the \$18,000,000 improvement program," he said. "He not only knows the city's water system problems, but knows the personnel of the bureau and is in a position to do a great job."

Mr. Taylor, who is married and has a year-old daughter, resides in an apartment house at Chew and Duval sts. 52

HORSHAM TO FIGHT RESERVOIR PLAN

Residents Raise \$7,500 Fund; Cite Loss of Tax, Colonial Landmarks

A \$7,500 fund for a legal battle against the construction of a reservoir as a part of the Wallpack bend project to provide pure water for Philadelphia was raised last night at a meeting of 300 residents of Horsham Township, Montgomery County.

The residents, who met in the Prospectville school, set up a committee headed by Fred Fowles, president of the township school board, to get the fight under way.

Under the project, water from the upper Delaware River would be brought by viaduct to a reservoir in Warrington Township, Bucks County, adjoining Horsham.

The reservoir project would inundate about a third of Horsham Township and a five-mile square area in Bucks County.

From the reservoir the water would be piped to Philadelphia.

Those attending last night's meeting were told that construction of the reservoir would require the razing of 1,000 farms and homes in Warrington, Horsham and Lower Gwynedd townships, and the destruction of many colonial structures, including the home of Sir William Keith, first Governor of Pennsylvania.

Fowles estimated that Horsham Township would lose about \$15,000 a year in taxes.

The committee formed at the meeting probably will first contact the State Water Resources Board, which has the right to condemn property needed for the city water supply. 52

CITY WATER ADEQUATE, RESEARCH BUREAU SAYS

Could be Made Palatable, Safe with Treatment, Report says

Philadelphia's water supply could be made both safe and palatable with proper treatment, according to the Bureau of Municipal Research.

The bureau, in its weekly bulletin, Citizens' Business, said that the city should compare the cost of removing unpleasant odors of the present water with the cost of providing new sources of water, before deciding to do away with the present system.

"In recent years," the article stated, "more than 200 cities have solved their taste and odor problems by super-chlorination or by treating the filtered water with activated carbon or with ozone."

The article pointed out that Philadelphia's most extensive experiment was with ozone.

"During 1941 and 1942 the city treated the waters of the Schuylkill with ozone and obtained excellent results," it said. 54

Ex-Judge Kenworthy Takes Stump For Utility Firm Seeking Unconscionable Profit

The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. stands to make a profit of some \$12,000,000 if they can jam their Lehigh-Pocono water project down the throats of Philadelphia taxpayers.

That sum would be realized by that firm for a few hundred acres of almost worthless mountain land on which it would be necessary to construct reservoirs and other facilities to carry the water to mains in this city.

Several weeks ago The Dispatch disclosed that a high-powered lobby was at work in Philadelphia, contacting officials in an effort to "sell" them the Lehigh Company's ideas on what is good for the local citizenry.

But now the utility firm's lust for that \$12,000,000 slice of gravy is out in the open.

None less than a former Superior Court Judge has taken the stump in favor of the Lehigh-Pocono water project.

Charles E. Kenworthy, a member of the law firm of Schnader, Kenworthy, Segal & Lewis, told an Optimist Club luncheon that the Lehigh-Pocono water was the only solution of Philadelphia's problem. He also condemned the Wallpack-Yardley project which would draw water from the upper sources of the Delaware River.

Kenworthy declared the latter proposition involved too many legal obstacles.

Said Mr. Kenworthy: "An interstate compact would have to be negotiated among Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, and this would have to be approved by Congress."

He also brought the Army into the picture with the statement that "Army engineers have supervision over certain of the Delaware watersheds."

There are a few details, however, which Mr. Kenworthy took no pains to impress upon his listeners.

He failed to state that his law firm serves as counsel for the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, and that a juicy fee no doubt is in prospect if the deal to grab \$12,000,000 from Philadelphia taxpayers is successful.

Another detail glossed over by the ex-jurist was that there is no evidence that any difficulty would be experienced if Philadelphia sought to share in the waters of the upper Delaware. New Jersey and New York tap that source. Why not a municipality in Pennsylvania?

There would be no trouble whatsoever involved in negotiating Kenworthy's so-called compact with New Jersey and New York. And consent of the Army and Congress could no doubt be obtained for the asking.

The only drawback with the Wallpack-Yardley water source, were it to be chosen by the Philadelphia Water Commission, is that it would deprive the Lehigh Company of a \$12,000,000 profit.

Mr. Schnader, a law partner of Kenworthy, and former State Attorney General, is taking no conspicuous part in the Lehigh Company's campaign to sell its gold brick. He is engaged in representing a client who seeks to shake down the State for more than a million dollars for a worthless toll bridge.

Failing to get that price, Schnader has brought action against the State and in so doing has started a program to free all toll bridges.

Kenworthy, in a dutiful parrot-like fashion, echoed the cry of the Lehigh Company's own engineers that the Lehigh-Pocono project would cost only \$122,000,000, with an additional expenditure of \$20,000,000 if a larger supply was desirable.

Impartial engineers of the City Water Commission, however, put the cost of that project at between \$300,000,000 and \$330,000,000.

Speakers to civic and business organizations are also being dispatched by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company in its frenzied efforts to wrap up its proposed \$12,000,000 grab.

One such speaker appeared at a meeting of the United Businessmen's Association last week and was met with a barrage of questions, few of which he could satisfactorily answer.

But \$12,000,000 is a lot of money and the Lehigh Company will leave no stone unturned to pocket that unconscionable profit it seeks to make on the deal.

If and when the people of Philadelphia decide by ballot to change the city water supply, this Lehigh outfit will bear watching. With tactics as ruthless and brazen as they have to date employed, anything might happen.

City Delays Referendum On New Water Supply

Philadelphia voters will not be asked to choose a new water supply for the city at the May 21 primary. City Council, in a two-hour caucus yesterday, decided to withdraw the water supply referendum from the primary ballot until full information on the various sources can be provided.

Council President Frederic D. Garman, who announced the decision, said that a substitute resolution would be introduced at today's Council session. Although he declined to comment, it was expected that the resolution would postpone the referendum to the general election in November.

PLAN DREW PROTESTS

Several groups, including the Philadelphia Committee on Public Affairs, had protested against submitting the referendum to the electorate at a primary.

Mr. Garman said members of Council felt it was inadvisable to submit the referendum at this time since the Board of Engineers of the City Water Commission had not yet completed its report on the cost of the Wallpack Bend project for developing new water sources.

JERSEY OFFICIALS BACK CITY USE OF DELAWARE WATER

Blessing Expected to Remove Obstacles to Tapping Upper River

By EDWARD STONE

New Jersey officials gave their informal blessing yesterday to the city's tapping of the upper Delaware River for mountain water.

The blessing was extended at a meeting of the Philadelphia Water Commission in the Midday Club. It presumably will remove a major snag from the path of the plan.

That snag was the commission's fear that New Jersey might block diversion of Delaware River water for the city's use. Possible need of North Jersey communities to tap the river was considered an obstacle.

No Need in Sight

But representatives of the neighbor State assured the commission no such need is in sight. Their views do not bind the State itself, it was pointed out by Samuel H. Rosenberg, secretary to the commission and to Mayor Samuel.

As for the State of Pennsylvania, officials attending the meeting said no applications are pending from any communities outside of Philadelphia for use of the Delaware.

Project Is Favored

The proposal under discussion was the Wallpack Bend project, known to be favored by the commission among several to bring water here from upstate sources.

That project would dam the upper Delaware at a sharp curve in its course known as Wallpack Bend, near Bushkill. Eighty miles of pressure tunnels would bring water here, with an intervening reservoir at Warrington in Bucks county.

To arrange for the project, an interstate commission was suggested at the meeting to be made up of representatives of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Power of Domain

The new commission would have the power of eminent domain to take any needed property in both States adjoining the Delaware.

By April 15 the Water Commission anticipates a report from its engineers on the cost of the Wallpack Bend project. Tentative figure is \$270,000,000.

If approved by the commission, that or any substitute project will be submitted to Philadelphia voters at the May 21 primary.

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N. J. to Let Phila. Tap Water Supply

Project to Cost City 270 Million

Tacit approval of Philadelphia use of the upper Delaware River Basin to obtain a clear water supply was given yesterday by representatives of the State of New Jersey at a meeting with Mayor Samuel's Water Commission.

During the course of the meeting, in the Midday Club, it was made plain, however, that the tacit approval does not bind New Jersey and is contingent on the future needs of New Jersey cities for a water supply.

RESERVOIR NEAR BUSHKILL

Under the proposal being studied by the Mayor's Water Commission, headed by Herbert W. Goodall, Philadelphia would gain a supply of 500,000,000 gallons of mountain water daily under what has come to be known as the Walpack Bend Project.

The project would create a reservoir near Bushkill, in the Poconos, from which the water would be piped to Philadelphia.

CITY TO VOTE ON PLAN

During the discussion held yesterday it was suggested that a Joint New Jersey-Pennsylvania Commission be created by the Legislatures of the two States to operate the water source. The waters of the entire upper Delaware watershed are under the supervision of the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, otherwise known as Incodel, in which Pennsylvania, New York, Delaware and New Jersey are represented.

The question of whether Philadelphia should go ahead with plans to obtain the upland water supply or concentrate on a plan for improving the local water supply will be submitted to the electorate in the May 21 primary elections.

COST TO BE 270 MILLION

If it is approved by the voters, and the project is carried out, Philadelphia will become the only immediate user of water from the upper Delaware Basin.

The plan calls for the expenditure of \$270,000,000 to construct a reservoir at Eushkill; to lay a submerged conduit from that place to Warrington, Bucks county; to build a storage reservoir at that place, and to install subsequent pipe lines to this city.

ENGINEERS STUDY PLAN

With its completion the city's supply of water would vastly increase, since at present Philadelphia uses only between 325,000,000 and 350,000,000 gallons daily.

The plan is being studied by engineers, and a report from them is expected by the Water Commission by April 15.

PRESENT AT MEETING

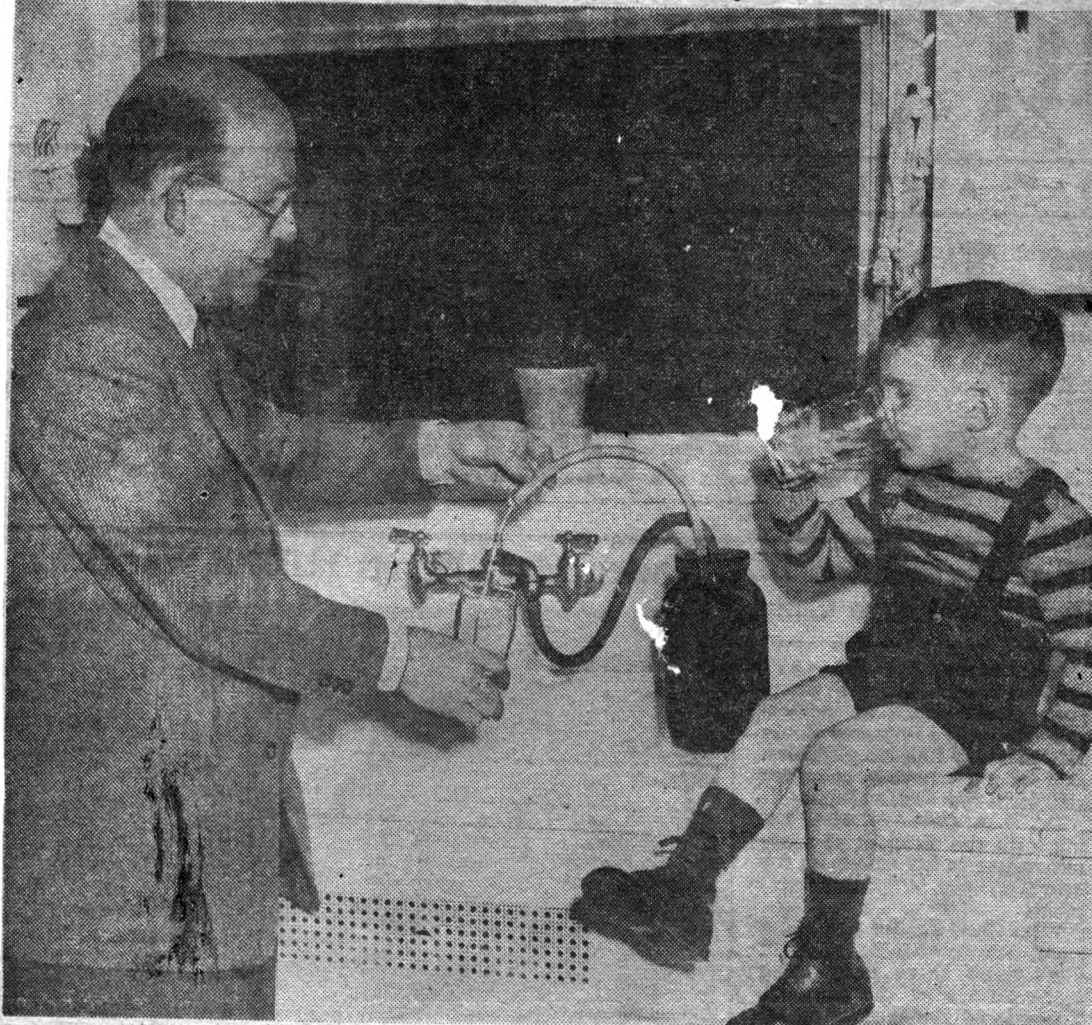
Among the New Jersey representatives attending yesterday's meeting were State Treasurer Robert C. Hendrickson, Joseph C. Paul, a member of Incodel, and R. M. Roper, Howard T. Crutchen and William R. Connard, members of the New Jersey Water Policy Commission.

Also among those in attendance were Ellwood J. Turner, chairman of Incodel, and E. A. Pitkin, one of its members, both of them Pennsylvanians, and four members of the Pennsylvania Water and Power Resources Board: C. K. Weigel, W. E. Kirkpatrick, Albert F. Damon, Jr., and Gordon Mason.

LEHIGH CO. INTENSIFIES DRIVE IN \$12,000,000 GRAB ON WATER

DISPATCH - 4-7-46

Making 'Nectar' Out of Schuylkill Water



Albert W. Spitz, of 1543 Stevens st., assuring his son, Bobby, it's all right to drink ill-tasting Schuylkill water bottoms up when using his gadget that makes a drink palatable

'Spring Water' from the Schuylkill —and it's not Done with Mirrors

By MORLEY CASSIDY
(Of The Bulletin Staff)

Find a way to take the taste out of Schuylkill water, Albert W. Spitz is discovering, and the world will beat a path to your doorway, carrying jugs. At least your relatives will.

Spitz, who lives at 1543 Stevens st., is a mild-mannered man who comes to a boil slowly, and for years he drank his daily quota of Philadelphia tap water with mutters and resignation. But being a chemical engineer, he had an idea that something could be done about it right in his own kitchen. And after considerable puttering around, he proved that he was right.

He emerged with a gadget which gives him, for all practical purposes, a mountain spring in his own sink.

The gadget consists of a two-quart jar containing filters and a mass of granular particles, and with two rubber tubes. One tube carries plain tap water into the jar, the other delivers the finished product—a stream of crystal-clear, tasteless water.

Since that first experimental model, Spitz has tried out other types and given them to friends for testing. Most of them report that friends are bringing jugs from miles around. Spitz himself supplies a long list of relatives.

The gadget, Spitz says, is strictly a taste-and-odor-remover. It has

nothing to do with purification, because Philadelphia water is pure as it comes from the tap. And that taste isn't chlorine, either.

"What you taste," says Spitz, "is a compound of chlorinated phenols and other organic compounds. And sometimes, of course, there may be a little colloidal iron. But none of it's harmful—just distasteful."

Water purifying has long been a specialty with Spitz, as he was formerly a chemical engineer with a company manufacturing filtration equipment to treat water used in distilleries.

His gadget, he says, embodies no new discoveries in the field. The granules which clear the water are a commercial product, chosen because they are more effective than charcoal, and more compact. The novel part of the unit lies in the arrangement which makes it small enough for household use.

Spitz estimates that one filling should treat about 600 gallons of drinking water—enough for the average family's needs for a year. In the Spitz family, five minutes is required each morning to produce the day's quota.

Spitz and a friend, Richard S. Kastner, of 6501 N. 11th st., are making plans to manufacture the unit, but Spitz hopes that he, personally, will soon be able to discontinue using his own model. He is now working in New York, and hopes to be drinking New York water permanently as soon as he can find a place to live over there.

Don't Toss Away Our Chance for Better Water

SS [EDITORIAL]

Council members, at their caucus yesterday, did the right thing in withholding from the May primary ballot the water supply proposal submitted by the Water Commission.

But it is not enough to postpone action on the one-sided proposition sponsored by the Commission. That should be rejected entirely as virtually guaranteeing to deprive Philadelphia of better drinking water for years to come.

What is needed is a definite declaration, backed up by energetic and practical measures, of this city's intention to obtain pure drinking water in place of the vile-smelling, distasteful stuff piped from the Delaware docks that our people have been forced to swallow for years.

From time to time in the past plans aiming at establishment of new supply sources outside the city have been proposed, only to be talked to death or otherwise killed off.

We are in danger today of having the same thing happen again. We are at the cross-roads on Philadelphia's water supply—make no mistake about that.

Either we retain our present unsatisfactory system or we drive ahead for a new one that will give us the better water a modern, progressive city should have.

What is the City Water Commission's answer to the problem? A plan leaving it to the voters to choose between a supply of "safe and palatable" water from the present sources at cost of \$63,000,000, and a supply of "safe and palatable" water obtained from an upland source at cost of \$285,000,000.

What kind of alternative is that? If we can get the same quality water for \$63,000,000, why in the name of common sense would anyone favor spending \$285,000,000?

Allow that kind of a choice to go on the ballot and we can kiss good-bye to outside water for Philadelphia.

It is not possible that water of the same quality, both "safe and palatable" to the same degree, can be obtained from the Delaware and Schuylkill intakes and from uncontaminated streams.

The Commission had apparently assumed that when the two rivers are completely cleaned up and made free of sewage and other discharges, the water piped from them will be safe and palatable. But it does not state, because it cannot, just when that will be.

This city is itself only beginning a \$42,000,000 job to divert its sewage from the Delaware. No one can tell when the thousands of communities and industries along the Schuylkill and Delaware, many of them not even in Pennsylvania, will stop fouling our water supply.

The Commission's report would make an upland water source appear prohibitively costly. It mentions a \$285,000,000 estimate—without breaking down the figures or stating the source to which it applies. It says such an undertaking would require a 100 percent increase in city receipts, but it does not mention the fact that if con-

sumers were to pay twice what they pay now for water in Philadelphia the amount would usually be only \$16 a year—not an exorbitant price, surely, for decent water.

Additional light on the financial and other features of possible upland sources is badly needed before the people can intelligently pass judgment on them.

This is not to be construed as an indorsement of the Pocono supply plan supported by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, the Wallpack Bend plan, or any other that has been mentioned.

But The Inquirer believes that to rush headlong into permanent captivity to the kind of water we are now compelled to drink—even if it may be scrubbed up a bit in the dim future—would be a terrific mistake.

Don't just keep the Commission's half-baked proposal off the primary ballot. Call for expert re-examination of all possible upland supplies. Don't give up until Philadelphia has water that doesn't have to be dosed with chlorine to make it harmless—but water that is pure, sparkling, fit to drink.

Horsham Raises \$7500 To Fight Reservoir Plan

Residents of Horsham township, Montgomery county, started building a defense fund last night for a legal fight against a key feature of the plan to provide Philadelphia with a new water system.

That is the proposal to construct a dam and reservoir at Warrington to store water brought by viaduct from the upper reaches of the Delaware River. The project would inundate about a third of Horsham and a five-mile-square area in adjoining Bucks county.

300 Attend Protest

More than 300 Horsham residents who attended a protest meeting in the Prospectville school also were told the project would mean:

Razing of 1000 farms and homes in Warrington, Horsham, Lower Gwynedd and Montgomery townships; the inundation of property valued at more than \$3,000,000; the destruction of many Colonial structures, including the home of Sir William Keith, Pennsylvania's first Governor; relocation of three or perhaps four major highways, and loss to Horsham township of \$15,000 a year in real estate taxes.

Decide to Fight

By unanimous vote, those who attended decided to fight the project, and pledges totaling \$7500 to engage legal counsel were signed. The women and men who attended the meeting ranged from owners of large estates in the area, to small farm operators.

They set up a committee headed by Fred Fowles, president of the township school board, to get the fight underway. First appeal may go to the State Water Resources Board, which under a legislative act of 1943 has the right to condemn suburban or rural property needed for big city water supply.

Petitions Circulated

Residents of the area got their first idea of what the project would mean by a word-of-mouth campaign, that flew from farm to farm and estate to estate. Then petitions against the project were circulated, together with photostatic copies of a map showing just how big a chunk of the area would be inundated.

Among several speakers who condemned the project was Rep. Henry J. Propert, a Montgomery county Republican member of the Legislature.

George Letterman, assessor for Warrington township, which is in Bucks county, said petitions also are being circulated there, and that a mass protest meeting is planned for the near future.

Water Interest

COUNCILMEN, perplexed by seeming citizen indifference to the water question, as evidenced by slim attendance at the first public hearing, may discover that interest will intensify as the alternatives become clearer.

Philadelphians would all like better water, but nobody can stir up a march on City Hall on that issue. Debate will probably begin when the public is told clearly what improvements in the water are attainable and at what prices, for all Philadelphians know also that better water cannot be had except at substantially higher cost.

No such thing as a perfect raw water is available for feeding into the distribution system. If it were, the current discussion of the possible need to renew the city mains suggests that even a perfect source of raw water would not remove all the dissatisfactions.

As the raw water approaches perfection, the costs tend to skyrocket, and, as with everything else, the public will be faced in the end with a decision how far in the direction of unattainable perfection its taste and pocketbook justify it in going.

For deciding that question intelligently the public needs to be told something it has not yet been told by the Water Commission—how much better the water from present sources can be made.

SPONSOR DEFENDS LEHIGH WATER

ays Proposal for apply is Sound, Product Pure

Use of the upper Lehigh River and tributaries as a new source for Philadelphia's water supply, described by the Mayor's Water Commission as inadequate and excessively costly, was defended today by its sponsor, the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co.

Robert V. White, president of the Lehigh company, said that the project will stand up successfully under every engineering study from the points of view of cost, adequacy of supply, and purity of the water. "Because we are supremely confident of the outcome we are awaiting eagerly the official investigation by City Council," White said. "We are sure our proposal is sound and will be found eventually to be the cheapest and best water source available to Philadelphia."

The Water Commission is scheduled to appear before City Council in caucus tomorrow to outline its recently completed survey and to answer any questions that councilmen may want further clarified. Their report, made public on Saturday after a year of research, estimated that the minimum cost for rehabilitation of the present system would be \$62,568,000.

In summing up the Lehigh plan, the report said it would not yield a sufficient quantity of water, that the water is unsuitable for use without filtration, and that the cost would greatly exceed the \$142,122,000 fixed by the Lehigh Company.

This White denied, and added that their plan had been developed by some of the most outstanding water supply engineers in the country, engineers who are willing to risk their reputation upon the accuracy of their figures and the engineering design of the entire project.

Philadelphia Water Department
Historical Collection
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CITY TO HOLD 2D WATER HEARING

Public Urged to Attend Session on Wednesday at 10 A. M.

The second public hearing on methods of getting better drinking water for Philadelphia will be held in City Council's chambers, Room 400, City Hall, at 10 A. M., next Wednesday.

Councilman Phineas Green, chairman of Council's public works committee, urged the public to attend, in an appeal yesterday.

Seven persons immediately accepted Green's invitation to give their views at Wednesday's hearing. They are I. D. Levy, chairman of Station WCAU, who has been conducting a series of broadcasts for better drinking water; Dr. Howard E. Anders, 260 S. 21st st.; Albert Smith Faugh, representing the Horsham's Citizens Committee; David M. Newbold, of the Wellsbach Engineering and Management Corporation; G. P. Vincent of the Matheson Alkali Works, New York; Fred C. Peters, Montgomery county commissioner, and Ben D. Roberts, 4021 Bleigh ave.

Water Uncertainties

PHILADELPHIANS who study the final report of the Water Commission's Board of Consulting Engineers find no definite recommendations as to what ought to be done about the city's water supply.

The engineers had two questions to answer: Should the city abandon its present water sources? If so, what are the possibilities of getting good water from upland sources?

The final report deals exhaustively with the probable future quality of the present sources. The engineers seem to believe that a good, if not perfect, river water can be had if the city will spend \$62,000,000 in addition to the unexpended balance of the current \$18,000,000 water loan.

Hence, though the engineers neither predict nor advise, one of the alternatives before the city is to see what can be done through expenditure of \$62,000,000 of its own money plus the efforts of other river cleansing agencies that are now on the move.

In their preliminary report, made last November, the engineers stated that if the present sources were to be abandoned, a project known as Yardley-Wallpack Bend was their choice. In the final report major emphasis is rather strangely placed on another plan—the so-called Delaware River project.

Both plans contemplate a dam at Wallpack Bend, on the Delaware, but the Yardley-Wallpack Bend plan would bring the water to Yardley through the bed of the Delaware, whereas the Delaware River project would bring it to a dam at Warrington, in Bucks County, through a deep tunnel.

The Delaware River plan, which the engineers say the Commission itself "selected for development" in the final report, involves a capital expenditure of \$284,000,000. The Yardley-Wallpack Bend project involves capital expenditures of \$137,000,000.

Sticking to the present sources at a cost of \$62,000,000, or going to the upper Delaware at a cost of either \$137,000,000 or \$284,000,000, are the three choices which stand out as possibilities in the engineers' reports. Either upland plan would probably give better water than the present sources, but whether it would be enough better to justify the cost is a question not answered.

When the hearings before Council get under way, it would be interesting to learn why the Water Commission selected the \$284,000,000 plan rather than the \$137,000,000 plan, or several others, for "development" by the engineers.

Meanwhile, the consumer will understand that water supply improvement, admittedly needed, is going to show up in his water bills. He will have to ask himself what he wants—better water from present sources, at moderate increased cost; upland water which will double his water bills (in addition to the sewage charges now imposed), or something in between.

He will not have to hurry to make up his mind. The subject is wrapped up in technicalities; engineers differ about it. A layman will need all the illumination he can get to reach a right decision.

BULLETIN IMPORTED VS. DOMESTIC



Connoisseurs Sample City's Water; Find Queen Lane Drink is Worst

BULLETIN EDITORIAL 6-21-46

Eleven connoisseurs of drinking water, whose taste can detect the finest of the vintage stuff ranging from sparkling Schuylkill to bottled Delaware, got together today and backed their lips over sample slugs representing the various sections of the city and suburbs.

Over some they rolled the liquid around on their tongues and rolled their eyes in pure ecstasy. On some other sips—well, they were not so ecstatic.

To keep you no longer in suspense, the water from Queen Lane, serving the northwest section of the city, was found to be the worst of all, with some of the judges appearing to have trouble getting their breaths after sampling it.

After drinking it, some of the judges' taste was so injured that they couldn't record any taste at all on some of the other water served to them; their tongues were numb—more or less. Well, maybe it wasn't as bad as all that, but anyway, Queen Lane water scored seventh among seven samples.

Commercial Brand First

First place went to a ringer; rather, a commercial table water. The testing was done under the auspices of the Citizens' Committee on City Planning at the Sylvania Hotel.

It was very scientific. There were seven set-ups of water; in each there were 11 glasses. Somberly the jurors approached the ordeal. All they knew was that they were to drink Philadelphia water. They didn't know how bad it was going to be. They steeled themselves and each took a drink out of each of the seven set-ups. They tasted it all; and being brave men and women, they even swallowed it.

After doing all the tasting, they conferred among themselves, and when the votes were in, Morris W. Wood, in charge of the test, announced the order of the winners, or losers, or however you should measure Philadelphia water.

Second place went to the so-called "Springfield" water of the Philadelphia Water Suburban Water Co., Delaware County. Third was Springfield water in the Narberth area; fourth, to the Fairmount Park spring water; fifth, to the water of the Belmont reservoir area, and sixth and next to last to the Torresdale water supply serving the northeast part of the city.

Wood said, "I think it is significant that the test came about as we expected."

LEHIGH COAL & NAVIGATION CO. GETS MORE TIME ON WATER GRAB AS REFERENDUM IS DEFERRED

57 Twelve million dollars is a lot of money! And unless the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company stops "throwing its weight around" on the basis of that tremendous profit it stands to make on a water source deal, Philadelphia may find itself in the throes of the biggest scandal in its history.

The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company is determined to foist its Lehigh-Pocono water source down the throats of Philadelphia taxpayers. How they plan to put that deal across despite engineers' findings as to the greater advantage of another supply, is anyone's guess.

But it remains a fact that \$12,000,000 is a lot of money and properly used can court considerable favor to any scheme. It has already been decided that the people of Philadelphia are not competent to vote on a choice of water supply in the June primary, as had previously been planned.

Powerful figures are at work "selling" the Lehigh-Pocono water source. A very small portion of the \$12,000,000 the Navigation Company stands to realize on the deal can provide for a magnificent payroll.

The Navigation Company maintains its project would cost the city only \$142,000,000, including the \$12,000,000 the firm would receive for a few acres of worthless mountain land. But engineers hired by the city declare that water source would cost at least \$350,000,000.

When one of the Navigation Company "salesmen" put forth the \$142,000,000 cost figure before a city business men's group, he was asked if his firm would undertake to bring the water here for that price.

"Well," he stammered, "we're not in that kind of business."

The fact remains, however, that the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company could procure those whose business it is, just as the City of Philadelphia will have to do.

There is little hope that the people of Philadelphia will get the water supply source which is to their best advantage. The Wallpack-Bend Project, which would take water from the upper Delaware, and which has been favored by experts, has no \$12,000,000 bait to put it across.

Last week Robert V. White, president of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, told that firm's stockholders there would be seven more years of prosperity. He did not elaborate on his prediction, nor did he reveal whether the prosperity would come from coal, navigation—or water.

Glenn O. Kidd, secretary and chief water peddler for the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, continues to act as groups with the same old story of how cheap Lehigh-Pocono water will be.

He has the gall to do this in spite of the fact that Water Commission engineers have set the cost of that water source at almost three times the amount Kidd claims it will be.

Kidd applauded the action of City Council in deferring a referendum on the subject of a new water source until the people of Philadelphia are better acquainted with the facts.

What he probably means is the people will become better acquainted with facts as presented by the LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY. After Kidd gets through spouting off about how soft the Lehigh-Pocono water is, he may do well to read a report from an impartial source to which no \$12,000,000 profit will be forthcoming.

consider not only the capital expenditures required, but also the costs of operation, maintenance and debt service—also depreciation and replacements.

To sum up the whole situation, Philadelphia, through the expenditure of only \$63,000,000 could provide as good water from its present sources as runs through the faucets of any large American city.

With both the Delaware and Schuylkill being cleaned up, that project would seem the most desirable from the standpoint of economy.

But it is doubtful whether the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company will allow Philadelphia taxpayers to decide the issue from that standpoint.

Twelve million dollars is a lot of money!

other \$10,573,600, estimated.

That adds up to \$117,000,000.

The \$284,588,000 estimate for the Wallpack Bend plan figures \$243,151,000 to bring the water down to Philadelphia and \$41,437,000 for a new Queen Lane filter plant and distribution connections.

The Commission engineers said if they used the Lehigh company's basis of designs and unit costs on the Wallpack Bend plan it would figure up to only \$107,000,000.

Wallpack Dam Questions

THERE is little doubt that all the engineering problems of building a dam at Wallpack Bend on the Delaware, to impound water for Philadelphia, could be solved. Whether the legal problems would also yield is less predictable.

The Bureau of Municipal Research shows that the full legal power necessary to build the dam is not now possessed by the city and cannot be delegated to it by the Pennsylvania Legislature alone.

New York, New Jersey, and Delaware also have rights in the Delaware water, and extensive areas of New Jersey and some in New York would be flooded by the Wallpack Bend reservoir. The right to flood them would have to be acquired, and after that it would be necessary to work out some way to insure protection of watersheds in New York and New Jersey from pollution.

As the Bureau remarks, these difficulties are not necessarily insurmountable. Yet it is obvious that no final decision could be made for a dam at Wallpack Bend unless the necessary legal rights had first been acquired; and acquiring them might consume several years.

LEHIGH PLAN IS TOO EXPENSIVE

Water Engineers Claim Company Underestimated Cost

(Continued From First Page)

By LEEDS MOBERLEY to the northeastern city limits. That is as far as it goes.

The Commission engineers' confidential report takes issue with the plan on virtually every point.

First of all, the Commission's engineers accuse the Lehigh engineers of estimating the yield of water at 7½ percent more than the actual stream flow as recorded over a 16-year period.

They declare the reservoirs would fall so low at times that "many hundreds of acres" of reservoir bottom would be exposed for extended periods. This, they assert, "would offer opportunity for the growth of vegetation which on subsequent refilling of the reservoir would produce offensive tastes and odors."

Would Need Filtration

They report that the water itself, though comparable in quality to other upland supplies, still contains enough pollution, color, corrosiveness and turbidity (cloudiness) to require "filtration and supplemental treatment" to continuously maintain a palatable, clear and altogether satisfactory water supply.

"Without filtration," says the report, "the average turbidity would be at least twice the average turbidity of water presently being supplied in the city of Philadelphia."

But the commission's engineers find all those considerations of secondary importance. What they regard as of primary importance is the question of cost. And this is what they have to say:

"The Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company has greatly underestimated the total cost of their plan for a water supply. Part of the underestimation is due to the use of inadequate unit prices for various classes of work and materials. Other underestimations occur because of inadequate design.

Disapprove Tunnel Designs

"The Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company has presented... a condensed breakdown showing a few of the important cost elements. Among the significant items listed is 'earth fill' for construction of various dams. This is estimated in two instances at 70 cents per cubic yard and in another instance at 65 cents per cubic yard.

"In September, 1945, the New York Board of Water Supply received bids for the completion of Merriman Dam in the Upper Delaware River basin. An item for 5,600,000 cubic yards of 'earth fill' was bid at 93 cents, \$4.03 and \$1.15 per cubic yard respectively by the three lowest bidding contractors."

The report suggests the Lehigh estimates must have been based on pre-war costs.

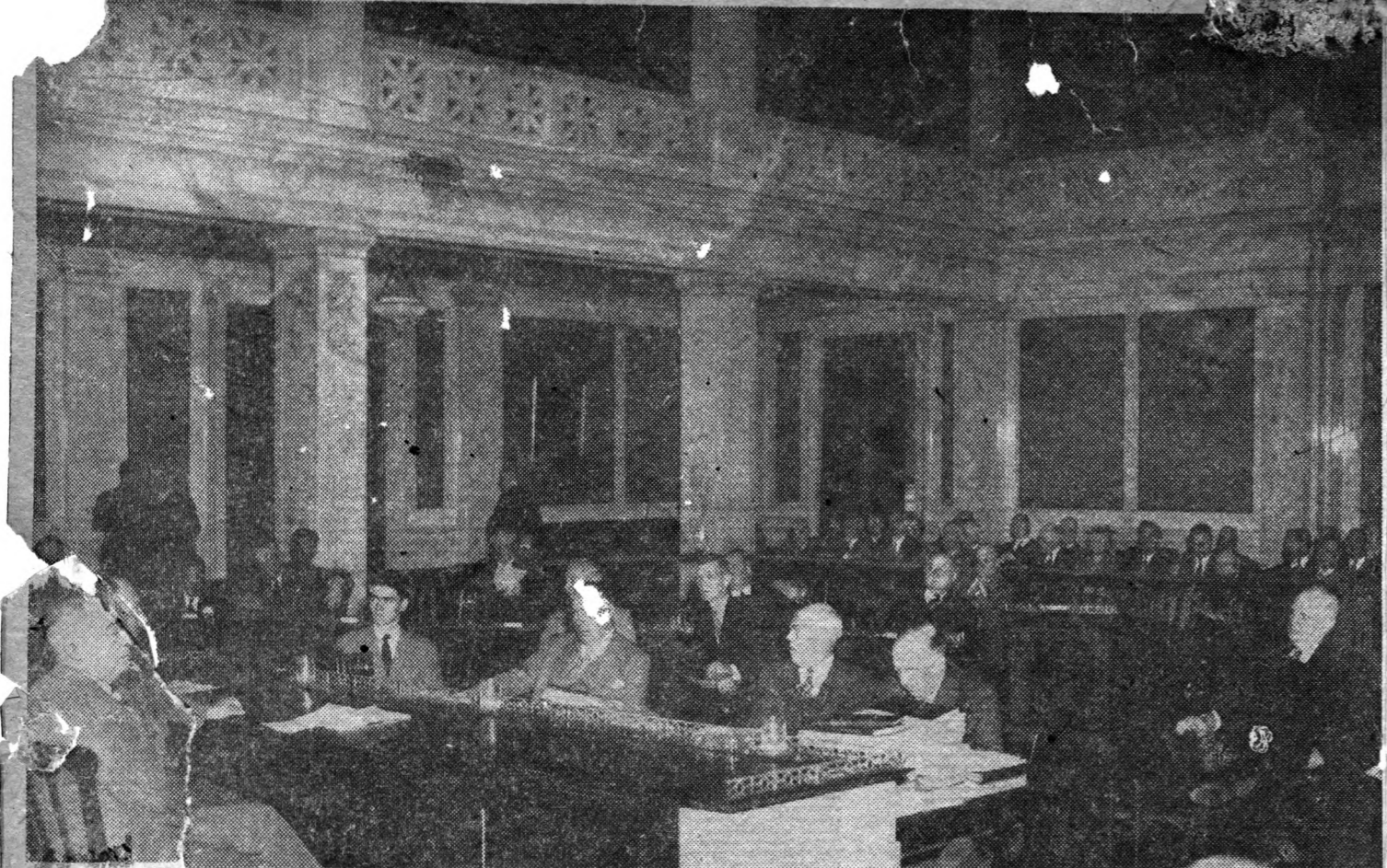
As for design, the Commission engineers disapprove the low-cost unlined grade tunnels, near the surface of the ground, which the Lehigh plan proposes to carry the water most of the distance from the upland reservoirs.

Favor Pressure Tunnels

They favor concrete lined pressure tunnels, deep in bedrock such as New York uses, as safe, more foolproof and more durable.

2004.019.0016A

Public Hearing on Water Draws scant Crowd



Fewer than 25 spectators appeared today to hear City Council's Public Works Committee discuss improvement of the water supply. Two policemen were on hand to control the crowds anticipated in the gallery (top). At extreme left is Mayor Samuel and at extreme right is Director of Public Works Martin J. McLaughlin

With less than 25 spectators present, City Council's Committee on Public Works today began public hearings of plans for improving Philadelphia's water supply. Regardless of what new source supply is agreed upon, Philadelphia is going to continue to get "water" until the distribution is improved, the committee was told by Elbert J. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Water. He said much of the 2,400 miles of water mains here are corroded and that water from them is going to continue dirty until the mains are replaced. Today's hearing, and one scheduled for May 22, were called solely for a discussion of plans now being considered by Council. Another hearing, the date for which has not yet been set, will be held to give opponents of the plans a chance to voice their criticism. A small attendance had been expected at today's opening session—but not as small as the audience which showed up. Two policemen assigned to handle visitors to the gallery in Council's City Hall chambers, stood by idly when not a person appeared there. A majority of today's spectators came from areas in Montgomery and Bucks Counties which would be inundated if the Wallpack Bend project to bring water here from the upper Delaware River is the one chosen. Chief witness today was Herbert W. Goodall, chairman of the Mayor's Water Commission, who gave a brief report of the findings of a board of engineers appointed by the commission to study the best methods of bringing water here. **500,000,000-Gallon Goal** Goodall said that the engineers were instructed to develop plans which would eventually supply 500,000,000 gallons a day to Philadelphia—the total which would be required here in the year 2000. At present the city's water needs run between 330,000,000 and 350,000,000 gallons daily. The engineers, he said, recommended two plans, the first being the Wallpack Bend project which would cost \$284,588,000. The second plan called for a project to improve and augment the city's present system at a cost of \$62,586,000. The estimated cost of the Wallpack Bend project does not provide for replacement of corroded mains as does the rehabilitation estimate. The Wallpack Bend project, (Continued on Page Two, Column Eight)

Water Hearing

(Continued from the Last Page)

Goodall said, would increase the water rents of the average household about 102 per cent, or from about \$8 to \$16 a year. The second plan would entail an increase of 13 cents in the water rents.

Goodall pointed out that the two plans were to have been placed before the city's voters at next Tuesday's primaries, but that Council postponed the referendum so that public hearings on the question could be held.

Councilman Clarence K. Crossan, who followed Taylor as a witness, said that since authorities agreed that it will take at least five years to complete an upland source of supply, City Council should, in the meantime, provide some way of eliminating bad tasting water.

In this connection, he suggested serious attention be given his proposal to abandon the Torresdale intake from the Delaware River for a new one to be constructed at Yardley. At the Torresdale station, he pointed out, water is taken at tidal flow, a condition that would not be necessary at Yardley.

"Philadelphia," Crossan said, "should not have to wait for a new supply system to get better water. It is imperative, I believe, that we do something now—not five years from now—to eliminate the reputation abroad that Philadelphia's water tastes and smells."

Director of Public Works Martin J. McLaughlin, who followed Goodall, told the committee that no matter which plan was adopted, "it's going to cost a lot of money."

McLaughlin also contended that water from any source—present or planned—is going to be "black as ink" after a storm and will require purification. Despite admitted inadequacies, the water now supplied Philadelphia has never failed to meet health standards, the director told the committee. **59**

LEHIGH DEFENDS ITS WATER PLAN; AWAITS HEARINGS

Says Proposal Will Prove to Be Cheapest and Best Source

The Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company yesterday rushed to the defense of its proposal to tap a new Philadelphia water supply on the upper Lehigh river and tributaries.

The board of consulting engineers of the Mayor's Water Commission has disapproved the plan as inadequate and excessively costly. As revealed by The Record yesterday, they figured it would cost \$345,000,000, not the \$142,000,000 estimated by Lehigh spokesmen (\$60,000,000 more than the estimated cost of the Wallpack Bend project which the commission favors).

The commission engineers made their report in January but was never made public until The Record obtained access to a copy last week-end. In this report the engineers accused the Lehigh company of misrepresentation, improper cost estimates and "inadequate engineering design."

Robert V. White, president of the Lehigh Company, issued this reply yesterday:

"The Lehigh-Pocono gravity water project will successfully stand up under every engineering study from the points of view of cost, adequacy of supply and purity of the water which will be made available.

"Because we are supremely confident of the outcome we are awaiting eagerly the official investigation by City Council. We are sure our proposal is sound and will be found eventually to be the cheapest and best water source available to Philadelphia. The report to the Mayor's Commission, so far as it referred to the Lehigh plan, has been news since January, when it was filed with the Commission. Nothing new has developed since then and there has been no further investigation. **59**

Nothing new has developed since then and there has been no further investigation. **59**

"When we received the January report we gathered our engineers together and appeared in a public hearing before the Mayor's Water Commission and answered every contention made by them and repeated this week-end. Our report is a matter of public record and it still stands. We repeat that our proposal would bring to the city of Philadelphia pure, unfiltered mountain water at the rate of 510,000,000 gallons a day for a total of \$142,000,000.

"During the first 50 years it would cost only \$122,000,000. Our plan has been developed and presented by some of the most outstanding water supply engineers in the country. They are willing to risk their reputations upon the accuracy of their figures and the engineering design of the entire project.

"The Committee on Public Works of City Council has indicated it expects to hold public hearings on the entire water supply question. At those hearings we shall again show the desirability of the Pocono pure water gravity project and the correctness of our former statements. **Charge Errors of Fact** "We shall point out the errors by the Commission engineers amounting to millions of dollars, errors of fact rather than errors of judgment." Among the Water

Engineers Reject Lehigh River For New Phila. Water Supply

Experts Advocate Wallpack Bend As Cheaper and Better Source

FOX CHASE WATER PUMP WINS U.S. APPROVAL

New Booster Station will Cost \$200,000 Including Buildings

A project for construction of a booster pumping station in Fox Chase has been approved by the Civilian Production Administration. The total cost of the project will be \$200,000, including \$106,000 for erection of buildings to house four electric pumps. The station will be located at Lardner and Oakley sts. The station will relieve low pressure conditions in the northeast and lessen the load of the Torresdale and Oak Lane stations.

The project was among 32 commercial and industrial projects, totaling \$1,265,896 approved by the CPA in the week ending last Thursday. In the same period 31 projects totaling \$2,022,828 were disapproved. **61**

City Speeds Work On Pumping Station

Work on the new electric-pumping station at Torresdale, which will possess six large pumps with a capacity of 200,000,000 gallons of water daily when completed, is moving ahead rapidly, Elbert J. Taylor, chief of the Water Bureau, announced yesterday. Taylor said the new station, part of the city's \$18,000,000 water-improvement program, will make it possible to make repairs to conduits at the Lardner's Point Station which cannot be done at this time without jeopardizing the city's maximum hourly capacity. **61**

The proposal of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. for providing Philadelphia with a pure water supply by damming up the Lehigh River and several of its tributaries was turned down by consulting engineers of the Mayor's Water Commission not because it would supply insufficient water but also because of cost.

That was learned yesterday as an aftermath of the issue of the engineers' report on Saturday, after a year of study.

COST \$245,000,000 It was disclosed that the commission had received a confidential report in January which estimated that the Lehigh Valley project would cost more than \$345,000,000—considerably more than the estimated cost of \$284,588,000 on the Wallpack Bend project in the Pocomonos.

The latter project, markedly favored in the engineers' report, was regarded as capable of supplying all of Philadelphia's water needs far into the future.

8 PROJECTS STUDIED The Lehigh River Project and the Wallpack Bend project were two among eight upland potential water sources studied by the engineers, who asserted they were not recommending particularly any one of the several projects.

In their final report, on Saturday, they dismissed the Lehigh project by saying merely that it could not provide all the water Philadelphia needs if the present sources—the polluted Schuylkill and lower Delaware—are even partially abandoned.

UNDERESTIMATED COST In the confidential report of last January, however, it was said that the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company had underestimated the cost of its suggested project.

That report said the engineers for the company had overestimated the stream flow of the Lehigh and its tributaries by 7½ percent. It added that if dams were constructed there would be times when hundreds of acres of reservoir bottom would be exposed. That would mean, it was argued, that plants would grow and that eventually they would give unpleasant tastes and odors to the water.

GREATER TURBIDITY "Without filtration," the January report states, "the average turbidity would be at least twice the average turbidity of water presently being supplied in the City of Philadelphia."

The report also suggested that the estimate of costs by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. had been based on pre-war figures for labor and materials, and not on the advanced prices of today. **59**

Facing the Water Problem

Quality of Delivered Water, Rather than Raw Supply, Not Stressed in Engineers' Report

(The Bulletin resumes today its presentation of a series of articles intended to give readers in brief and simplified form a clearer understanding of the voluminous technical reports compiled for the Philadelphia Water Commission. The first three of these articles appeared May 14, 15 and 16. Because of their importance to every resident of Philadelphia the series was suspended during the period of curtailed Bulletin circulation. The fourth article follows; the fifth will appear tomorrow.)

IN their discussion of the raw water delivered to the city's purifying plants, the Water Commission's Board of Consulting Engineers say that both rivers "are now polluted to an extent greatly exceeding the maximum recommended [by the U. S. Public Health Service] for raw water to be purified by rapid sand filtration."

These words seem to have been more widely quoted than understood. Their meaning is lost if the reference to "rapid sand filtration" is not given due emphasis, for Philadelphia does not at any point rely solely on rapid sand filtration for purification. Almost all the water passes through slow sand filters or is double filtered. Rapid sand filtration is the only filtration for some of the Belmont Water, but it is supplemented by chemical treatment. Since the engineers were primarily

concerned with sources, they may not have felt called upon to discuss at length the suitability of the water after treatment, either now, or after anti-pollution measures have become effective, or after the installation of better methods of treatment. A very important anti-pollution measure, of course, is the city's own sewage disposal program.

But while one searches in vain for a direct statement from the engineers that the water from present sources is suitable or can be made so, this seems to be necessarily implied. Presumably the engineers would not have gone to the trouble to work up estimates of the cost of making the "present system suitable for continued use," as they did, had they not thought that a suitable supply could be provided. If this is what they thought, it is unfortunate they did not say so more emphatically.

Water Impatience

TALK in the councilmanic chamber of the need to do something drastic, right away, about the water problem is both futile and harmful.

Many Philadelphians very often find the present water unpleasant to drink. It is a safe water, however, and it has been used for a long time without catastrophe. Granted that improvement is desirable, the need is not so urgent that the city would be justified in cutting short its deliberations on what is best to be done or in adopting a plan whose chief virtue might be that the engineering work could be quickly completed.

Three to five years seems to be the minimum time in which the simplest of the proposals discussed by the Water Commission's Consulting Engineers could be put into effect.

The city might have to wait even longer than that for the most energetic anti-pollution campaign to get in its work. For the city's own sewage disposal program, the voters have only this week authorized a loan. Considerable improvement in the treatment processes seems possible, but it can't be put into effect over night.

Wandering that water supply should be worked on the spot has the aspect of playing to the vanity than of thinking the problem through to a sensible conclusion.

engineers' criticisms of the Lehigh plan was a charge that the Lehigh Company estimated the water yield at 7½ percent more than the actual recorded runoff of the streams over a 16-year period.

Owns Land in Watershed The Lehigh Company owns about 30,000 acres in the Lehigh River watershed, valued at \$5,000,000, which it hopes to sell to the city as part of its plan.

City Council's Public Works Committee will hold a series of hearings before any final decision is made. As a prelude to the hearings, the Water Commission yesterday arranged for a closed meeting with members of City Council at 2 P. M. tomorrow. The Commission's consulting engineers also will attend.

2004.019.0016B

Ex-Gob Dips In Reservoir As Cops Fume

Arrest Follows 'Water Show' by Jobless Baker

Sportive as a young sea lion, a 22-year-old ex-sailor swam for 40 minutes yesterday in the cold water of East Park Reservoir, 33d and Diamond sts., while a squad of policemen tried to lure him out.

Only because he finally grew tired did the swimmer return to shore and permit himself to be arrested. The charge against him is disorderly conduct by attempting suicide.

He Saw the Sign

He is Edward Stoddard Barber, 2123 N. Stanley st.

He couldn't have failed to see the "No Swimming" sign, police said. Swimming in the reservoir is forbidden because the water there is part of the city's supply.

Barber and a friend, Alex Imovitz, 16, of the Stanley st. address, were first seen at 1.30 P. M. by Water Bureau Guard Frank Pierce when they climbed over the picket fence that surrounds the reservoir.

Barber, an unemployed baker, stripped down to his swimming trunks, dived into 26 feet of water and swam away, heedless of warnings from Pierce. Pierce jumped into a rowboat and rowed after him. But he couldn't row fast enough and so returned to shore and called police.

The Fun Begins

Seven Park Guards and two city patrolmen responded. And then the fun began.

Barber, one of the best swimmers

Continued on Page 2, Column 5

Anyway He Had a Good Time



Park Guards help Edward Stoddard Barber, in swimming trunks, through a barbed-wire fence atop a valve house at East Park Reservoir, in which he took an illegal swim. Inset: Barber's bride, Lorna.

EX-SAILOR SWIM IN CITY RESERVOIR

Arrest Follows One-Man Aquacade by Jobless Baker

(Continued From First Page)

mers the officers ever saw, employed back stroke, side stroke, breast stroke and Australian crawl. He dived. He floated. He swam under water for half a minute at a time. He scared the cops silly by pretending he was in distress and drowning.

They had reason for their fears. For on the shore, Barber's friend, Imovitz, was explaining how Barber, out of a job and unable to support his recently acquired wife, Lorna, was despondent and had been talking about suicide.

Barber swam across the reservoir. The police, figuring he was about to climb out, ran around to the other side to nab him. The reservoir is a mile and five-eighths in circumference, and it was quite a run. But when the officers reached the other side, puffing and peevish, Barber merely swam away to another point.

Pierce had gone on his way, and the officers didn't know he had a boat nearby. So two guards piled into a truck, drove to Girard ave. on the Schuylkill, pulled a 300-pound boat out of the river, put it in the truck, and hauled it back to the reservoir.

As they arrived, sweating and red-faced, Barber swam easily to the shore and climbed out.

"I'm tired," he told Park Guard Sgt. William Jent.

Later, he told Park Guard Detective Sgt. Richard Donahue that one reason he'd leaped into the water was that he'd lost his job and had quarreled with his wife.

He will have a hearing at the Sedgley Park Guard House this morning.

New Fight is Made

(Continued from the First Page)

opposed the plan because it would have relocation of many Bucks County roads.

Questions Legality

McCracken told the committee that he seriously questioned Philadelphia's exercise of the right of eminent domain in another county and that he proposed to file a memorandum with the committee later, expressing that objection.

Judge Ladner reiterated his previous objection to the Walpack Bend project on the ground that it is not sufficiently superior to that of taking water from the Delaware at Yardley and that it would involve interstate complications with New Jersey and New York.

On the other hand, he pointed out, adoption of the proposed Upper Lehigh River Basin plan would involve no interstate complications and compared its estimated cost of \$240,000,000 with the estimated \$360,000,000 cost of the Walpack Bend proposal.

"It is my view," Judge Ladner told the committee, "that if we go to the Walpack Bend, it will give us very little better water, at a vastly greater expense, than if we moved the intake to Yardley.

"If the citizens of Philadelphia want a pure upland source of water, in my judgment they should confine themselves to sources within the State of Pennsylvania, free of all interstate complications and so far as possible in a protected watershed that is not likely to be either industrialized or urbanly developed and which can be policed and protected by our own State laws."

NEW FIGHT IS MADE ON DAM PROJECT

BULLETIN * 6-11-46
Warrington Officials say

Water Plan will Wipe out Third of Taxables

Location of a reservoir and dam in Warrington Township, Bucks County, in connection with a proposed new upland water supply for Philadelphia, will wipe out one-third of that community's taxable properties, township officials contended today.

They were among those heard when City Council's Committee on Public Works, headed by Councilman Phineas T. Green, chairman, resumed public hearings on various plans under consideration for providing Philadelphia with a larger and more modern water supply system.

Summoned by Robert T. McCracken, solicitor for the Bucks County Board of Commissioners, the township officials protesting the location of the Warrington reservoir and dam were George T. Tettemer, real estate assessor; Charles L. Murray, tax collector; and Edward T. Hancock, a member of the County Board of Commissioners.

Judge Ladner Assails Plan

Earlier in today's session, Orphans Court Judge Grover C. Ladner, president of the Schuylkill River Valley Restoration Association, condemned the Walpack Bend plan (which involves construction of the reservoir objected to in Warrington Township) and suggested, instead, that a wholly state-contained upland source be agreed upon if the present sources of supply cannot be improved.

Tettemer, under the questioning of McCracken, told the committee that Warrington Township's total assessments are \$1,510,962 and that the 2,300-acre site selected for the reservoir is assessed at \$592,395.

Within that site, Tettemer said, are 270 homes and farms housing more than 1,000 persons, all of whom will have to find new homes. Location of the reservoir in the township, he also said, will wipe out two public schools, a parochial school, three churches and the entire village of Neshaminy.

Says Creek Will Dry Up

Tettemer also contended that 35 to 40 miles of Neshaminy Creek will be dried up as location of the reservoir in the township, he said, will eliminate Little Neshaminy and Park Creeks, two of its principal tributaries.

Murray told the committee that the township would lose approximately \$13,000 in present taxes if the reservoir is located in his township and that surviving sections would have to have taxes increased to make up for the loss.

Hancock said some of the buildings that would be demolished under the proposal date back to pre-Revolution days and have been occupied by generations of the same family. In addition to this sentimental objection, he said, he also

(Continued on Page Two, Column Two)

COUNTY PROTESTS WATER PROJECT

Montgomery Board says Warrington Dam would Dispossess 1,000

The Montgomery County Commissioners today formally protested the proposed construction of a reservoir in Warrington Township as part of the Walpack Bend-Warrington project as a new source for

While the protests were being expressed, a group of Horsham Township property owners listened attentively at the public hearing on new sources of city water, before City Council's Public Works Committee.

Warren F. Cressman, Montgomery County engineer, declared: "This project would dispossess upward of 1,000 residents and property owners, who would have to find new homes. Although the dam would be built in Warrington Township, the area affected would cover some 4,400 acres, with the reservoir virtually cutting Horsham Township in half.

Road Relocation Needed

"It would involve a relocation of part of Easton road, as well as other State highways, county and township roads. Some of the latter would be wiped out. Old landmarks would be destroyed or inundated. Several bridges would be eliminated."

Present also were Foster C. Hillgass, president of the Montgomery County Commissioners; Commissioner Fred C. Peters, and Maxwell Strawbridge, attorney for the commission.

Peters said the commissioners were unanimously supporting the Horsham Township residents in opposition to the reservoir. When Cressman remarked that Philadelphia needs water and needs it badly, but reiterated opposition to the Warrington project, Councilman L. Wallace Egan observed that as he understood it, the commissioners and residents objected solely because it affected their property and their lives.

"Natural!" said Cressman, "that is the reason."

William J. Heffernan, international vice president of the Uphol

(Continued on Page Three, Column Two)

Water Project

(Continued from the First Page)

sters' International Union of North America, AFL, urged Council to give serious consideration to improved source of water supply with equally serious consideration to the cost of any improvement program.

Cites Rental Increase

"The members of the union have little stomach for today's city water," he added, "but equally little stomach for a 25 per cent rise in water rents that would continue to supply the same filth and disease-laden water with the dubious method of more chlorine or extra processing."

Harry L. Clark, chairman of the water committee of the Philadelphia Boosters Association, said Philadelphia needs a good water supply as quickly and cheaply as possible, and feels that legal difficulties might be involved in the Walpack Bend project.

"The estimated \$284,000,000 cost," he said, "is too large a sum for the city to be strapped with, and too much of a burden to carry compared with receipts."

Favors Crossan Plan

He urged Councilmen to give serious consideration to a proposal advanced earlier by Councilman Clarence K. Crossan to abandon the Torresdale intake for one at Yardley, and suggested that the existing pipe system be used for industrial, street cleaning, fire fighting and other purposes, with new pipes bringing better water for residential use.

Charles A. Emerson, a member of the board of consulting engineers to the Philadelphia Water Commission, pointed out that the cost of virtually duplicating the present pipeline system would be exorbitant, and would necessitate tearing up every street.

Councilmen were urged to give serious consideration to use of the ozone process in treatment of water by Morse DellPlain, president of Ozone Processes, Inc., a subsidiary of the Welshbach Engineering and Management Corporation.

Describes Process

Ozonation was described by DellPlain as a logical treatment for Philadelphia water, regardless of what the final decision is as to source of supply.

The Bureau of Municipal Research, through Robert K. Sawyer, a staff engineer, suggested a three-stage construction program which, it said, would involve an immediate capital expenditure of less than \$100,000,000 for water which would meet all quality standards except softness in one year, and all quality standards in three years.

Work in 3 Stages

Stage one would include installation of equipment to remove all objectionable tastes and odors from water of both present sources, and to remove manganese from the Schuylkill River.

Stage two would provide for taking of all needed water from the Delaware at Torresdale, with part of the water going to Queen Lane and Belmont stations, and universal metering throughout the city.

The third stage would provide for future quantity requirements, and would include negotiation of the required compact and securing necessary Federal permits to clear the legal path for construction of a dam at Walpack Bend.

City Wants the Best Water Regardless of the Cost

The Bureau of Municipal Research has been a useful institution.

Like other institutions, the bureau makes mistakes.

We believe it made a bad one this week in recommending that the city abandon plans for a new upland water supply and stick to present sources—the polluted lower Delaware and, for a time, the Schuylkill.

Its staff engineer, Robert K. Sawyer, insisted at a hearing before City Council's Public Works Committee that a high quality water, without objectionable taste or odor, could be produced from present sources simply by additional treatment.

We cast no reflections on Sawyer's competence as an engineer.

But his assertion is in direct conflict with the most significant conclusion of the engineers of the Mayor's Commission.

These are engineers of national reputation—with no political ax to grind in recommending a new water source. They devoted nine months to the first complete engineering study of our water problem.

They stated there was no assurance the city could obtain good drinking water from its present sources.

They said there can be no sensible alternative to a new source of water supply.

There is every reason to believe them.

It is reasonable to assume that the purer the raw water that is brought into our system, the purer the final product that will run from the householder's spigot.

All water needs some treatment to make it safe or potable. The most contaminated requires the most treatment.

Thus, should the treatment system or the men who operate it fail, the results would be the more serious the more polluted the water was to start with.

With our present sources polluted by industrial waste, there is always danger that the raw water will suddenly become too foul for the purifying equipment to cope with.

Objectionable water could be in the distribution pipes before it was detected.

Going to the upper Delaware, to Wallpack Bend, as suggested by the Mayor's Water Commission, will not mean escape from all pollution. It will not end the danger of failure in treatment plants.

But it will be greatly minimized.

The Bureau of Municipal Research seems to be preoccupied with costs.

The bureau's plan would cost \$122,968,000; the Wallpack Bend project plus stop-gap repairs of the existing system, \$315,791,000.

The bureau's plan is false economy as long as it falls short of providing the best possible water.

Philadelphia doesn't want a high quality water at the "most reasonable cost." It demands the highest quality water—because cost will be too small to haggle over.

The Wallpack Bend project, for instance, would mean only an increase of two cents a day in the average householder's bill.

Wise people do not shop by price tag—only by quality—when even the highest price tag is so easily within their means.

Now is the time to provide Philadelphia with the best water. Not the next best.

We are going to have to drink it for a long, long time.

Queen Lane Reservoir, 50 Yrs. Old Gets First Complete Cleaning

Deepwater Dredge, Hauled to Scene in 2 Sections and Reassembled, is Removing Tons of Silt

The Queen Lane reservoir is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary with a complete cleaning, the first in its history, and doing the work is a deepwater dredge hauled to the scene in two sections and reassembled by the crew of veteran river and harbor men.

In 1896, when the first water was pumped into the reservoir from the Schuylkill River, the huge, rectangular basin could hold 177 million gallons. By last November, when the cleaning project was started, its capacity had been reduced by more than half and 16 of the 30 feet depth held an estimated 350,000 tons of silt and mud.

Welded Together Again

To remove this gigantic deposit and yet keep the reservoir in operation was a problem that was solved only after months of planning by city officials and the entire staff of the Eastern Engineering Co., Atlantic City. The same firm last year cleaned the Torresdale Reservoir by dredging, but the basin's proximity to the Delaware River made it a

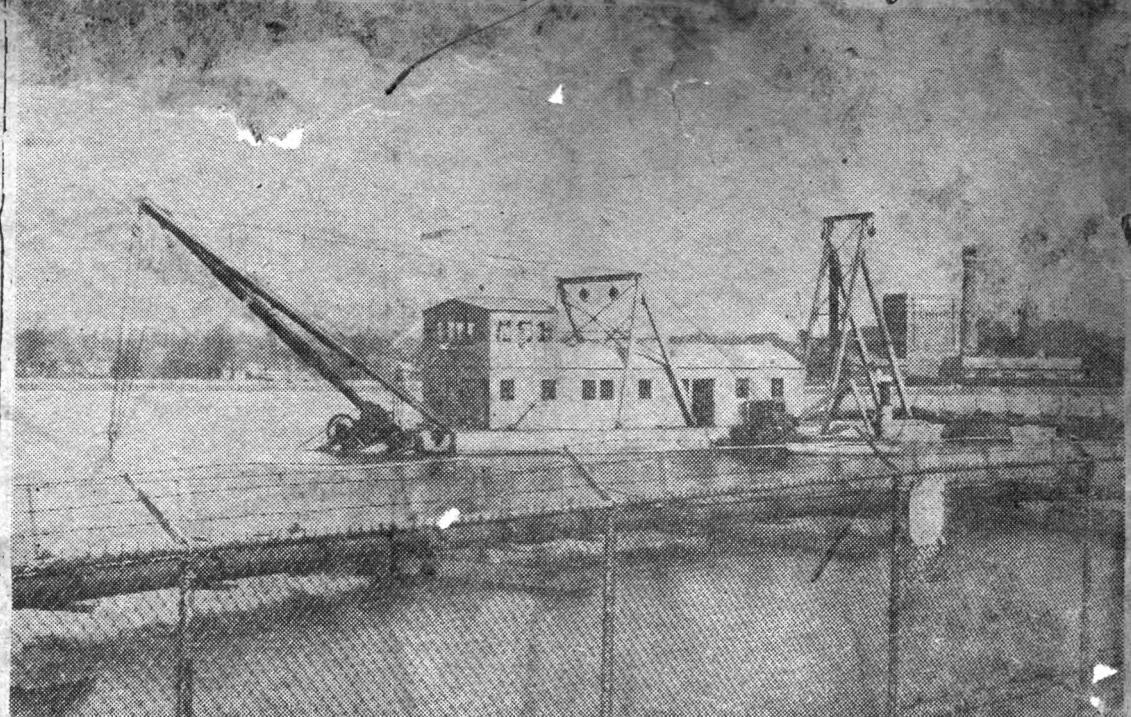
simple matter to bring the large dredge to the scene of operations.

It was finally decided to house the dredging machinery on a new steel hull, haul it in sections from Atlantic City to the Queen Lane basin and weld it together as it arrived. The scheme worked. Crew members raised an American flag on the rigging, unofficially dubbed their craft the "Big Queen," and started dredging.

To eliminate gas and oil exhausts into the reservoir the dredge is electrically powered. A flexible, 16-inch pipe with steel cutting blades digs into the sediment and it is discharged through several thousand feet of tubing which snake after the dredge on cylindrical pontoons.

The dredge crew, most of whom can close their eyes and describe every river and harbor along the east coast in detail, admit that they still feel startled when they scan the horizon only to see cars and buses rolling along Henry av. or Fox st. Working shift work, they sleep aboard, but go "ashore" either by walking atop the discharge pipes

Flagship of Queen Lane Navy



Deepwater dredge "Big Queen" rides at anchor in Queen Lane Reservoir where her job is to dislodge 350,000 tons of silt and mud

or by pulling at the oars of a small boat.

To show the reservoir's part in the water system, Joseph E. Gill, the Water Bureau's principal assistant engineer, scooped up a beaker of water as it entered the basin from the Schuylkill. In this he dropped a few grains of aluminum sulphate.

Remove Up to 90% of Solids

"By doing this on a large scale, we remove up to 90 per cent of the floating solids from the water," he explained. "These impurities settle at the bottom of the basin and since Schuylkill River water has an average of 830 pounds of suspended solids for each million gallons of water you can see how such a deposit of silt could be built up in 50 years.

"This is the first, and a very important, step in water purification," Gill continued. "Clearing of the basin materially will improve operating conditions and quality of water at the Queen Lane filters and, since the State and the Federal Government are about to embark upon a joint project to clean up the entire length of the Schuylkill, the probability of any future silting of the basin here will be eliminated."

Contract specifications require that the work be carried out in such a manner as to cause no increase in the cloudiness of the water as it leaves the basin and daily tests show that this has not occurred despite the action of the dredging equipment. Nor has there been any interruption in service, water officials point out.

Serves 600,000 in Area

Serving as it does more than 600,000 users in an area bounded by Hunting Park av., south to the Navy Yard, and from the Schuylkill east to Broad st., the Queen Lane plant is the largest and most important in the city's system. Officials say, too, that it will be the key facility no matter what source of future water supply is selected for the city.

What threatened to be the biggest problem connected with the project, that of disposing of the silt, was solved into an asset when Martin J. McLaughlin, Director of Public Works, ordered it used to fill in the old quarry on the west side of the reservoir, adjacent to the Queen Lane

filter plants.

To hold the almost fluid silt a perimeter of high earthen dikes was pushed up by steamshovels and bulldozers and special manholes erected. These manholes permit the water to pass into the sewers through wire covered inlets which are plugged up as the level of the ground rises.

Silt Could Fill Large Area

Director McLaughlin said the area from Fox av. to the Chestnut Hill branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and between Queen Lane and Crawford st. could be filled to street level with the reservoir silt. New water treatment buildings will be added to those on the site and the entire area landscaped, he added.

Most of the undertaking, \$520,000, will be paid for out of the \$18,000,000 loan for water system improvement.

Both McLaughlin and Gill said they expect the Queen Lane cleaning to be completed by the end of June and disclosed they are contemplating similar operations in the Roxborough Reservoir.

Report to the People—No. 9

Council Votes Funds For Water, Highway, Playground Projects

(This is the ninth in a series of reports to the people of Philadelphia, presented by The Inquirer from time to time on the progress being made on post-war improvements.)

CITY COUNCIL stepped up the pace of Philadelphia's vast civic improvement program during July.

The month's program was highlighted by the voting of \$10,170,500 for improvement of the city's three filtration and pumping stations, necessary prelude to any new water supply for the city.

But Council also launched a \$6,000,000 street repair and highway extension program, prepared to vastly expand playgrounds and recreational facilities, and submitted ordinances for major projects under the \$78,200,000 loan bills approved by the voters in May.

One of the obstacles to the improvement program, it was shown during July, is the city government's lack of revenue comparable to the size and wealth of Philadelphia.

A survey prepared by The Inquirer showed that Philadelphia's tax revenue is little more than that collected by cities one-third its size, while its income from Federal and State contributions is infinitesimal compared to that of other major American cities.

Major developments in city improvements during July include:

Water

Projects authorized by the \$10,170,500 made available by Council are expected to bring some improvement in Philadelphia's water supply within six months, although they will require nearly three years to complete.

Plans drafted by Director of Public Works Martin J. McLaughlin allot \$5,993,500 to the Queen Lane pumping station, which filters water from the Schuylkill. This sum will permit construction of a new pre-treatment plant with a capacity of 120,000,000 gallons a day as well as the rehabilitation of mechanical filter beds and the installation of carbon feeding equipment.

"Schuylkill Punch" long has been rated the worst of Philadelphia's present water supply because of its magnesium content. Engineers believe that new equipment and filtration methods will make this water as safe, palatable and appetizing as any other.

Another \$3,722,000 was appropriated for the Belmont pumping station, where carbon pre-treatment equipment also will be installed. A high pressure station will be removed to a new location at 52d st. and Parkside ave.

The remaining \$455,000 goes to the Torresdale pumping station for minor changes of a similar nature.

Council's decision on these projects will bring the quickest possible improvement in the city's water supply. It will have an important bearing on other decisions still to be made.

The Water Commission appointed by Mayor Bernard Samuel is presently rewriting its report on nine proposed new water sources for Philadelphia. This report is expected to be submitted to Council early in August. The commission already has recommended, unofficially, that Council choose the new source, without submitting the question to public referendum.

Members of the commission believe that because of the technical problems involved it would be difficult for the electorate to make a wise choice.

Whichever of the new sources is chosen by City Council, the water supply will be filtered and treated. Thus, the funds now being expended on improvement of the filtration plants will prepare them for service in connection with the new water source.

Good Water at Low Cost

ACCORDING to a statement submitted by the Bureau of Municipal Research at the last councilmanic water hearing the advantage of a good raw water source lies entirely in the lesser treatment required and the consequent lower treatment costs, and not in the quality of the final product obtainable. A high quality of water, it was said, can be obtained from any of the sources now being considered, including those now used, and if the final product is not satisfactory it is the fault of the treatment and not of the source.

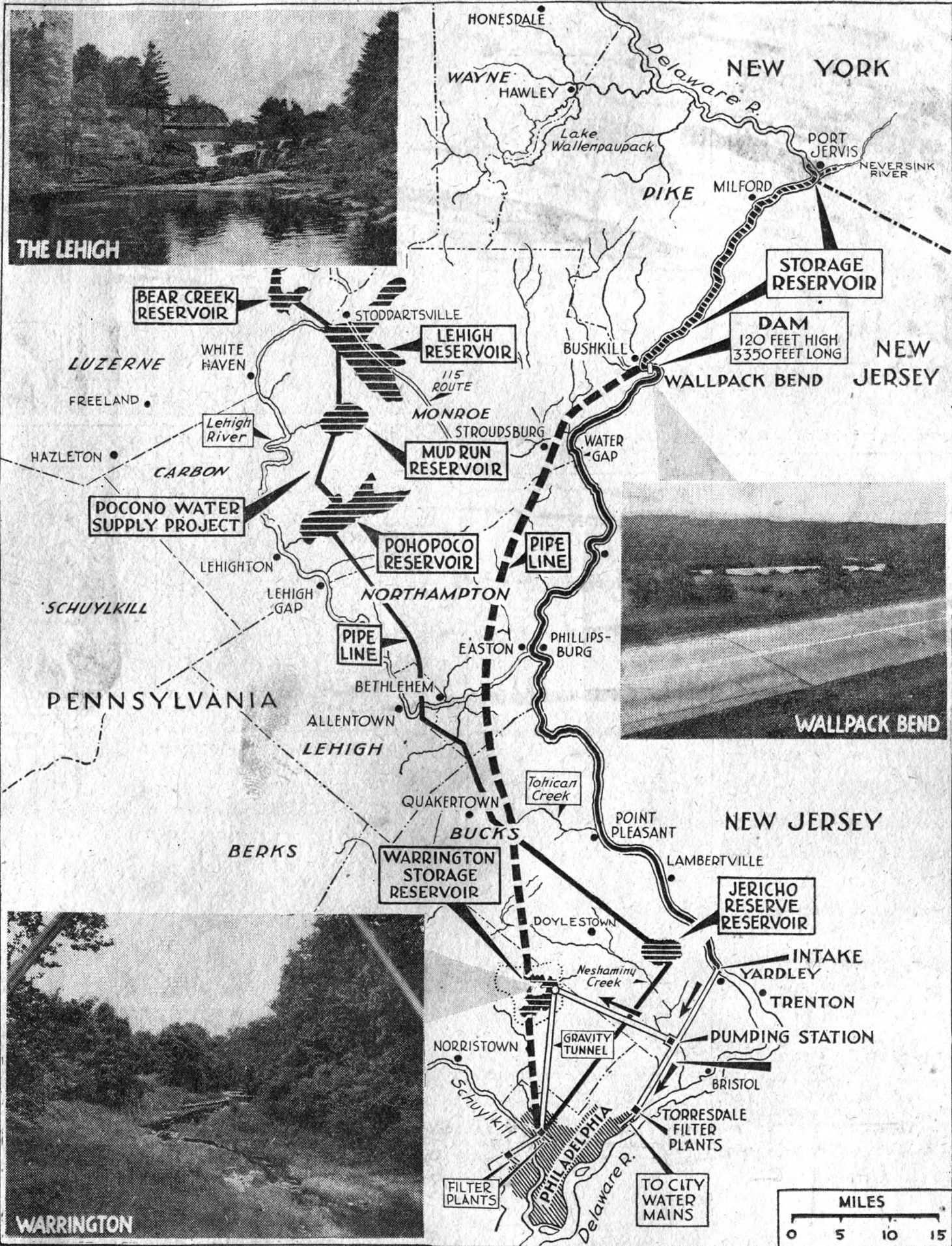
The Bureau asserts that treatment necessary to make the Schuylkill water satisfactory would make the annual costs higher than abandoning the Schuylkill and taking all the water from the Delaware at Torresdale. The Torresdale intake, however, would cost far less than any of the upland proposals.

Having gone to Torresdale for its whole supply, the city might pause, waiting to see whether a distant new source will be necessary as a means of securing, not a better water, but a greater quantity of water. More water than can be taken at Torresdale may never be needed.

This is not an argument for the present quality of delivered water. Councilmen will be wise to test the degree of improvement attainable from the continued use of present sources before making any commitments to an upland source. If the proposal is sound, it offers a really low cost water to Philadelphia at a comparatively low additional cost.

City's Water Puzzle

Many Proposals for Supply Submitted, But Officials Have No Agreed Program



RIVAL PLANS FOR NEW UPLAND PHILADELPHIA WATER SUPPLY

The above chart presents the two major plans that have been advanced to provide Philadelphia with upland water. The inset pictures illustrate the terrain in the area of the Lehigh Reservoir (upper left), the Wallpack Bend Dam (right center) and the Warrington Reservoir (lower left). The plan using the waters of the Upper Delaware by creating a reservoir 30 miles between Wallpack Bend and Port Jervis, N. Y., is indorsed by engineers of the Philadelphia Water Com-

mission. It offers two means of bringing the water to Warrington: by pressure tunnel (shown in the chart by the broken line) passing near Stroudsburg, and by use of the river to Yardley. The use of the Lehigh River is suggested by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, which proposes four reservoirs on the upper river and a gravity tunnel (shown by the unbroken line) passing near Bethlehem to the Jericho Reservoir east of Doylestown. Eight plans in all have been advanced.

Hearings Fail To Arouse Consumers

First of a Series

By Richard J. O'Keefe

Philadelphia water for many years has been a bitter subject of discussion by residents of the city and the butt of barbed jokes by visitors whose olfactory and taste sensibilities have been subjected to rude shock on introduction to a glass of it.

For nearly two generations, Philadelphians have listened to proposals to provide them with fresh, uncontaminated mountain water from so-called "upland sources." These suggestions, however, have not yet resulted in a definite program.

COMMISSION NAMED

Currently, the subject is again a matter of study by city officials. Mayor Bernard Samuel last year appointed a Water Commission to crystallize all thought on a new source of water for the city.

The Commission appointed a Board of Consulting Engineers to study the various proposals and to make expert recommendations. Although the latter has favored a program looking to a supply from the upper Delaware River, no final report has been made by the Commission.

A number of proposals have been submitted. Several are variations of the program that has received the nod of the consulting engineers. A plan that discards the Delaware River suggestion of the Commission Engineers has been advanced by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, which advances the Upper Lehigh River as a water source.

PUBLIC CONFUSED

The variety of proposals submitted has resulted in confusing the thought of many Philadelphia water users who, despite protracted public hearings, have only vague ideas of what each plan entails.

The Inquirer, in an effort to present a clear picture of the discussions during the past year, has conducted an extended survey of the various proposals, which it will discuss in this series.

Members of City Council and of the Water Commission, convinced when they undertook the studies of the imperative demand of Philadelphians for an unpolluted water supply, suffered a setback in their enthusiasm by the apparent lack of interest on the part of water users in the procedures.

FEW IN ATTENDANCE

At not one of the many public hearings was there more than a sparse attendance of interested Philadelphia water users. It was unnecessary to hang out the "standing room only" sign at the doors of chambers in which the hearings were conducted.

Attendance generally was limited to experts reporting on the various plans and the individuals whose properties would be adversely affected if certain specific proposals were accepted.

In instituting the studies, city officials contemplated placing before the voters this fall the question of a new "upland" source. In view of the large amounts of money that would have to be expended, they felt the matter should be determined by the voters.

NO CONCENTRATED EFFORT

Interpreting the apparent indifference of Philadelphians to the immediate solution of the problem as evidenced by the small public attendance at meetings as an indication a new water source is not so poignant as they had first believed, no concentrated effort was advanced to push the matter through to a vote this year.

The opposite and adamant positions taken by the Water Commission engineers and the experts of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company was another reason for more deliberate action on the part of city officials.

NOT ON BALLOT

As the matter stands, their will be no water vote on the ballot this year. If it is to be done in setting a large water policy before the voters in 1946, City Council will have to make the decision.

The officials on whom rest the responsibility for the expenditure of more than two hundred million dollars if a new "upland" source is to be used, are practical politicians. It is probable they would hesitate to accept the responsibility for such a program in view of the indifference of the water users—their own as of their decision are too nebulous to feel, translated into votes.

EIGHT PLANS ADVANCED

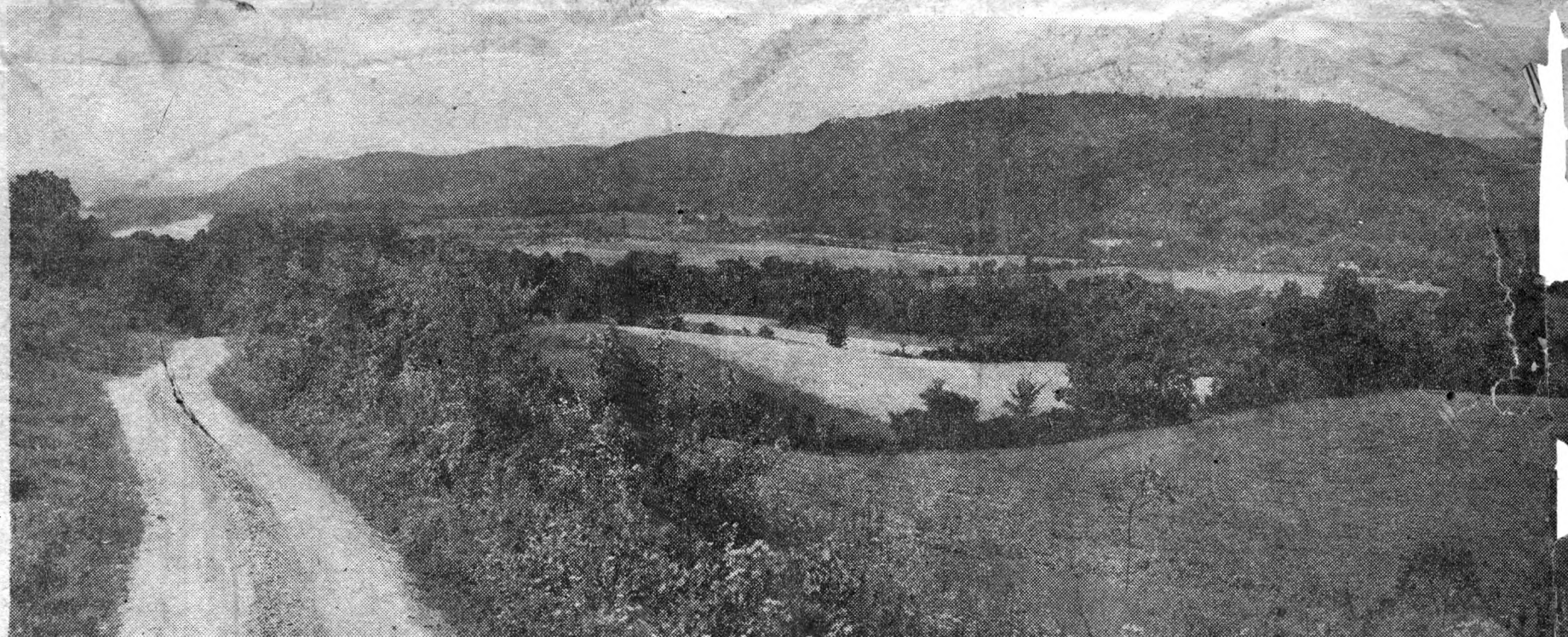
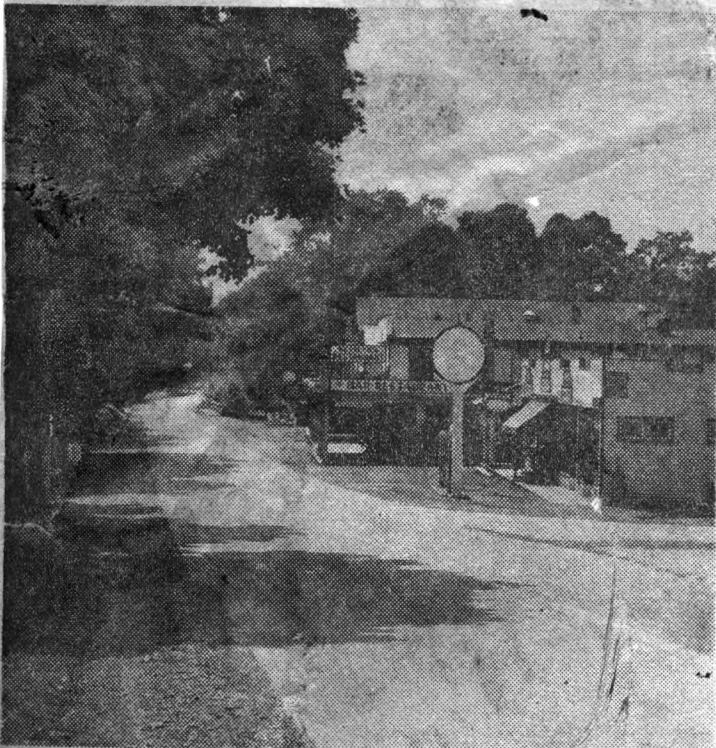
Although some eight plans for a new water supply have been advanced during the hearings, the leading rivals for acceptance are those advanced by the Water Commission engineers and of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company.

Also in the front ranks for recognition is the suggestion of the Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, which opposes any "upland" source as too expensive. It proposes moving the Delaware River intake further upstream north of Trenton, to eliminate much of the pollution entering below that city.

(Continued Tomorrow)

Philadelphia Water Department
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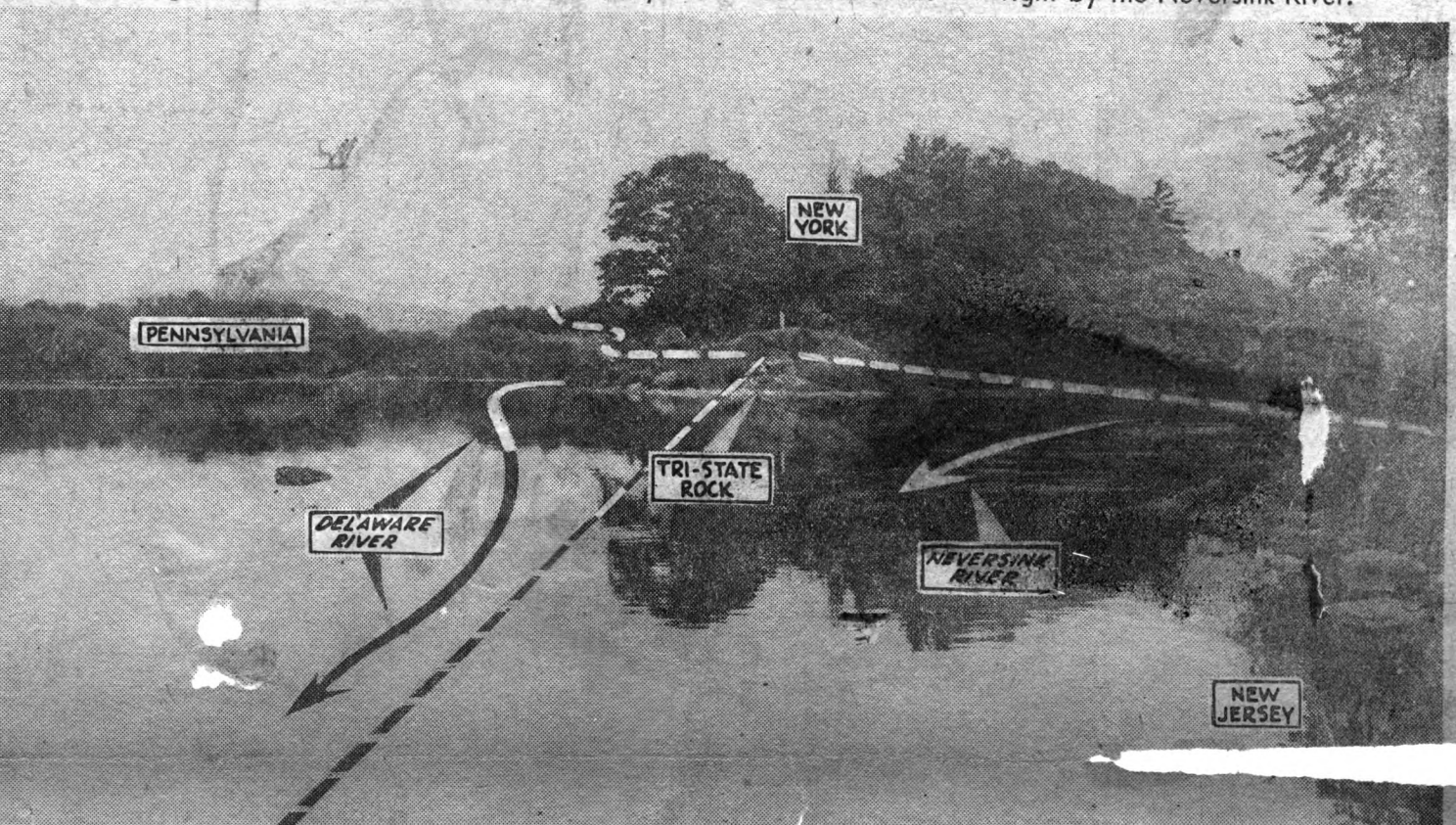
Delaware Plan Faces Series of Fights



Under plans of consulting engineers of the Philadelphia Water Commission a 30-mile reservoir extending from Bushkill, Pa., to the Tri-State boundary point of Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey would be created to provide the city with a new water supply. The river level would be materially raised to create

a lake a half-mile wide between the slopes of the Pocono Range in Pennsylvania and the Kittatinny Range in New Jersey. The above pictures the reservoir which would be flooded. The upper left shows a section of Bushkill which would be inundated. To the right is a view of the Delaware Valley that will contain the

backed-up waters south of the New York State line. On the lower left is a section of Dingman's Ferry and the entrance to the bridge over the river to New Jersey. At the lower right is shown the Delaware River at the Tri-State Rock where it is joined on the right by the Neversink River.



TOWNS AND VALLEY ALONG THE DELAWARE RIVER THAT WILL BE FLOODED BY PROPOSED WALLPACK BEND RESERVOIR

Landowners To Oppose Reservoir

Second of a Series

By Richard J. O'Neil

The Delaware River plan of the board of consulting engineers of the Philadelphia Water Commission seems headed towards a series of legal and legislative complications—not the least of which will be advanced by affected landowners—in the event the board's suggestions are adopted.

Essential parts of the Delaware River project involve creation of a reservoir running 30 miles north from Wallpack Bend Dam to Bushkill to the New York State line at Port Jervis and a storage reservoir at Warrington in Bucks and Montgomery counties.

TWO-FOLD PROPOSAL

The proposal of the engineers is two-fold concerning the method by which the water would be moved from the Wallpack Bend Reservoir to the Warrington Storage Reservoir. The first method would be by means of a pressure tunnel extending nearly 82 miles. The proposal known as the Delaware River Project for purposes of identification will cost an estimated \$284,588,000.

Under the alternate plan, known as the Yardley-Wallpack Bend Project, the engineers suggest that while retaining both the Wallpack Bend Reservoir and the Warrington Reservoir, the water could be dropped down the natural bed of the Delaware River to Yardley north of Trenton. From there it would be moved by tunnel to Warrington. This project, they estimate, will cost \$137,456,000.

SPLITS TWO RANGES

The 30-mile projected reservoir above Wallpack Bend lies in a valley separating two mountain ranges, the Pocono Mountain Range in Pennsylvania and the Kittatinny Mountain Range in New Jersey.

Pennsylvania shares with New York and New Jersey the rights to the Delaware River and the disposition of its waters is regulated by treaties between the three States made in 1873, a Tri-State compact, an amendment of which, according to some authorities, would require approval of Congress and consent of the War Department.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Opponents of the Delaware River project and its alternate maintain legislative action also would be required by three States to repeal the original treaties of 1783.

The Wallpack Bend Dam would back up the Delaware River to the bridge connecting Matamoras in Pennsylvania and Port Jervis in New York and also would create a higher level of water in the Neversink River which joins the Delaware at a point where the boundaries of three States meet at what is known as Tri-State Rock. The reservoir would run about two miles northwestward up the Neversink in New York.

14,000 ACRES NEEDED

For much of the length the reservoir lake would be one-half mile wide and would cover an area of approximately 9500 acres. Of that acreage 4950 would be located in Pennsylvania, 4225 in New Jersey and 325 in New York. Including a 500-foot protective strip along the reservoir lake, it would be necessary for Philadelphia to acquire up to 14,000 acres in the three States.

Of the acreage to be acquired, the engineers estimated that cultivated land would amount to 2686 in Pennsylvania, 1794 in New Jersey and 204 in New York. Uncultivated land, property subject to flooding and land necessary for the 500-foot protective strip would make it necessary for the city to buy an additional 4243 acres in Pennsylvania, 4095 acres in New Jersey and 247 acres in New York.

WOULD FLOOD BUSHKILL

Bushkill, a prosperous summer and winter resort, located opposite the site of the proposed Wallpack Bend Dam, would be almost entirely inundated by the waters of the reservoir. A good portion of Dingman's Ferry, eight miles north, also would be flooded as would a small part of Milford, the largest town between Stroudsburg and the New York State line.

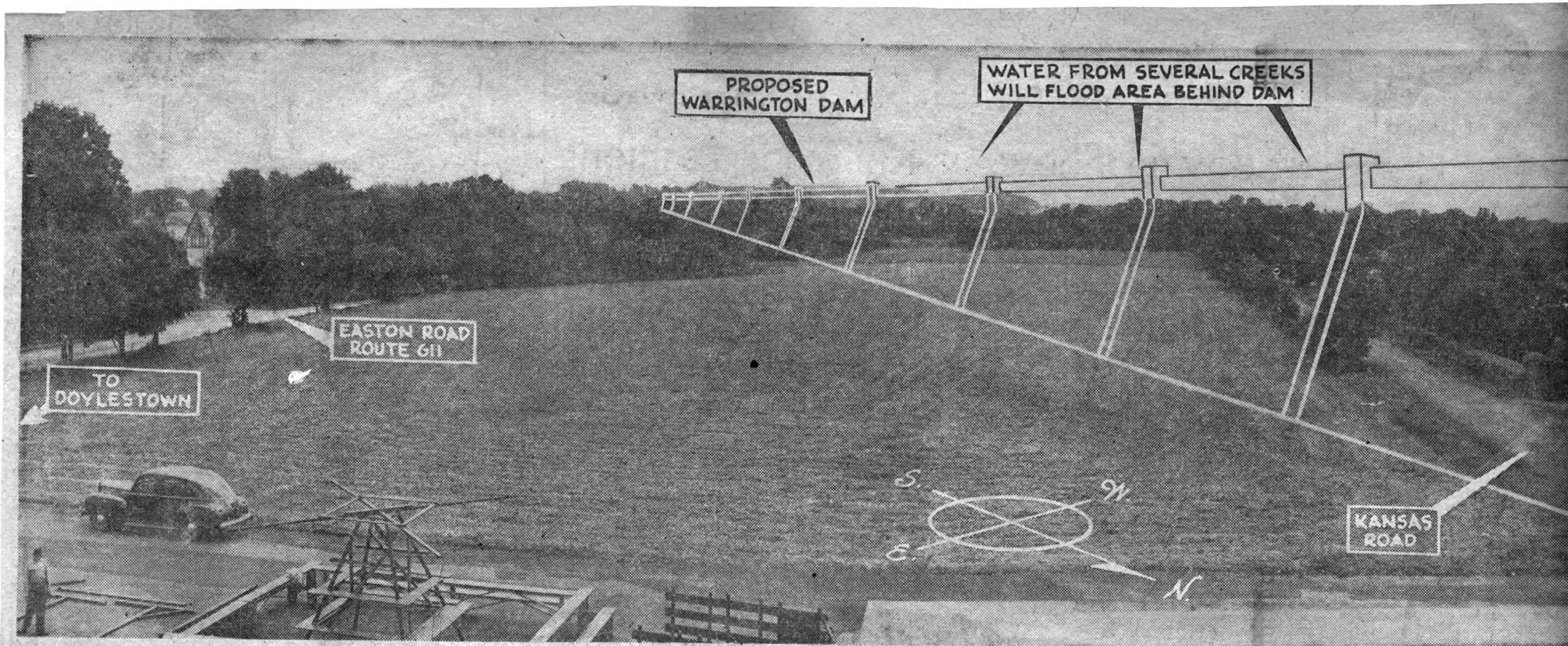
North of Milford the land that would be flooded generally is uncultivated. Below Milford and extending to Bushkill, are summer colonies and rich farm lands, all of which would be inundated. It is along this strip and in Bushkill as well as a corresponding area on the Jersey side of the river that greatest opposition to the reservoir has been advanced.

While property owners on both sides of the river have skeleton organizations that are prepared to carry a strong fight against the condemnation of their land if the project is approved, currently they have adopted a plan of watchful waiting.

Many reflected the attitude evidenced by the indifference of Philadelphians to the public studies and are inclined to doubt that the project will ever get beyond the stage of talk. Should it, however, they indicated their readiness, particularly in New Jersey, to contest agreement of that State to any use of the Delaware River water beyond the limits of the current compacts.

J. Russell Eshback, prothonotary of Pike county, who has extensive farm holdings along the Delaware between Dingman's Ferry and Bushkill, also is skeptical the Delaware River Project will go through. He, at the same time, is prepared to lead the fight of the landowners against it in the courts if that move is necessary.

(Continued Tomorrow)



DAM SITE OF WARRINGTON STORAGE RESERVOIR OF DELAWARE RIVER PLAN FOR NEW PHILADELPHIA WATER SOURCE
 An integral part of the alternate plans advanced by the consulting engineers of the Philadelphia Water Commission for a new water supply is creation of a 20-billion-gallon reservoir near Warrington. The above illustration shows the area where the northern end of the reservoir dam will be located at Neshaminy. The dam will be west of the Doylestown-Easton highway, Route 611, shown to the left of the picture. The road will be within the area proposed to be taken over by the city but will not be flooded. The town of Neshaminy located north of the area shown above will be in the path of the spillway to Little Neshaminy Creek.

City's Water Puzzle

Warrington District To Fight Reservoir

Third of a Series

By Richard J. O'Keefe

The alternate plans indorsed by the Water Commission consulting engineers for bringing Upper Delaware River water to Philadelphia provide for a 20 billion gallon storage reservoir near Warrington, 15 miles north of Philadelphia.

This phase of the program has aroused the bitter opposition of hundreds of residents and landowners whose properties would be taken for the reservoir. They, too, have expressed themselves prepared to carry to the highest courts their fight against any effort by Philadelphia to take their holdings.

In order to create the reservoir it would be necessary for the city to acquire 7,550 acres of land of which 5260 acres would be in Montgomery county and 2290 in Bucks county. Opponents to the plan in the area declare that more than 1000 properties would be inundated by the reservoir or taken to provide a bordering protective strip.

AGRICULTURAL SECTION

The land that would be acquired is now generally devoted to farming, pasturage and woodland usage. Located in it are a number of moderate residences and several estates, as well as a portion of the borough of Neshaminy. Many of the families have lived in the section for generations.

As in the case in the area of the Wallpack Bend Reservoir relocation of portions of well-travelled highways would be necessary by construction of the Warrington Storage Reservoir.

DAM NEAR EASTON PIKE

The dam creating the reservoir would be constructed just west of Route 611 leading through Doylestown to Easton. It would extend from the northern edge of the U. S. Naval Air Station to Neshaminy, where a spillway into Little Neshaminy Creek would be constructed.

George T. Tettmer, real estate assessor of Warrington township, said the reservoir land represents about one-third of the total assessments of the township.

WOULD DOOM NESHAMINY

Location of the site within the township in addition to dispossessing residents would mean wiping out two public schools, a parochial school, three churches and the village of Neshaminy.

Charles L. Murray, tax collector of Bucks County, declared the reservoir would mean a loss of approximately \$13,000 in taxes and compel upping the taxes for sections not physically affected by the reservoir.

DATE BACK TO REVOLUTION

Edward T. Hancock, a member of the County Board of Commissioners, pointed out that many of the buildings that would be destroyed go back to the Revolutionary period and have been the homes for generations of the same families. He further opposed the site because its selection would force relocation of a number of county roads.

The primary roads that would have to be relocated, in addition to a half-dozen well-kept secondary roads, are Route 152 leading to Chalfont, Route 463 connecting Horsham and Montgomeryville and Route 63 leading to Lansdale. While the Easton road passes over the eastern area of the reservoir land, it would not be necessary to relocate it, since the dam would be to the west.

UNIFIED IN OPPOSITION

Residents in the area of the Warrington Reservoir, unlike those in the area of the 30-mile Wallpack Bend Reservoir in the Upper Delaware, are unified in their opposition.

North of Bushkill, opposite which the Wallpack Bend dam would be built on both sides of the river, there is no unanimity of thought about the proposal.

J. Russel Eshback, prothonotary of Pike's county, heads the opposition on the Pennsylvania side and Frank J. McBride, of Wallpack Center, north of the dam site, is leader of the New Jersey opposition.

SOME LITTLE CONCERNED

But on both sides of the river, there were found property owners who seemed little concerned although their holdings would be completely inundated.

William J. Schoonover, owner of the Bushkill Restaurant, located in the center of the town which would be almost entirely flooded, was agreeable to construction of the reservoir if it would be open for recreational purposes. The commission engineers guarantee continuance of recreational activities on the reservoir if it is built.

NO DIFFERENCE TO HIM

Jeremiah Rosencrans, who for years conducted the only ferry between Bushkill and the Jersey shore until the Army cut his ferry cable, said it made no difference to him, although his farm property, located just north of the proposed dam site, would be entirely flooded.

Rev. Irvin L. Bateman, of Irvington, N. J., director of the Tri-State Bible Conference, located southeast of Port Jervis, favored the proposal on condition that recreational use of the river would be permitted.

(Continued Tomorrow)

... who had to count
 ... city's checks, was
 satisfied. "Can't the XYZ com-
 pany underbid its own buyers?"
 he asked in effect. "Is that free
 competitive bidding?"
 He refused to countersign sev-
 eral checks for meter parts sup-
 plied under the bids which he
 questioned. And the sellers of
 those parts went unpaid.
 White, in Republican eyes, may
 have been just a Democratic
 troublemaker. But Frank J. Tie-
 mann, Republican, who succeeded
 White as controller, is following
 White's example and refusing to
 pay the questioned bills, too.
 Says McLaughlin, now Direc-
 tor of Public Works, which de-
 partment includes the Water
 Bureau: "Because those bills are
 unpaid, the manufacturers won't
 give us any more parts. Without
 parts we can't repair meters."
Wants Court Ruling
 Says Tiemann: "I don't doubt
 the failure to pay past bills is
 causing trouble in repairing
 meters. But I won't take a chance
 of violating Judge Flood's de-
 cree. I'm not willing to accept
 the opinion of the City Solicitor's
 office. The City Solicitor is not
 the Court. I want a Court ruling."
 No one would give details of
 the unpaid bills, or the quanti-
 ties of parts required, or much
 else.
 "See Grakelow," was the con-
 sensus.
 But Grakelow, known far and
 wide as a fluent and eloquent
 speaker, won't talk this time.
 "Tell the people I am saving
 them money on city purchases,"
 was his sole answer to all ques-
 tions.
 Incidentally, the property own-
 er has to pay the city for meter
 repairs—if they are made.

**LEGAL TANGLE
 BARS REPAIR OF
 WATER METERS**

City Gets Jammed Up in
 Bids for Replacement
 Parts

By EDWARD STONE

Gathering dust in the city's re-
 pair shop at 29th and Cambria
 sts. is a huge collection of broken
 water meters.

They come mostly from homes.
 A few big ones come from indus-
 trial and commercial establish-
 ments. All were brought in for
 repairs. One official says there
 are 5000, another 7000, a third
 9000.

Whatever their number, they
 have been lying around for many
 months, in some cases as long
 as two years. The reason? In-
 ability to get repair parts.

Legal Knot

No, it's not the war's after-
 math. It's just a little legal knot
 into which the city managed to
 get itself tied.

Philadelphia's houses and other
 buildings use a score of differ-
 ent makes of water meters. When
 they go bad, the Water Bureau
 takes them out for repairs. The
 repair and replacement parts are
 bought by the Department of
 Supplies and Purchases.

In most cases, those parts can
 be made by various manufactur-
 ers. Years ago, the department
 used to advertise for bids and
 buy the parts from the lowest
 responsible bidder, in line with
 the city's custom.

Romped Away With Contracts

But the enterprising Phoenix
 Meter Corp., New York, began to
 romp away with many of the de-
 partment's contracts. Too many,
 its rivals complained to Martin
 J. McLaughlin, then chief of the
 Water Bureau.

So McLaughlin recommended
 to Director of Supplies and Pur-
 chases Charles H. Grakelow that
 parts be bought only from the
 firms manufacturing the particu-
 lar meters for which the parts
 were intended.

Grakelow agreed. Beginning
 around the end of 1943, invita-
 tions for bids gave notice that
 only the manufacturer of the spe-
 cific meter would be considered.

Nevertheless, Phoenix still put
 in bids. They were rejected.
 Phoenix went to court, through
 its local representative, John B.
 McHugh, Jr.

Company Is Winner

The city fought, but McHugh
 won out. In May, 1944, Judge
 Gerald F. Flood, of Common
 Pleas Court No. 6, forbade "any
 condition restricting bids to the
 manufacturers of water meters
 for the replacement parts of their
 respective meters."

The Supplies Department re-
 fused to admit it was licked. It
 tried a different stunt. It cir-
 culated invitations for bids read-
 ing like this: "Repair parts of
 XYZ meters, which parts shall
 be manufactured for said meters
 by the XYZ Meter Company."

That, the City Solicitor's office
 told Grakelow, would spike Judge
 Flood's decision. Nothing to stop
 anybody under the sun from buy-
 ing XYZ parts from the XYZ
 company and selling them to the
 city, was there? Wasn't that the
 "free and untrammelled bidding"
 required by law?

Questions Raised
 But Robert C. White, then City

Philadelphia Water Department
 Historical Collection
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Wallpack Bend Project Reported Sent To Mayor as Best of Seven Water Plans

Lehigh Offers New Supply From Poconos

Fourth of a Series

By Richard J. O'Keefe

Mountain water from the sparsely settled wooded gorges of the Pocono Plateau is the new supply offered Philadelphia in the proposal of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co.

The water would be collected in four large reservoirs, on the Lehigh River, and three tributary creeks of the river. It would then be taken by tunnel, for nearly its entire length by gravity, to a reserve reservoir on Jericho Creek, seven miles east of Doylestown.

When first proposed by the company, the cost of the project was estimated by engineers at \$142,000,000. Water Commission engineers protested this figure was too low, at the same time asserting the source would not provide sufficient water for the future needs of the city.

PROGRAM REVISED

The company then revised its program to enlarge the original plan, raising the estimated cost of the project to \$195,000,000. The Water Commission engineers in opposing the original suggestion of the company declared the source would fall short by 169 million gallons daily of the city's future needs and that the cost should have been estimated at \$240,000,000.

The Lehigh engineers said their revised plan which added a fourth reservoir to the original three in the upper Lehigh basin would provide 445 million gallons daily, sufficient for the city's needs for 75 years.

MOST OF LAND

Lehigh project calls for the construction of three reservoirs are on land almost entirely owned by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. The company proposes to the city 12,000 acres of its land for the reservoir sites and its use to the sole use of the Lehigh. The land on which the fourth reservoir on the upper Lehigh would be located is not owned by the company.

Four impounding dams would be located on Bear Creek, at a location 10 miles northeast of White Haven; on the Lehigh, two miles southeast; on Mud Run Creek, seven and a half miles south of the Lehigh Reservoir, and on Pohopoco Creek, near Lehigh, about 10 miles south of the Mud Run Reservoirs.

CALLS FOR GRADE TUNNELS

From Pohopoco, the water would be carried by grade tunnels, less costly than the Delaware River plan type of pressure tunnels, for a distance of 60 miles to the Jericho reservoir. Some sections of the tunnel to Jericho would, however, be of the pressure type to carry the water through unfavorable terrain.

Proponents of the Lehigh plan, which during the public hearings of the Philadelphia Water Commission and of City Council was subjected to strongly critical attacks by the Water Commission's consulting engineers, contend fewer individuals or property owners would be disturbed than would be the case by adoption of the Delaware River plan.

DENSELY POPULATED

areas in which are to be located the three northernmost reservoirs, Bear Creek, Lehigh and Mud Run, are not thickly inhabited. There are no villages of material size and the sites are largely covered with forest. The population on the Pohopoco site is slightly greater and considerably larger portion of the land is under cultivation.

On the site of the Bear Creek reservoir is located the village of Bear Creek, an attractive summer colony which includes a number of extensive houses. It would be necessary to relocate one mile of the Easton-Vilkes-Barre highway which runs through the village and about five miles of a State highway which parallels Bear Creek.

100 FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL
Bear Creek reservoir along with the Lehigh reservoir and Mud Run reservoir would have an approximate elevation of 1600 feet above sea level. The Pohopoco reservoir elevation will be considerably less than its companion reservoirs, being projected at 665 feet above sea level. From this level, the water will be dropped an approximate 300 feet above sea level at the Jericho reservoir.

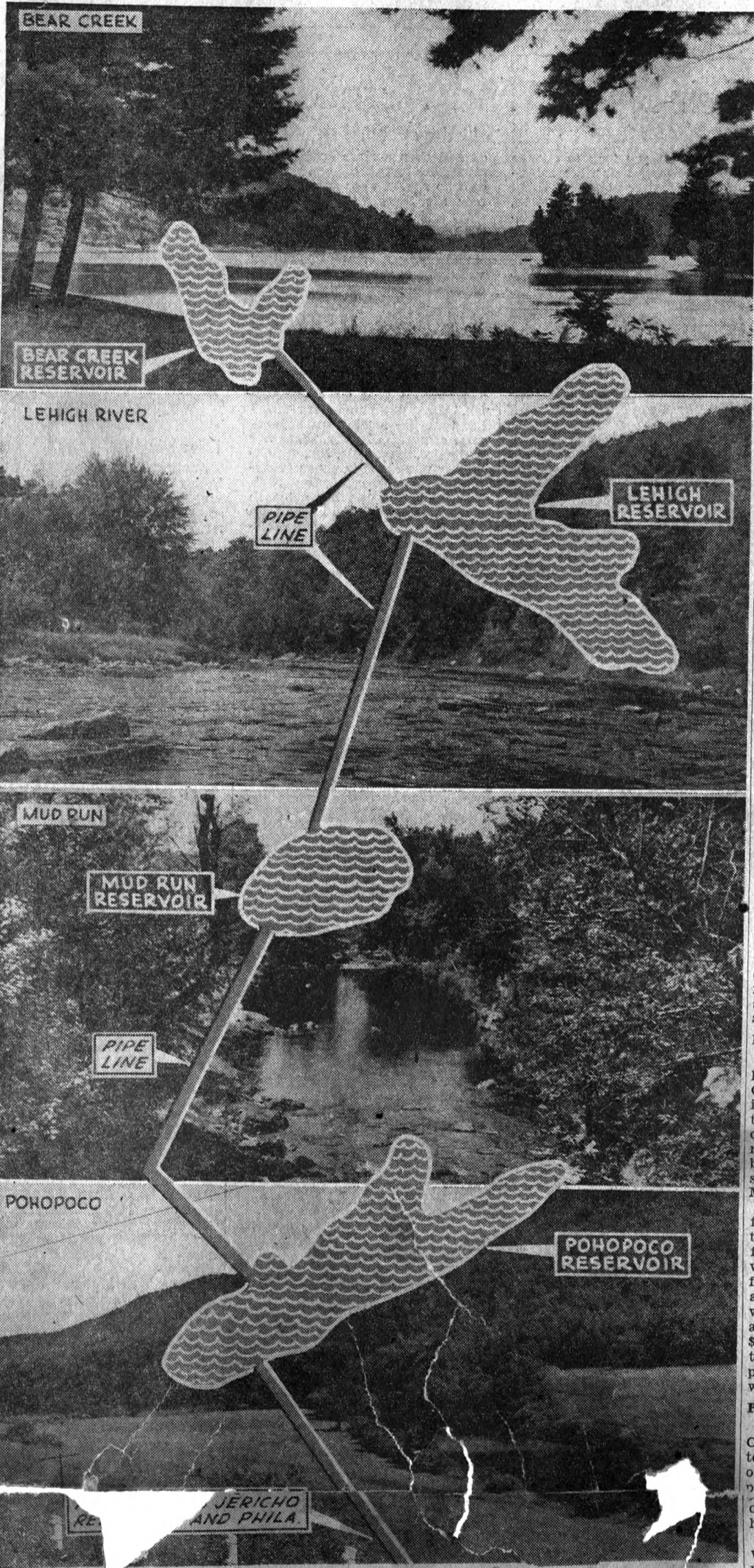
The Lehigh reservoir will be the largest of the four. The reservoir would make necessary relocation of the State highway between Bear Creek and Pocono Lake and between Lakesley and White Haven with a number of other less important roads. The area is mostly timber covered.

SMALL RESORT SECTIONS

While there are no settlements of any size that would be flooded, there are several small resort sections near the reservoir site. One such is Slip Rock Lodge on Lake Harmony, owned and operated by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. This, however, would not be affected by the reservoir.

The site of the Mud Run reservoir is partly owned by the Federal Government and operated as a game preserve. There is practically no habitation or cultivation in the area to be submerged. Although construction would not involve any important highways or communities, relocation of several miles of a secondary road would be necessary.

(Concluded Tomorrow)



FOUR RESERVOIRS OF LEHIGH RIVER PLAN

Mountain water of the Pocono Plateau, north of Mauch Chunk, would be collected in four reservoirs on the Upper Lehigh River under a proposal of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. for a new Philadelphia water supply. The above illustration presents views in the vicinity of the sites of the four reservoirs. Superimposed is the plan for the collecting lakes, the water in each of which would be transferred by pipe line from the Bear Creek reservoir through the Lehigh and Mud Run reservoirs to the Pohopoco reservoir, from which it would be dropped by tunnel to a fifth storage lake on Jericho Creek, east of Doylestown.

Proposal Will Go To Council

A recommendation by the Board of Consulting Engineers, favoring the Delaware River-Wallpack Bend project as a new source of drinking water for the city, has been passed on unofficially to Mayor Samuel by the Mayor's Water Commission as the most promising of the seven projects under consideration, it was indicated yesterday.

The Water Commission met for more than two hours yesterday afternoon, with 13 of its 19 members present, and approved the final draft of its report on a future source of water for Philadelphia. At the conclusion of the meeting, however, no details of its recommendations were forthcoming.

SEVERAL WEEKS DELAY

Samuel H. Rosenberg, secretary to the Mayor and to the Commission, said it would probably be several weeks before the Commission's report was ready for submission to the Mayor. The latter, in turn, will send its recommendations to City Council for action.

Other City Hall sources yesterday, however, predicted that in view of the prohibitive cost of the upland water project, City Council might content itself for the present with rehabilitation of the city's present water system.

500 MILLION GALLONS DAILY

The Board of Consulting Engineers, which made a study of seven projects involving various areas in the Poconos and the Delaware River watershed, recently recommended the Delaware River-Wallpack Bend project, which would cost \$284,533,000 to put into operation and would provide Philadelphia with 500,000,000 gallons of fresh drinking water daily.

The Board also estimated it would cost \$62,568,000 to improve the city's present water system—a task which must be completed regardless of whether an uplands source is chosen. The board's estimate does not include \$18,000,000 already authorized by the voters for the same purpose in 1940.

PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD

Council's Public Works Committee, headed by Councilman Phineas T. Green, held a series of public hearings recently at which all phases of the water supply problem were discussed. Yesterday, Green indicated no meeting of his committee would be held before the Water Commission's report is submitted to the Mayor, nor immediately thereafter.

From this, observers drew the inference that Council, upon getting the Commission's recommendations from the Mayor, might go ahead with its own program. Council a few months ago ordered full speed ahead in revamping the present water system, and at that time authorized the expenditure of about \$10,500,000 in funds remaining from the original \$18,000,000 loan approved by the voters, to finance the work.

PERKIOMEN STUDIED

A subcommittee of the Water Commission, it also was learned yesterday, is studying the practicability of using Perkiomen as a supplementary source in the event of the tributaries of the upper Lehigh River.

Four members of the Commission who attended yesterday's meeting were reported in favor of this proposal. The subcommittee, which might muster a majority if the six commission members absent yesterday vote with it, will meet in two weeks to make its recommendation.

The commission's report as drawn up yesterday, it was understood, will say that if an upland source is decided upon, the most promising one is that at Wallpack Bend. But it was understood that the report recommended strongly that the city proceed to rehabilitate the present water system, and use ozone and activated carbon to correct the taste and smell of the present supply.

TWO CONTRACTS SIGNED

In line with the latter program, the city yesterday signed two contracts for cleaning and relining part of the present storage and distribution system so as to lessen the taste and odor of its drinking water.

One, calling for an expenditure of \$215,000, calls for cleaning and lining with cement approximately 35,000 linear feet of 48-inch steel and cast iron pipe lines in Hunting Park ave., Roosevelt boulevard, and adjoining streets; the other, for \$385,000, involves removing 60 years of accumulated silt from the Roxborough Reservoir, which hasn't been cleaned since it was built.

Philadelphia Water Department
Historical Collection
2004.019.0020A

City Water Puzzle

Storage Lake Favored Near Doylestown

Jericho Creek Site Favored

Last of a Series

By Richard J. O'Keefe

The Upper Lehigh Project for a new Philadelphia water supply discards the idea of a storage reservoir in the rich farmland area near Warrington in favor of a storage lake in the less populated area on Jericho Creek, about seven miles south-east of Doylestown.

A natural bowl, engineers of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, sponsors of the plan, say the proposed Jericho Reservoir can hold a reserve of 57 1/2 billion gallons of water, sufficient for a six-month supply for the city.

30 PROPERTY HOLDERS

On the site of the reservoir there are about 30 property holders. The area of the reservoir would cover 4.3 square miles. Some of the land is cultivated and the balance is timbered.

The reservoir would be created by the construction of two dams across Jericho Creek, one two miles southwest of Brownsburg and the other about one mile east of Pineville.

The maximum height of the main dam, that near Brownsburg, would be 210 feet and that of the dam near Pineville 125 feet. The bowl-like conformation of the land on the site, engineers say, would enable the storage of almost three times the amount of water that could be stored in proposed saucer-like reservoir suggested by the Water Commission engineers.

The right of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company to the exclusive use of the water of the Lehigh River was contested during the public hearings.

FIRST GOT RIGHT IN 1822

The Company contends that right was given it by the State Legislature in 1822 and subsequent court proceedings, it holds, cemented its ownership to the river water.

As an adjunct to the Upper Lehigh project, company engineers suggested an additional water supply of 165,000,000 gallons daily could be provided by creating a reservoir on McMichael's Creek near Stroudsburg and using the water of that stream with that of Pocono and Broadhead Creeks.

NO ESTIMATE OF COST

No estimate of cost to construct McMichael's Reservoir was submitted since the engineers do not believe it will be necessary to draw that supply. The area of McMichael's Creek is heavily populated, with a number of industries and rich farms adding to the cost potential of the site.

A water plan that refuses both the Upper Delaware and the Upper Lehigh as sources of the city's supply has been advanced by the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade of Philadelphia.

COST PUT AT \$116,168,000

A special committee of the organization under the chairmanship of Dr. For Griffith proposes to continue using the Delaware River by moving upstream to a point north of where Trenton sewage enters the river the intake that is now in operation at Torresdale. The cost of this improvement is estimated at \$116,168,000.

The project contemplates the ultimate discontinuance of the Schuylkill as a source for Philadelphia water, elimination of odors and tastes, increased filtering capacity and complete metering of water uses

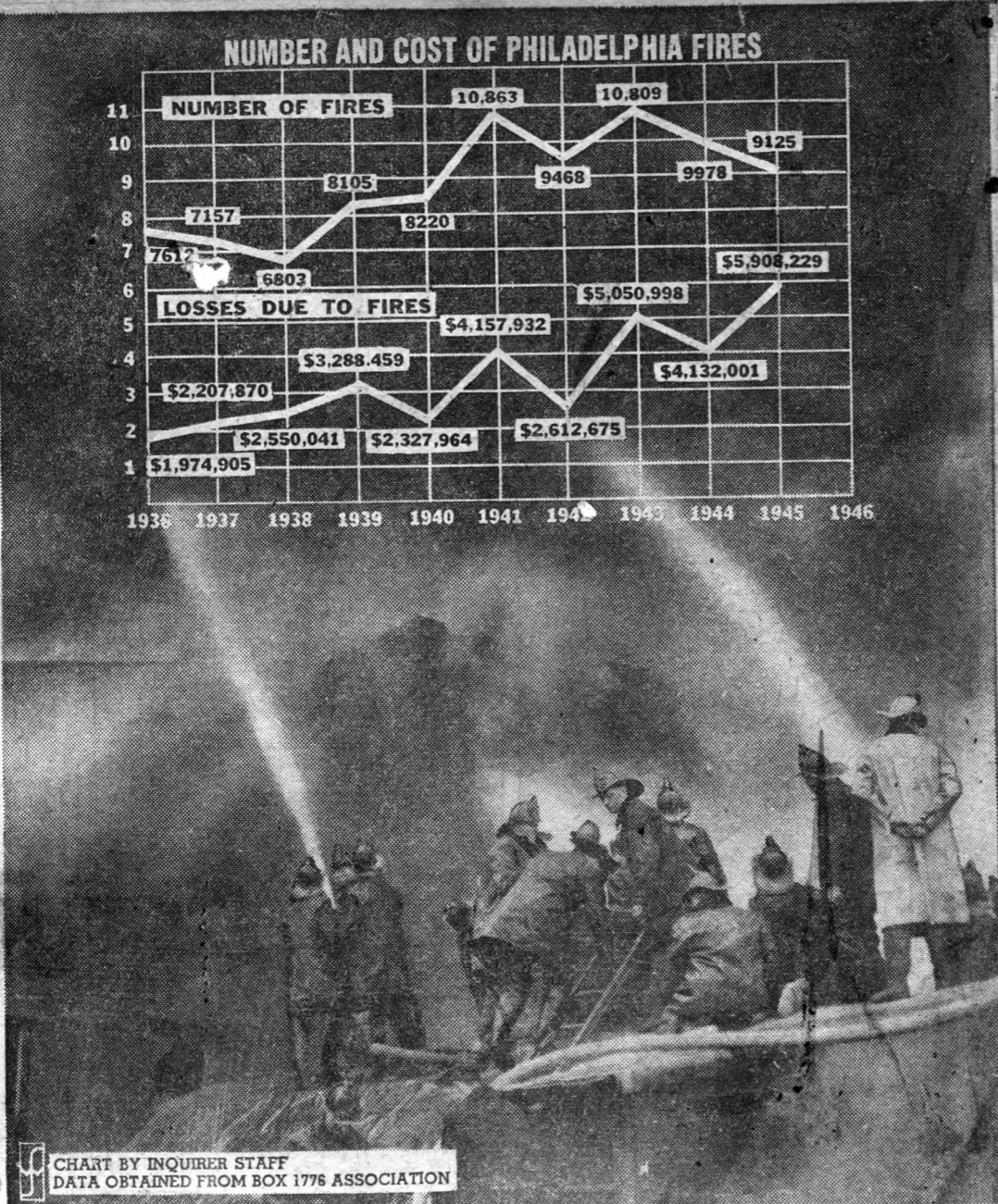


CHART BY INQUIRER STAFF
DATA OBTAINED FROM BOX 1776 ASSOCIATION



BULLETIN 3-25-47
Water Meter Ownership

IT is by this time quite obvious that Philadelphia got off on the wrong foot in requiring property owners to buy their own water meters.

Other kinds of public utility meters rarely belong to the property owners or consumers. An electric company that finds a meter operating poorly takes out the old one and puts in another, and that is the end of it. When the city takes out a privately owned water meter, it must return that identical meter to the property after the repairs are made.

Philadelphians have bought a large variety of meters. That multiplies the difficulty of acquiring and stocking the parts needed for repairs.

About half the city's water services are metered, and universal metering is growing increasingly urgent both as a fair method of distributing costs and as a conservation measure. But all proposals to meter the remaining services have to stop for an argument about who will own the meters.

There are objections to city purchase, when half the owners have paid for their own. But there are also objections to going any deeper into the mess of private ownership of meters.

Before the thing is done with, the city may find it desirable to buy the meters now privately owned. Greater simplicity and uniformity of administration might go far toward meeting the cost.

Do You Drink Sewage?

A BULLETIN reader undertakes in a letter to state the "real question" in the water problem. He states it as follows: Are we satisfied to drink diluted, filtered, chlorinated sewage?

It may sound like a fair question, but it isn't, because it suggests that the qualities of sewage are present when the water comes from the householder's faucet.

Competent authorities have told Philadelphia that there is no source of supply available which would not require some treatment to remove contamination. But engineering science can put water through the same processes of reclamation that nature continually uses, and can do it not only just as efficiently, but much more quickly.

Some water is hard to reclaim; some easy. Philadelphia's water can be reclaimed at a cost lower than tapping mountain sources, and river clean-up measures promise even easier reclamation.

The test of water is not whether it has been contaminated at some time in the past, for there is probably no water in the world which has not been polluted at one time or another, but in the typhoid rate of those who consume it, Philadelphia's rate of practically zero is a telling argument for defenders of the present water sources.

and the extension for 10 miles of the Torresdale Intake to Trenton to eliminate heavy pollution south of that city.

OTHER PROPOSALS LISTED

The program of the organization calls for improvements and changes within the city of existing water facilities and using a cost figure of \$315,791,000 for the Wallpack Dam project for the Delaware River claims a saving of nearly \$200,000,000.

Other proposals for replacing or augmenting the city's present water supply are variations of the Delaware River Project favored by the Water Commission engineers, the Upper Lehigh Project and the plan of the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade of Philadelphia.

DIFFER IN MINOR DETAILS

Some differ in only minor details as does that contemplating the use of the Upper Lehigh and the waters of Perkiomen and Tohickon Creeks with a storage reservoir on Unami Creek near Quakertown.

The Upper Delaware River Basin Tributaries Project provides for the construction of reservoirs on six tributaries of the Delaware which drain the Pocono area. They are the Lackawaxen River and the Shohola, Bushkill, Broadhead, McMichael's and Buckwha Creeks. A reservoir on Unami Creek also is proposed. Water Commission engineers estimate this as the most costly at \$380,250,000.

VERSION OF C. OF C. PLAN

The Delaware River-Yardley Project is a version of the Chamber of Commerce plan. It, however, contemplates the construction of four storage reservoirs on the Perkiomen Creek watershed and one on Tohickon Creek.

Recently, H. S. Spalinski, of Trenton, president of Electric Power Company of New Jersey, Inc., advanced a plan by which his company would undertake to build a series of dams in the Delaware River south of Bushkill and sell Philadelphia whatever water it needed.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER

The Spalinski proposal also contemplates production of hydro-electric power which it would sell.

He explained his company proposes to finance the project "through the sale of bonds and preferred stock or other securities."

In the event the city adopts his program which calls for a 135 billion gallon reservoir, he said he would give Philadelphia an option to buy the water system from the company. (The End)

Water Comes First

PHILADELPHIA today has, in the offering a number of major civic improvements of wide variety. They include removal of the Chinese wall, extension of the transit service, furnishing express service in the subway, solving the parking problem and improving the water supply.

A Bulletin poll printed today shows that in the minds of the city's residents improvement of the water supply stands so far ahead of the rest, that they are hardly in the running.

When four out of five people single out one undertaking in preference to all others, the priority is no accident.

Fortunately, water supply improvement is not only high on the list of projects, but actually under way. Coupled with the State's work in cleaning up the Schuylkill and the city's construction of sewage disposal facilities, the water program authorized before the war offers real hope.

But anybody who expects to wake up some morning soon to find the Schuylkill cocktail is no longer part of the daily diet is doomed to disappointment. Like all major undertakings, this one will take a long time.

Let People Decide on Water Sources

The people of Philadelphia should decide for themselves, by ballot, where this city is to obtain its supply of drinking water—whether from the present polluted sources or from upland streams.

The final report of the Mayor's Water Commission does little more than confront Philadelphia with the same old choice: keep what we have and try to improve it, or spend several hundred millions of dollars to obtain a new and much cleaner supply.

It is up to the people to act on that choice. By giving their judgment at the polls they will be taking the water problem for the first time out of the realm of surveys, reports and conflicting recommendations in which it has been enmeshed for years.

They will be telling the city government exactly how they want water supply handled, removing the doubts and confusion on this score that have delayed improvements over the years.

They will be making it impossible for shyster politicians now out of office, and their shyster allies, to make the subject of better water for Philadelphia a political football.

There is no difference of opinion concerning the recommendation of the Water Commission for immediate rehabilitation of the filtration and distribution systems.

It is what would come after this preliminary improvement that is most vital to Philadelphians. The Commission, as the next step, urges a long-range program that it states would bring the present system "to the peak of efficiency needed to supply pure, palatable water." The cost would be \$63,000,000, or \$87,568,000 should the Schuylkill River be abandoned as a source and dependence placed entirely on the Delaware.

If, thereafter, the city desires an upland source, it is the Commission's opinion that the best location would be the upper Delaware River near Wallpack Bend. It concedes the water from there would be a great improvement over the present product and it places the cost at \$284,588,000.

But this plan is hedged about with difficul-

ties. An agreement with New York and New Jersey for the diversion of the water would be needed and Congress and the Supreme Court might have to pass on the matter, with consequent delays. More serious are the legal obstacles to condemning land required in the two other States.

The Commission says pointedly that if for legal reasons the Wallpack Bend project proves impractical, and the city still desires an upland source, "it will be necessary to select a source within this Commonwealth."

The Commission is not very helpful at this point. What source within Pennsylvania would be most suitable? It dismisses as unsatisfactory the so-called Lehigh plan, insisting that the sponsors' cost estimate of \$142,000,000 is too low.

It does state, however—in a terse footnote—that the upper Lehigh, Bear Creek and Mud Run as sources, supplemented by waters from the upper Perkiomen, will furnish 500 million gallons per day of acceptable water at a cost of \$377,240,000.

Is this to be considered the best available source within Pennsylvania? It is a pity the Commission has not devoted more attention to this site, instead of contenting itself with a footnote.

The people should be given the opportunity to express their wishes in the matter in a referendum placing the issue before them in unambiguous terms. If they are willing to continue taking their drinking water from the Delaware River docks, they should make that decision clear. If they want the city to obtain water from upland streams, they should vote for such a step.

If the majority favor new sources, the city government should stop trying to patch up the existing system at cost of many millions and concentrate upon a new source that would give us the best possible water at the lowest possible price.

But let the people determine what should be done. They drink the water and pay the bills for it. They should decide what kind of water they will have.

WALLPACK BEND TIE SOUGHT
Mayor Asks Right to Get City Priority on Area
Mayor Samuel asked City Council yesterday for authorization to protect the city's right to the Wallpack Bend area as a future source of water supply for Philadelphia.
Pre-emption, the Mayor said in a resolution to Council, will give the city a priority in case the ultimate decision of Council is to use the Wallpack Bend.

\$62,000 for Allentown
Washington, March 25—(AP)—The Federal Works Agency announced today it had advanced \$62,000 to Allentown, Pa., to finance plans for addition to its water system, estimated to cost \$1,980,000.



EVEN POWER DREDGES MAKE LITTLE IMPRESSION ON MOUNTAINS OF SILT LINING THE SCHUYLKILL

Thousands of tons of mine waste still befoul the banks of the Schuylkill, despite efforts of shovels and dredges to restore the natural beauty of the stream. One expert has suggested that the city could

burn the silt, which he indicated was more than 50 percent coal, as a cheap source of power. City officials doubt the proposal's value. At left, above, a power dredge bites into high-piled silt on West River Drive

below Columbia ave. bridge. Center picture shows towering banks of bluish-gray silt defacing the stream. At right, above, a worker shows how much the collected silt resembles coal.

City Urged To Burn Silt From River

Thousands of tons of mine waste pouring down the Schuylkill could be burned in the city's power plants, providing a cheap and handy fuel, John Phillips Badenhausen, an official of J. P. Badenhausen, Inc., Wyncote, asserted yesterday.

Instead of spending \$100 per day for a dredge to remove silt from the Schuylkill, Badenhausen asserted, the city could burn it at the Queen Lane pumping station at an estimated saving of \$288,000 a year.

CALLED 'GOLD MINE'

He said that nearly 10,000,000 tons of silt, capable of producing 8000 to 9000 British Thermal Units of heat per pound, now were deposited in the river. He called this deposit a "gold mine at Philadelphia's door." Badenhausen asserted that his Wyncote firm now was constructing free units capable of burning the silt's coal content, which he estimated at more than 50 percent.

TESTS SHOW 53 PCT.

The U. S. Army District Engineer's office said that tests conducted in May, 1944, indicated that the Schuylkill silt contained about 53 percent anthracite coal.

Badenhausen said that inventions which he had patented in January, 1945, would facilitate burning of the silt, providing the city with an economic source of electric power, while clearing the river of collected deposits.

TERMED EXPERIMENT

Elbert J. Taylor, chief of the Philadelphia Water Bureau, referred to the Badenhausen project as "experimental" and said some tests already had been made in the anthracite silt to extract coal from the material.

Taylor said, "The city's plan to burn the silt is a very interesting one."

State Board Gets Wallpack Water Plan

Philadelphia's formal application for permission to tap the Delaware River at Wallpack Bend, in Pike county, for a future new water supply was received yesterday at the Water and Power Resources Board in Harrisburg. Mayor Bernard Samuel, with Councilmanic approval, signed the necessary papers on Monday and forwarded them to the State board.

Although Council has instructed the Department of Public Works to proceed with plans to improve this city's present sources of water, thus postponing indefinitely any concrete action on the Wallpack Bend project, the Mayor's action was important in that it was the first step in obtaining legal rights to the upper-Delaware River source.

FAVORED BY COMMISSION

The Wallpack Bend project has been favored by the special Mayor's Water Commission as the exclusive source of a new supply when this city abandons its Schuylkill sources. Commission members have estimated that Wallpack could provide 500,000,000 gallons of pure water daily.

The project calls for construction of a high dam at Wallpack Bend near Bushkill, Pa., and the creation of a 30-mile-long reservoir north of the dam to the New York State line at Port Jervis.

7550 ACRES LEASED

From the reservoir, water for this city would be taken by an 81-inch-diameter pressure tunnel to a Storage reservoir near Warrington, Pike county. Philadelphia would be required to purchase 7550 acres for the reservoir site in Pike county and 2290 in Bucks county.

In a final report of the Water Commission last April, cost of the project was estimated at \$284,538,000. Unofficial estimates since then have brought the figure to \$315,000,000 more.

City's Water Pure? Yes, Says Bureau, Fish Thrive In It

This being the season for the Schuylkill to become somewhat odoriferous, it is timely to consider the question of fish in the city's reservoirs.

The mere fact that there are fish in the reservoirs, says the City Water Bureau, proves that our water is pure.

Fish also are cavorting inside the city's water mains but they never—well, hardly ever get into the households because the faucets intercept them. Tadpoles, however, occasionally manage to wriggle through.

How do fish get into the reservoirs? Well, fish roe is pumped in with the river water. The purification chemicals, mostly alum and lime, don't harm the roe or the resulting fish.

Among the varieties of fish now enjoying reservoir life are carp, pickerel and perch, but no trout.

Sportsmen who go after the fish at such places as the 33d st. and Columbia av. reservoir are violating the law. The Water Bureau says they might kick dirt into the water.

JOHN M. CUMMINGS

As It Is, Schuylkill Silt Burns Up Philadelphians

Silt in the Schuylkill River will no longer be a serious problem when the process of reclamation is made commercially profitable. There is plenty of energy stored away in this waste product from the anthracite coal belt. Under forced draught it will burn. And the energy thus generated could be put to some useful purpose.

There is nothing especially new in the contention of John Phillips Badenhausen, a Wyncote engineer, that the banks of the Schuylkill are lined with tons of potential energy in the form of silt. There could, however, be something new in the system of reconversion which Mr. Badenhausen has devised. It would seem unwise, therefore, to shrug it off or belittle it as "experimental" as did Elbert J. Taylor, chief of the city's water bureau.

Uncle Dominick Says—



Nevertheless, there is in the prospective use of the silt as fuel a factor tending to justify reluctance to install costly equipment in the hope the "black gold" at the municipal doorstep would produce results warranting the outlay. The coal companies, ever on the alert to turn an honest penny, would trap the silt in the upland waters long before it had a chance to clog the river here in the heart of the city. Then, the silt problem, as far as Philadelphia is concerned, would be solved.

"A Greensburg man was fined \$1 for riding a horse while intoxicated. Loaded with white mule."

John S. Wise, Jr., for some years before his retirement as president of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company, experimented with the coal-laden silt. He had no difficulty at all in solving the combustion problem, but the question of cost remained. For all we know he may still be experimenting in an effort to bring the cost down to a point that would tempt industry.

One of Mr. Wise's systems—he devised several—used the powdered coal dust just as oil is used in furnaces. It was fed to the combustion chamber under high pressure and burned with a fierce white heat.

If Mr. Badenhausen or Mr. Wise or some other engineer manages to devise a method which will combine thorough combustion with low-cost reclamation the Schuylkill will once again become the lovely stream of years ago.

Mr. Wise, as a matter of fact, can recall the Schuylkill when it was the boat racing center of the Republic. Back there in the '90's he was the coxswain of a famous Penn crew. It was not necessary, in those days, to have a dredge in constant service to keep the river channel open. And it was possible to skim over the clear water without fear of being trapped on a silt bar.

In those days the river was a recreational center. In their spare hours of a summer's day thousands of Philadelphians used the Schuylkill for boating, swimming and fishing. The river was famed for the quality of its catfish. Maybe you remember the song in praise of the Wabash River in Indiana. A parody included the couplet:

"I'd rather be a catfish in the Schuylkill,
Than a goldfish in the Wabash far away."

They still get catfish in the Schuylkill, but it's our information they're caught for their high fuel content rather than for food. Used either way, of course, you get energy.

An inveterate Schuylkill fisherman told us the other day a five-pound catfish will have as much as a pound and a half of high-grade silt in its system. He said that when anthracite was hard to get during war-time he kept his house warm by catching catfish in the river.

Under ordinary conditions this would be a costly and a time-wasting method of heating a home. That's always been the reason advanced for failure to take advantage of the fuel content of the stream—too costly. They say it's cheaper to buy the finely ground grades direct from the coal companies.

On the Susquehanna at Harrisburg coal "fishing" is a sizable industry. Scores of boats with steam-propelled conveyor lines scrape the bottom of the stream, or cut away deposits of coal silt along the banks and sell it to Harrisburg industries.

It's the same kind of silt we have here in Philadelphia. In this town, however, we'd rather keep piling the stuff along the banks of the stream. Then when we get a heavy rain it all washes back into the river and we do the same old job over and over again.

PHILADELPHIA, SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 4, 1947

WATER BUREAU HAS ITS OWN DETECTIVE FORCE TO CHECK WASTE



Kunder on the trail of a water main leak. He's in the Bureau of Water's leakage and waste survey. Instrument he's using is called a geophone.



William G. Warrington employs an M-scope to plot the course of an unrecorded water pipe. Its operation is similar to that of a mine detector used during the war.



Trouble-shooter Kunder listens to the wild waves. With an aquaphone, he can tell whether water pressure is all it should be, also whether water meter is registering.

Water Meter Ownership

IT now appears that when Philadelphia began metering water it made a major blunder in requiring property-owners to install meters which would forever after be their own.

One consequence has been a wide variety in the types of meters in use, with grave complications in procuring and stocking parts for repair.

Just now thousands of meters are out of service because the purchase parts has been in a legal snarl. That snarl might be the same if the city owned the meters; but then a broken meter would not necessarily mean, as it now does, that a service would be without a meter.

When a gas or electric meter goes bad in Philadelphia, it is simply replaced by another meter. But when a water meter is removed for repair, that meter and no other must be returned. Often there are long delays.

The person who pays for utility pays for the meter in one way or another, even when the utility owns the meter. Too much emphasis seems to have been placed on the property owner's right to be served by the meter he bought and by no other.

Since about half the city's water services are still unmetered, there is still time for a change of policy on meter ownership.

JULY 16, 1947

City Can be Mosquito Free at Small Cost or Trouble

State Director of Plant Industry Tells How New War Insecticides Will Get Rid of Pests in a Hurry

By a Bulletin Staff Correspondent

Harrisburg, May 3.—Philadelphia can rid itself of flies and mosquitoes by going to a little trouble and expense, state officials said today.

The answer to the problem, they declared, is wholesale use of the harmless-to-humans but high-powered insecticides developed during World War II.

Within a few years, scores of communities will spray DDT in early summer and be free of the pests for the entire season. Dr. Thomas L. Guyton, director of the Bureau of Plant Industry in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, predicted.

Examples Cited

He cited several examples of the effectiveness of light applications of the bug-killer—as low as one pound per acre.

In fact, he said Pennsylvania farmers have had the jump on their city cousins for more than a year. They have been spraying their cattle, barns, barnyards and homes with DDT ever since it was released for public use in 1945.

A practical demonstration of the value of DDT applied to a relatively large area was conducted last summer in Philadelphia.

When The Evening Bulletin staged its first big Fourth of July celebration in Fairmount Park in 1945, the crowds at the evening fireworks and

aquatic displays were pestered by droves of mosquitoes.

Last Fourth of July the Evening Bulletin invited the State Department of Agriculture to demonstrate some of its activities. It responded with an offer to rid the celebration areas of flies and mosquitoes, using DDT.

A giant blower capable of developing a wind stream of 200 miles an hour was mounted on a truck in charge of a crew of trained men.

The blower operated in the early evening of July 3 and early morning of July 4 on both sides of the Schuylkill River, where the fireworks display was to be held, and also in the vicinity of Memorial Hall.

Only 2 Saw a Mosquito

During the fireworks show, a representative of the department questioned one hundred persons on the west bank of the river. He found only two who had seen, felt or heard a mosquito. There were no flies or mosquitoes in the area for weeks afterwards.

Dr. Guyton also told of results last summer in Luzerne County airplane spraying operations. The boroughs of Dupont, Avoca, Duryea and Moosic were free of flies, mosquitoes and other insect pests for the remainder of the summer.

The result was accomplished with a single application of DDT, spread one pound to the acre.

Pumping Station at Queen Lane Will Get Major Facelifting

By JOHN G. McCULLOUGH
Of The Bulletin Staff

The Queen Lane pumping station, for half a century a landmark on the East River Drive below Ridge av., at Gustine Lake, is about to experience a major facelifting.

Under plans already approved by the Fairmount Park Commission and the Art Jury, the station's yellow exterior will be coated with red brick and limestone and the towering, 150-foot smokestack will be razed, Water Bureau officials announced yesterday.

This work, the officials explained, is part of a more than \$3,000,000 program for the modernization of the Queen Lane and Lardner's Point pumping stations. Replacement of the present steam pumps with modern electrical equipment has been recommended by both the Mayor's Water Commission and the City Planning Commission.

Work Is Under Way

Elbert J. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Water, reported that work was already well under way at both sites and estimated that the project would be completed by the end of this year.

The Queen Lane plant, in service since 1894, pumps water from the Schuylkill for treatment at Queen Lane Filters, Queen Lane and Fox st., and has a rated capacity of 160 million gallons a day. Mechanical breakdowns, however, have been frequent, officials said.

When the existing four steam pumps are replaced with electrically-driven ones, engineers say they expect a daily capacity of more than 200 million gallons. These engineers have forecast savings of as much as \$84,000 yearly through the abandonment of the coal-powered equipment at the station.

In addition to the stack, Taylor said, a sprawling boiler house on the east side of the plant will be demolished, as well as a hedge which screened this part of the station from the park drive. The hedge had been planted at the urging of beauty-conscious motorists who complained that piles of ashes conflicted with the surrounding park.

Water Bureau officials said that they are confident, however, that

no such camouflage will be needed when the renovation is completed.

Taylor said that the new design for the building will be in harmony with the surrounding park area and that the huge, arched windows will be replaced with a more functional type. The present coal storage piles along Ridge av., he added, will be removed and the area landscaped.

The Lardner's Point station, at the Delaware River and Devereaux st., Wissinoming, was erected in 1904 and supplies most of the city east of the Schuylkill. It distributes water already treated at the Torresdale Filters, and has had frequent troubles with mechanical failures and breakdowns.

15 Steam Pumps to Go

Here, Taylor said, 15 steam pumps will give way to only six electrically-powered ones. The capacity of the plant, however, will remain at about 210 million gallons a day.

This reduction in the amount of equipment will permit the razing of more than half of the present building as well as the removal of four large smokestacks.

In connection with these improvements, Taylor said, a small pumping station at the Torresdale Filters will be expanded to handle up to 200 million gallons daily. This entire project, he said, already is under contract and will probably be completed within another year.

Their Job is to Taste and Smell Philadelphia's Drinking Water Every Day



BEFORE AND AFTER—Ed Witkowski, assistant bacteriologist at the Belmont laboratory, looks at a sample of Philadelphia drinking water before treatment. Treated water is on table



EAU DE PHILADELPHIA—Sniffing a sample of the city's drinking water here is Thomas F. Kinslow, an industrial waste inspector, who has been helping perform this task for the past 20 years



BOTTOMS UP!—Wilson Crawford, another industrial waste inspector, likes 'Schuylkill punch' so well that he drinks a dozen glass daily—and not as part of his testing job either, but at home or at the office

By HARRY HARRIS

PHILADELPHIA drinking water has been the target for gibes by wits, real and alleged, for a long time.

Bob Hope, during a recent visit here, declared that this is the only city where the kitchens have three water taps—"Hot," "Cold" and "No Fishing"—and where a drink of water requires a whisky chaser.

His colleague, Jerry Colonna, he claimed, was recently arrested because he had Philadelphia drinking water on his breath.

Snide remarks about "chlorine cocktails" and "Schuylkill punch" have become as much a part of the repertoire of transient critics as references to the Main Line or Billy Penn.

But four Philadelphians, whose jobs include the drinking of Philadelphia water, grin tolerantly when they come across such lampoons, continue to swallow the water daily as part of their work and then go home and voluntarily drink from one to three quarts more.

THESE FOUR hardy gentlemen, employes of the Bureau of Water, conduct daily taste and smell tests in the bureau's Belmont Laboratory, at Belmont av. and Ford road. They sniff and swallow samples of water from as many as 27 different points in the city—including water plants, filter stations, fire houses and police stations—and record any daily variations.

"I've been doing this work every morning for the past 18 months," says Wilson Crawford, 5935 N. Leithgow st., Olney, "and I'm completely sold on our water for taste and safety. I wouldn't drink spring water, but I drink about 12 glasses of tap water every day. I like it."

"I've tasted water all around the world," chimes in James Stinson, 5 S. 38th st., who has been assigned to the testing work for the past six months. "During two-and-a-half years in the Merchant Marine I visited Russia, England, South America, Cuba and many distant states, including Texas, and as far as I'm concerned Philadelphia water is as good as any and better than most."

These sentiments are echoed by the other two tasters—Thomas F. Kinslow, 5225 Schuyler st., who has been gulping down water at the laboratory for approximately 20 years, and James A. Moran, 1652 Downton st., a two-year man.

The latter's not much of a water-drinker ("only about a quart a day") but Kinslow averages from 10 to 12 glasses daily.

"I drink nothing but Philadelphia water," he says, and adds: "It's very good."

SAMPLES of Philadelphia drinking water are brought to the laboratory every morning in label-

Smelly Shaving Goo Taboo for City's Water Tasters

THE four official tasters and smellers of Philadelphia's water have to order their lives according to the requirements of their job.

"We have to take some special precautions," explains Wilson Crawford. "For instance, we can't use smelly shaving lotions or hair tonics before coming to work. If we did, we'd never be able to detect an aroma in the water."

What if a perfumed woman, visiting the laboratory, were to wander into the two rooms where the tests are conducted? "Well," says Crawford, "that would probably rule out odor tests for hours afterwards."

"Furthermore," he adds, "we have to do all our tasting before lunch, because recent eating makes it difficult to determine taste in water."

"Certain foods, like oranges, make it especially tough, and we try to skip those at breakfast."

ed bottles. Thirteen points are checked daily—all the city's water plants and the four sources of the city's supply—from the Delaware, at Torresdale, and from the Schuylkill at Queen Lane, Belmont and Roxborough.

In addition, 14 special samples are brought in at least three times a week, from scattered spots throughout the city and its suburbs.

The testers conduct the odor check first.

This consists of smelling a flask of the water, determining and recording the type of aroma, if any.

Twenty-two adjectives are used to classify different types of odors which occur in water. Among them are: fishy, pignen, cucumber, sweetish, disagreeable, medicinal, violets and geranium.

Each sample is then given a "threshold test," that is, it is diluted with measured quantities of entirely odorless, tasteless water, until the odor is entirely gone. A threshold number is assigned to the sample, so that Water Bureau personnel may properly treat the water from which the sample was taken.

"Several of us check the same samples for from three to five hours each morning," says Crawford. "Our estimate of the type of odor frequently varies. One man's geranium is another man's aromatic. But several noses are better than one."

TASTING FOLLOWS. A num-



OTHER JOBS, TOO—When not holding water samples to lips or noses, the water-testing crew performs other laboratory duties. Here two of them, James A. Moran (center) and James Stinson (right) check drinking water's hydrogen ion content, under supervision of Walter C. Ringer

ber, from one to five, is assigned to each sample. The higher the number, the more marked the taste.

"Five," says Stinson, "would be downright horrible, but Philadelphia water before treatment is rarely even in the four category. However, what seems like a five to us might seem like a five to the average citizen."

"We swallow only one mouthful from each bottle," says Crawford, "because if you can't distinguish the very first time, there's no use going back."

The number assigned to each sample is used in subsequent treatment of the water.

HUMAN SNIFFERS and tasters

have been used to test Philadelphia water since about 1920, according to Sam Crawford, 1920 Dallas road, senior bacteriologist of the Belmont laboratory. A Water Bureau employe for 34 years, he served as one of the tasters for almost 20 years.

"They're essential," he says. "Despite all the progress made in water sanitation, there is still no known chemical method for detecting minute quantities of taste-and-odor producing substances in water."

"We laugh at the wisecracks—but we all drink plenty of water—

at work and at home. We know it's safe. And we know that any large city using surface supply water must have taste and odor problems."

Moreover, adds Walter C. Ringer, 4517 Conshohocken av., sanitary engineer who supervises treatment of water for the West Philadelphia area, all the gags about "chlorine cocktails" are in error.

"You never taste chlorine in the water," he says. "That chlorinous taste is due to the combination of chlorine with something else in the water. And the taste-odor process is designed to eliminate that 'something else.'"

"The taste of Philadelphia water

has been improving steadily," he adds, "especially since we started using the activated carbon treatment last April."

Water Chief Denounces Decrepit Meter System

Philadelphia's decrepit water meter system, which allows the consumer to own the meter that tells him what he owes—and even to tamper with it, if he has larcenous talents—were denounced yesterday by Albert J. Taylor, mild-mannered chief of the Department of Public Works' Bureau of Water.

Water Rent Rise Asked by Samuel

Acting on the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, Mayor Bernard Samuel yesterday proposed to City Council an immediate increase of 20 percent in existing water and sewer rents in order to finance the municipal water and sewer improvement programs.

The suggestion was immediately attacked by Frederick J. Bohrer, president of the Philadelphia Real Estate Board, as an added burden on the home owner "under today's inflationary cost of living."

SERIOUS THOUGHT URGED

"Serious thought regarding increased water rents," he wrote in a letter to Frederic D. Garman, president of City Council, "should be preceded by a careful, analytical study by professional, competent persons who would report to Mayor Samuel or to City Council."

He said such a study should embrace all phases of the subject, including a determination of the equity of present rates.

The Planning Commission, in a letter to the Mayor, explained that the original \$18,000,000 loan for water system improvements had been expended and that a deficiency of \$373,000 would have to be met by the end of the current year.

"This deficiency must be promptly made available and provision must be made to provide the necessary money to carry on in 1949 and the immediately following years," Edward Hopkinson, Jr., chairman of the commission, declared in the letter.

"While the complete improvement program will run into expenditures approximating \$35,000,000 over the next five or six years, including the 1948 deficiency, it is recommended that there be made self-supporting at this time, say, \$20,000,000 additional water debt."

DECLARED SELF-SUPPORTING

The water system has been declared self-supporting by the courts and so that it may remain so, Hopkinson pointed out, it will be necessary to increase the sewer and water rents 20 percent to finance the increased cost of the water debt.

Commenting on the proposed sewer rent increase, Hopkinson declared: "At present levels of cost approximately \$30,000,000 additional (in addition to the \$42,000,000 already authorized) will be required to expand and improve sewage collection facilities and to complete the expanded Northeast plant and the proposed southeast and southwest sewage treatment plants."

RATES INSUFFICIENT

"Sewer revenue at present rates will not be sufficient to make self-supporting this additional debt and pay operating expenses at the higher costs now prevailing."

Hopkinson proposed that the new debt be financed through the issuance of time to time of 40-year serial bonds; that a separate budget system be set up for the water system as is done for sewers and that city-wide compulsory water metering be adopted as rapidly as possible.

The Mayor's recommendation was referred to Council's Finance Committee for action.

Samuel also asked Council to appropriate \$75,000 to continue operation of child care centers under supervision of the Board of Education.

Water Rent Boost or Else

The future both of Philadelphia's water supply and of its general improvement program are tied directly to the amount of water rent income, and both futures look rather dismal with income at its present level.

Water debt is now outside the general debt limit, because the rents cover the operating and debt costs. But right now the income isn't much more than carrying the debt, so that if there is to be any more debt, there must be more income.

Either that, or the whole water debt will cease to be self-supporting and become a charge against the general borrowing capacity. It is not impossible that even without further water borrowing, rising operating costs would make the income insufficient to carry operating and debt costs.

Philadelphians will not relish a rise in water rents, and the public officials who are discussing an increase doubtless know that their theme will not be popular. Yet the public may relish even less the consequences of keeping the present rates. The alternatives are disagreeable, but are sternly decreed by the State Constitution.

Water Rates Structure

If City Council decides that water and sewer rents must be raised, it will be smart to make this the occasion not simply for a rate increase, but for a scientific rate revision.

The easy way, of course, would be to jump all the rates by a given percentage. That method simply freezes into the new charges all the existing faults of the rate structure.

In considering water-works finances City Council rarely seems able to see anything but the income side of the picture. An increase of gross income will increase net income, which is the only figure that really means anything; but net income can also be increased by a reduction of operating costs.

Operating costs can be reduced, and net income increased, by a rate structure that gives consumers an incentive to keep down the amount of water that has to be purified and pumped.

Metering of unmetered services is one way to conserve; but there are conservation possibilities even with the metered consumers. The reasonable needs of a large proportion of metered consumers are less than the quantity of water they are charged for whether they use it or not. So there is a spread in which they can be wasteful without feeling even a tingling of the pocketbook nerve.

A consumer of electric current who had to pay for twice as much current as he needed would probably howl pretty loudly. Whether he howled or not, nobody could argue that such an arrangement gave any encouragement to keep consumption at a minimum.

Councilmen Eye Water Rent Rise

City Council leaders brought out into the open yesterday a program to increase water rents by at least 20 percent in an effort to keep the system self-supporting and provide needed funds to carry out their long-range improvement plans.

The plan was discussed at a caucus in the City Hall offices of Frederic D. Garman, president of Council. Other participants included Edward Hopkinson, Jr., chairman of the City Planning Commission; Director of Public Works Thomas Buckley, and Albert J. Taylor, chief of the Water Bureau.

BATTLE EXPECTED

The proposed increases, quietly discussed for about two months, might be for more than 20 percent, and leaders admitted there had been discussion of a 50 percent boost. Conversely, there has been objection to any increase and it was believed some members of Council would fight a rise in rates.

At present, the water system is self-supporting but its funds have been almost exhausted because its receipts have not been up to expectations. Sales of city water last year brought in \$6,796,708. With delinquency collections and other income, the total received by the bureau reached \$7,697,619. The income for this year, based on a three-year average, has been estimated for budget purposes at \$7,624,510.

ESTIMATED AT \$1,500,000

A 20 percent increase, it is figured, would bring in an additional \$1,500,000 in revenue.

As long as it is self-supporting, the water works can borrow money outside of the city debt limit, now close to exhaustion. But any borrowing for improvements would have to be done within the debt limit if the water works were to lose money.

The original loan of \$18,000,000 for improvements was approved by the voters in 1940 and this has about been expended. In order to finish the program, it is estimated that the water bureau will require an additional \$35,000,000.

Due to the tieup of sewer rentals with water rates, it is believed that any increase in the water rentals would necessarily mean a boost in sewer rates unless Council would enact a new sewer rental ordinance changing the relationship of the charges.

Democrats Score Mayor For Asking Water Rise

Mayor Samuel was denounced in a statement issued by the Democratic City Committee today, for proposing a 20 per cent increase in city water and sewer rents.

The proposed rise was called "a piece of enormous effrontery" in view of the Mayor's failure to do anything about the shocking conditions in the Water Bureau which are costing the city untold millions of dollars of revenue from existing taxes.

"The salient and significant fact about the recent disclosures of huge thefts, cheating and inefficiency in Philadelphia's municipal government," the statements continued, "is the complete lack of indignation shown by the Mayor and his puzzling failure to provide any leadership to the people in bringing about a correction of the appalling conditions."



Don't Collect All That Is Due the City

As a matter of efficient municipal house-keeping, Philadelphia's water system should be self-sustaining.

If the available income is not sufficient to meet the ordinary operating expenses and the charges on the loans floated for water plant improvements, the only sensible course is to increase the income.

And if the only means of increasing it lies in a boost in the water rates, as proposed by City Council and endorsed by the Committee of Fifteen, then that means should be adopted.

But the water rates should not be jumped unless it is proved conclusively that there is no other method at hand for obtaining the extra amount of water plant revenue that is needed.

We do not believe such proof has yet been offered at City Hall.

We do not believe that every means of collecting the money due the city from water rents at the rates now in force has been exhausted.

It has been shown, for instance, that the whole water rate structure is faulty, archaic and badly administered. In supporting the proposed increase, the Committee of Fifteen has inserted the qualifying demand for a vigorous revision of this structure.

There has been ample evidence for years that the existing system of collecting water rents is sloppy and inefficient. Many water consumers are not paying their bills. It may be that an enormous number are never even billed.

One of the charges brought against Receiver of Taxes W. Frank Marshall was that he failed to take action against persons who misused water meters, "thus defrauding the city out of large sums of money."

Perhaps the outstanding defect in the water system is the city's failure to install meters at all outlets. Meterage is only about 50 percent complete and there has been a log jam on meter repair.

In the absence of meters, there is a constant wasteful drain upon the city's water resources without recompense. The first obvious step in placing the water bureau on a businesslike basis is universal meterage; yet this has been persistently neglected.

In view of the city's loss of water income due to the above factors, an arbitrary 20 percent rise in water rates is not to be calmly accepted.

The move is reminiscent of Council's attempt last fall to increase the city wage tax rates in order to balance this year's budget. The Inquirer at that time called for a halt in the tax rise plan until a committee appointed by the Mayor and Council could examine ways and means of avoiding it.

As a result the Committee of Fifteen was named and conducted an intensive survey that ended with the conclusion that the suggested wage tax boost was unnecessary. Council thereupon retained the old rates and the taxpayers escaped a substantial increase in their tax burden.

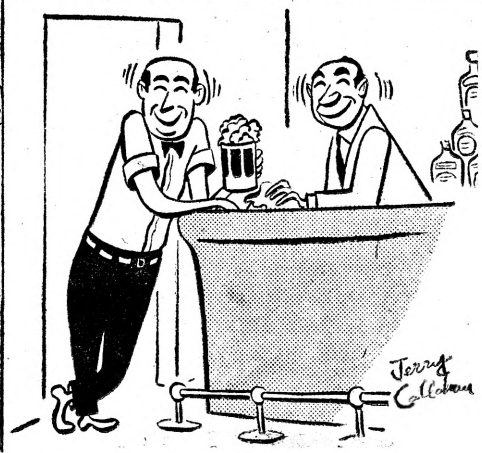
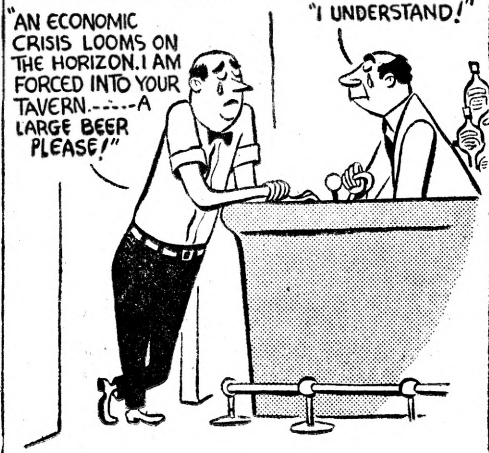
It may be that the same thing can happen in the water rent situation, provided the city authorities cooperate in seeking to avert an increase at this time.

A reorganization of the system of water rent collection is unquestionably demanded, to obtain for the city all the money from this source that is owed it. Revision of the rate structure upon more equitable and businesslike lines is needed, and, above all, meters should be universally installed.

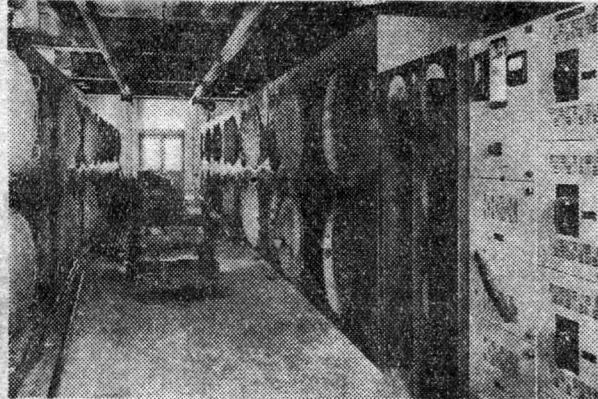
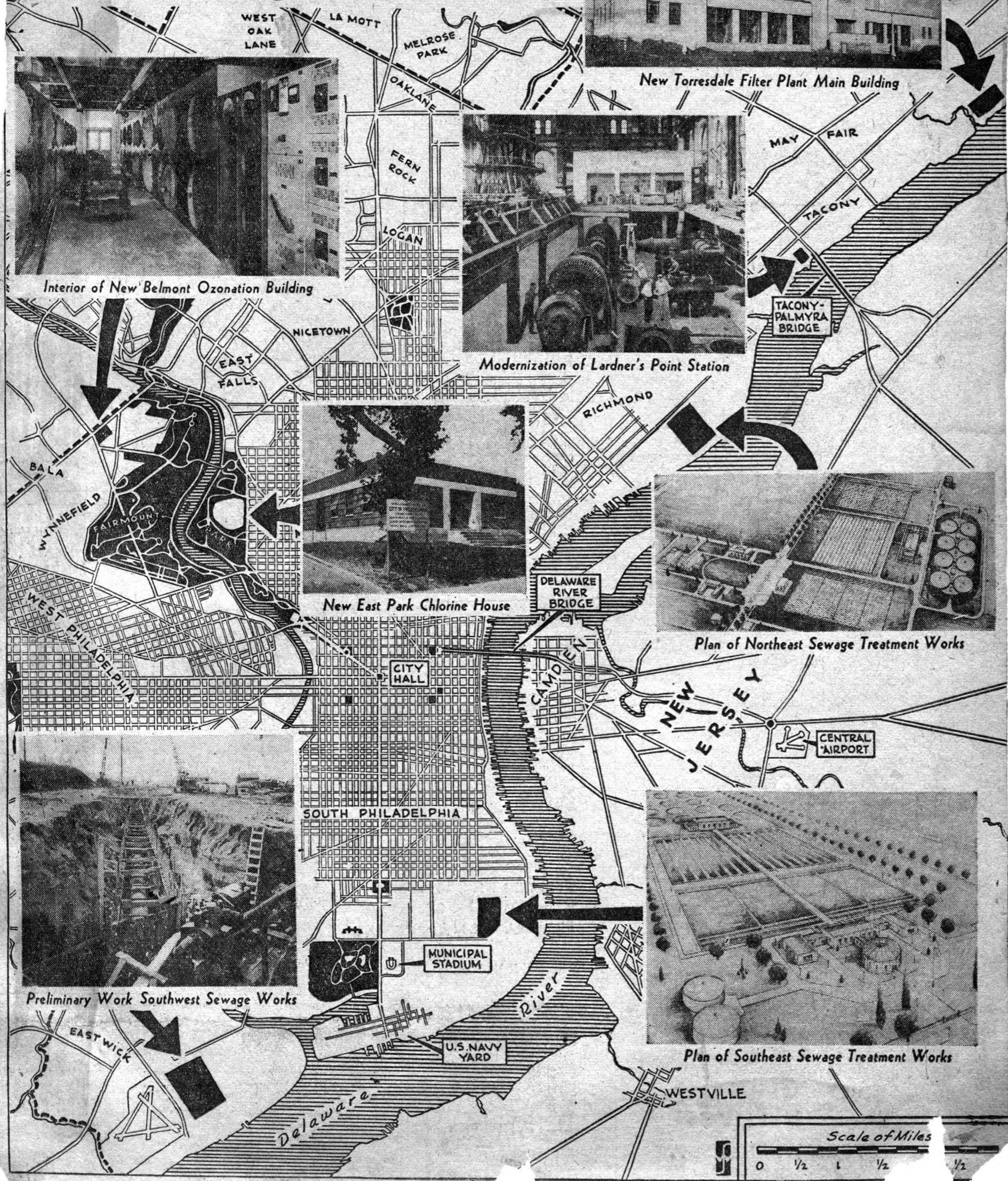
Before directing a water rate boost of 20 percent, Council should have a study made of these and other possible ways of expanding water revenues. If the resultant report shows that the rates must be raised, the citizens will at least be better informed than they now are on the reasons for such a move.

There should be no increase until every method of avoiding it, by maximum water rent collection, has been employed.

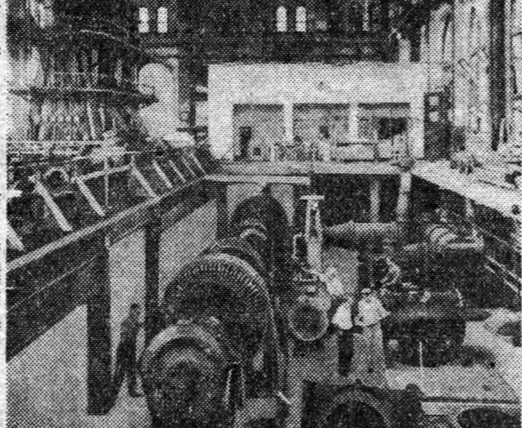
PHILADELPHIA WATER RENT MAY GO UP 20% *Bullfinch 7/17/48*



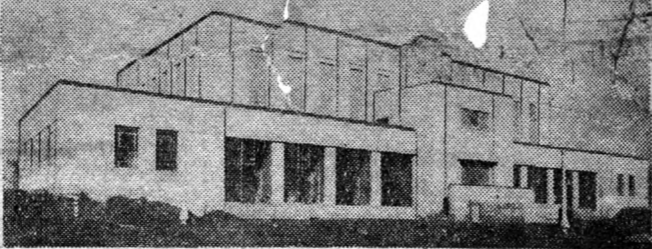
Highlights of City's Water And Sewage Programs



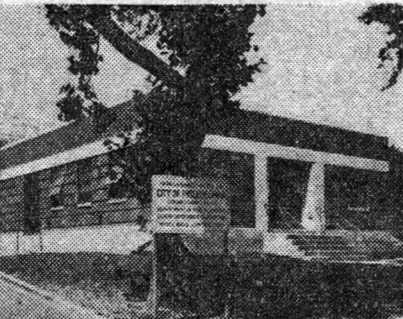
Interior of New Belmont Ozonation Building



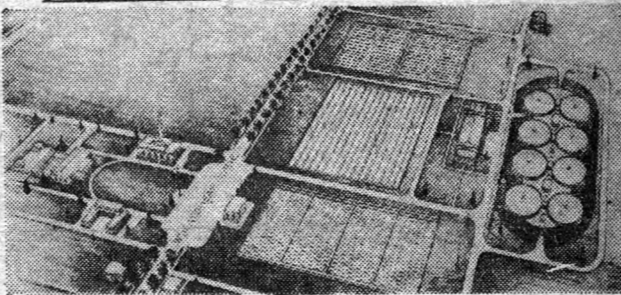
Modernization of Lardner's Point Station



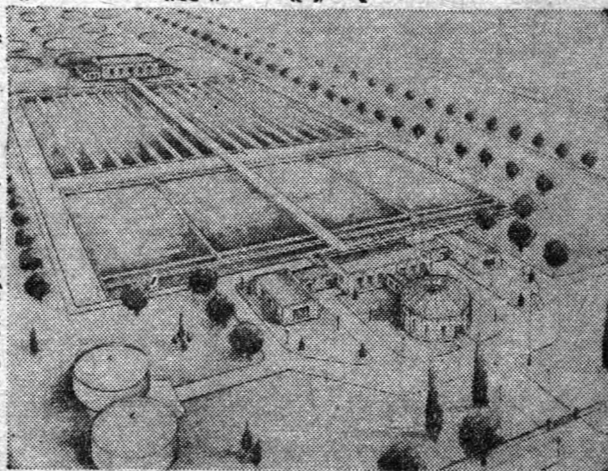
New Torresdale Filter Plant Main Building



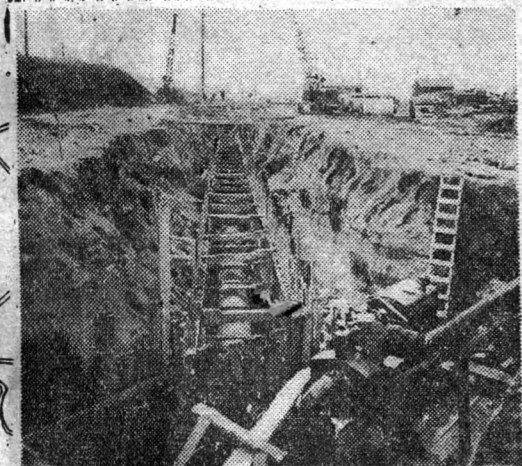
New East Park Chlorine House



Plan of Northeast Sewage Treatment Works



Plan of Southeast Sewage Treatment Works



Preliminary Work Southwest Sewage Works

Private Control of Water Is Urged in Report to '15

Continued From First Page

matically would separate the proprietary water works functions from the governmental functions of the city.

Haydock's report included a study of the history of the system. He outlined four principal failings under the present setup.

These included insufficient maintenance made acute by wartime labor and material shortages; intermingling of water revenues with those from other city income sources; inadequate personnel and an inadequate meter program.

Suggestions to offset these factors urged the spending of sufficient funds to fully maintain and operate the system, separation of the bureau from the rest of the city government, establishment of an employment policy to provide for a "balanced age group" setup and complete control of all meters.

Haydock reminded members of the committee that the water system is "big business" with \$7,500,000 revenues each year. He said outside operation of it would have the advantage of being completely independent of the general credit and constitutional debt limit of the city as well as being self-supporting.

In presenting the report, Haydock explained that the city's system would not compare very favorably with privately-owned systems if a comparison was now made. He made the remark in response to a question by Arthur W. Binns, committee chairman.

The revenue report was made by Leonard A. Drake, an economist on loan to the committee from the Chamber of Commerce. He warned that the city faced real financial problems by 1950 and that a deficit was likely next year.

But, in regard to the latter, he pointed out, that non-recurring surplus and merging balances would provide about \$3,500,000 to offset the excess of cash outgo over income.

In 1950, Drake explained, no such monies will be on hand. Therefore, it is probable that the city will be in need of between \$5,000,000 and

\$10,000,000 in new revenues, he added.

Granting continued good times would mean a likely boost in the return from the city wage tax. Drake stressed the assessment question and emphasized that the current trend was not keeping pace with inflation.

Applying the suggested 70 percent rate to assessments would provide additional income of \$7,000,000 annually, he said. This would mean a boost of 14 percent in the tax yield from real estate and a 6 percent rise in over-all city revenue.

Even if the suggestion was carried out, according to Drake, real estate would still contribute considerably less than half of the city's income. The plan would improve the city's borrowing capacity and also aid the school district.

COUNCIL GETS REPORTS

Copies of the report were sent to the Board of Revision of Taxes and to City Council.

Two reports were submitted by the Bureau of Municipal Research. They called for a general reorganization of the Fire, Marshal's office and for rewriting the existing zoning law and changes in the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

One report recommended enactment of a fire prevention code, an ordinance transferring the inspection of newly installed domestic oil burners to the Bureau of Building Inspection and licensing of installers of such burners by the Division of Housing and Sanitation.

PRIVATE CITIZENS URGED

The zoning laws and maps should be revised by a five-man board, the second report suggested. Such action would correct what the report called "widespread deficiencies."

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, the report urged, should consist principally of private citizens. Four of the five present members are city officials.

Laurence Costello, Director of City Transit, also appeared before the committee. He disputed previous recommendations that his department be merged with the Department of Public Works and pointed out that his unit is in the midst of a \$38,000,000 program entirely "foreign" to any other department.

Neglect Caused Poor Water, WFIL Forum Speakers Say

Philadelphia is now "reaping the reward of 20 or 30 years of neglect" of its water supply plant with water of bad taste and odor, city experts declared yesterday.

The question "What Progress Are We Making Toward Improving Philadelphia's Water Supply?" was discussed yesterday on the Public Hearing Program over Station WFIL.

Speakers included Robert K. Sawyer, director of the Bureau of Municipal Research; Charles Haydock, consulting engineer and author of a report on the water supply for the Committee of 15, and Elbert Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Water of the Department of Public Works.

All agreed that the solution was not an upland source but improvement of the present plant here. They also agreed that the principal problem was the matter of taste and odor and corrosion, or "red water." They suggested a separate water department to prevent further "draining off" of water revenue for other city expenditures.

Sawyer reported that purity and reliability of supply were no longer serious problems. However, he and Taylor disagreed on the amount of progress made on taste and odor control.

launched in 1946," Sawyer said, "it didn't cover taste and odor control and it is not sufficiently cared for now. We should have adequate equipment to care for the occasional 'dumpings' in the river such as we had last winter. This problem must be solved hastily so we can focus attention on modernizing our plant."

DELAY IS ASSAILED

Taylor said "considerable work" was being done on taste and odor control but "much experimentation was necessary."

Sawyer countered that many of these were proven methods and there had been too much delay. He added that the money granted for the water supply project in 1946 had been used "to make up rather than increase facilities and the city is now reaping the reward of 20 or 30 years of neglect."

Mayor Urges Independent Water Board

Bulletin 1-9-49
Would Have It Manage And Develop City's \$100,000,000 System

Mayor Samuel proposed yesterday that the City solve its water problems by turning the water system over to an independent body of experts.

He will recommend to the state legislature, he said, the establishment of a Philadelphia Water Authority which would assume full responsibility for the management, control and development of the City's \$100,000,000 water works.

The City, the mayor's announcement indicated, would not permanently transfer to the new authority the ownership of the system, but only the headaches that go with it. The authority, under the Samuel plan, would run the water works, correct all existing evils, develop new sources of supply as needed and pay the City an annual rental to protect its investment in the existing plant.

"Supplying water to the 500,000 homes of the people of Philadelphia and to our many manufacturing, industrial and mercantile establishments," Samuel said, "is a tremendous undertaking requiring the application of modern business practice."

City Officials to Aid Plumbers Cut Meter Permit Red Tape

A committee of city officials and master plumbers will be set up to simplify the procedure of issuing plumbing installation permits, especially for water meters.

The proposal to create the committee was made and approved yesterday at a meeting of city officials and 20 master plumbers, representing five organizations.

The plumbers, who complained heatedly of red tape and long delays in issuing permits, arranged the meeting with Frederic D. Garman, president of City Council. It was held as the result of a claim by Councilman Louis Menna that plumbers have been hiking their charges for water meter installations.

Present, at the invitation of Garman, were Elbert J. Taylor, chief of the water bureau; Herbert M. Packer, chief of the bureau of housing and sanitation; Thomas Buckley, director of public works; Buckley's deputy director, Louis Schneider, and Councilmen Phineas T. Green, Clarence K. Crossan and Garman.

It was agreed that up to five master plumbers will serve with

interested city officials on the new committee. An effort will be made to work out a permit system doing away with the present method, which requires plumbers to visit as many as six city offices in their search for permits.

C. OF C. PUSHES WATER BOARD

The Chamber of Commerce today pushed its recommendation for a city water and sewer authority by publishing results of a survey indicating that one-third of all cities in the U. S. with more than 5000 population, have such an authority.

Opposition to the move for establishing a water authority has come chiefly from the Greater Philadelphia Movement, an organization of businessmen and bankers, chartered this week.

Others opposed to the authority include the Citizens' Council on City Planning, which directed a letter today to Frederic D. Garman, president of City Council, saying the authority "was no infallible assurance of sound business management of service."

The letter, signed by Walter Fesnak, chairman of the Citizens' Council committee on Public Improvement declared the "establishment of an authority would be an infringement on the task of the proposed Charter Commission."

It is the contention of GPM and the Citizens' Council that the decision for an authority be left to the commission.

CofC Calls a Water Authority Good Business

The Chamber of Commerce seeks a Water and Sewer Authority, Ralph Kelly, president, said today, because of the current need of "a business administration by sincere, non-partisan businessmen."

The successful experience of the city with operation of the gas system by the Philadelphia Gas Works Co. was called by Kelly "a practical example of what can be expected from a Water and Sewer Authority."

Joint control over water and sewers, universal water metering and a businesslike accounting and billing procedure are some of the advantages of an authority, Kelly said. In Pennsylvania, he added, 73 municipal authorities handle water and sewer facilities.

City to Cut Red Tape On Plumbing Permits

City departments are now taking steps to eliminate "red tape" and otherwise facilitate the issuance of necessary permits for the installation of water, heating and plumbing installations, City Council spokesmen assured Philadelphia plumbers yesterday.

The assurances were given at a meeting of Council members and representatives of the Philadelphia Master Plumbers Association, held in Room 400 City Hall. The conference followed complaints by officers of the association against remarks made last week by Councilman Louis Menna, who claimed the plumbers were overcharging for the installation of water meters.

C. OF C. PROPOSED

Coincident with the introduction of the ordinance to create a water authority, the Chamber of Commerce at a meeting of its board of directors unanimously passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a similar authority.

The Chamber said the authority would permit efficient operation of the water utilities by "taking them out of the hands of politicians and allowing them to be operated by businessmen. This method of operation would not only relieve the city of great portion of its debt burden, but assures needed improvement and replacement without the necessity of borrowing against the city's credit."

The city ordinance introduced to council today provided that the appointment of the authority be effective as of January 1, 1950. Both the proposed city ordinance and the proposal of the Chamber of Commerce are for an authority limited to five years.

Might Be the Snake Again

A mythological creature that has been around so long he's almost a pet is the "Old Water Snake." It is the name given to proposals to spend city cash by the hundreds of millions to bring water down from the distant mountains.

Under some of the plans tens of millions would go to the owners of upstate land, reputed to be willing to sell if they get their price.

Among the more engaging characteristics of the Old Water Snake is its ability to appear in just about every disguise imaginable. Its versatility in this respect is so renowned that merely to mention a plan for better water is to raise the question in many minds whether that reptile is in again.

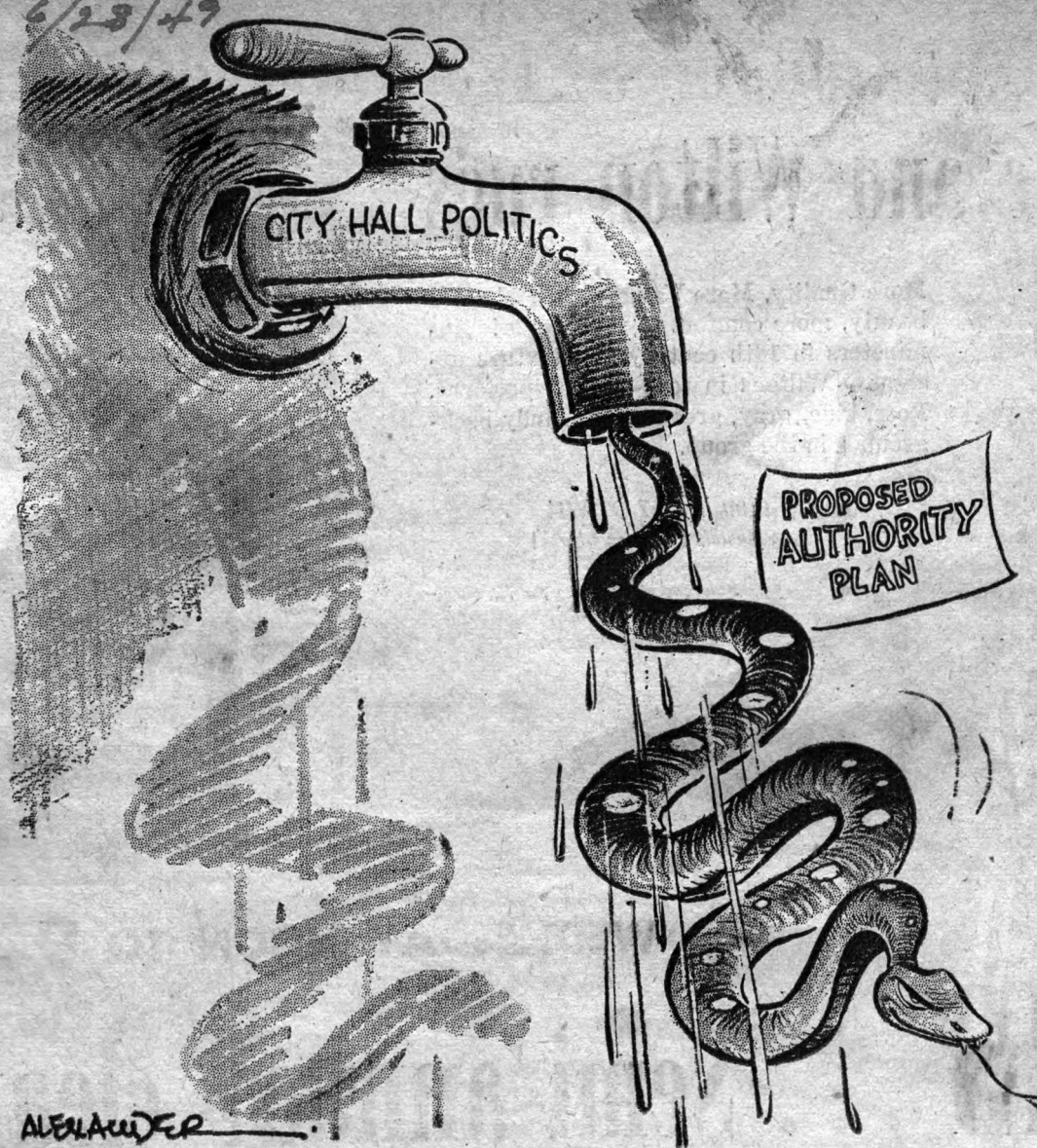
Is the Mayor's proposal of a Water and Sewer Authority the Old Water Snake, once more trying to pull a fast one? It could be, and the safest course is to study the proposal very carefully before trying to give the answer.

Once created, a Water Authority might find itself going to upland sources for water, and there might not be any way to stop it.

City Council might fear to take a chance with the voters on such a scheme, but the Authority would not be answerable to the voters. If City Council proposed to spend the scores of millions necessary to go upstate for water, the voters might turn down the loans. But an Authority doesn't submit loans to the voters.

The Authority is one of the most amazing devices for evading popular control ever to be held legal under a democratic form of government.

ANOTHER WATER SNAKE?



ALEXANDER

Philadelphia Water Department
Historical Collection
2004.019.00

URGES REMEDY

The city is losing hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, Crawford declared, through improper meter reading. He urged that this condition be remedied at once by providing competent personnel to read meters. Finally, he recommended that plumbing fixtures sold direct to the customer be reported to the city, as a means of checking bootleg installations, assuring additional revenue to the city, and eliminating health hazards.

Councilman Clarence K. Crossan, who attended the session with Garman, said he agreed with E. Herman Moser, a director of the Retail Merchant Plumbers Association, about the complicated procedure now involved in getting permits at City Hall, and told the group a bill which would have consolidated the various permit-issuing agencies was introduced in the last session of the Legislature, but died in committee.

Elbert J. Taylor, chief of the Water Bureau, told the plumbers of the steps already taken to simplify and facilitate the issuance of permits. In the future, he promised, the city would not hold up permits for water meters because of rental delinquencies.

PROPOSES APPOINTMENT

Daniel D. Crawford, president of the Retail Merchant Plumbers Association, one of five groups making up the Master Plumbers Association, requested as part of a program for the simplification of procedure in granting permits that Council President Frederic D. Garman be authorized to appoint up to five master plumbers to confer with representatives of the Department of Public Works, the Bureau of Water, the Division of Housing and Sanitation, and the Receiver of Taxes office, on methods of eliminating red tape.

Crawford also protested that plumbers are being "made tax collectors for the city." He cited the fact that before a plumber, at present, may get a permit for the installation of water fixtures, he must obtain verification of the fact that the property owner is not delinquent in taxes.

He further recommended that Council provide adequate personnel in the meter repair shop of the Water Bureau, to cut down on the 46,000 water meters now awaiting repair in the shop.

Water Meter Ownership

Philadelphia got off on the wrong foot when it began to allow property owners to own their own water meters. The consequences did not become embarrassing for a long time; but now they are here, and the city faces the difficult task of retracing steps that never should have been taken.

One result of private ownership of meters is that when a meter has to be removed for repairs, the city must put back that identical meter instead of installing another.

Because it is impossible to keep up with the repair job, thousands of metered properties go without meters for long periods.

Another complication is that when the purchase of meters is left to the property owners progress toward universal metering is slow. Yet when proposals are made to have the city buy and install meters on the services as yet unmetered, comprising about half the total number of services, the question is raised whether this would be fair to those who have bought their own meters.

If it tackled the problem seriously, City Hall could doubtless work out a reasonably satisfactory answer, even though it had to pay something for privately-owned meters. The solution is not easy, but delay is not going to make it any easier.

The Philadelphia Gas Works Company and the Philadelphia Electric Company would consider private ownership of meters the height of folly.

No Super-Government

Mayor Samuel is a very amiable man, and a good listener. Politeness required him to give a hearing to the authors of the Water and Sewer Authority proposition. But it was time for him to grow indignant when he was asked to surrender his powers as head of the \$100,000,000 municipal corporation and suggest the creation of a super-government to do part of the job he is paid for.

If Philadelphia is unable to hire the best brains available in the country to manage its water supply and its sewer system, the remedy does not lie in abdication to an Authority. It lies in Councilmanic action to pay experts whatever their services are worth in the open market.

Resort to the creation of a Water and Sewer Authority would not alone be humiliating to the man who proposes it—it would be an insult to the intelligence of Philadelphia voters and taxpayers. It is equivalent to saying to them: "Look here—you ought to have had gumption enough to elect a Chief Executive who can execute. But since you put me on this spot, I'm going to go out and find somebody who can function."

The Bulletin thinks better of the Mayor than he thinks of himself. He has all the necessary power an Authority would have, and he can get more to fit special requirements upon consultation with Council. In this instance he seems merely to have taken bad advice.

When this City sets about the drafting of a new Charter it won't want to find any artificially erected obstacles in the way, or any part of the functions of City management and genuine Home Rule spirited away and lodged in unreachable hands. The people of this community now have charge of their own water supply and sewer operations, and if they don't like the management they can vote it out.

But a Water and Sewer Authority would be out of reach of the voters.

Everybody who has a vote in Philadelphia would do well to think that one over.

A Civic Duty in Dry Spells: Do Not Waste Water!

Public cooperation in preventing the waste of water is essential during spells of severe heat and long-drawn out drought such as that which has afflicted the Philadelphia area during recent weeks—along with most of the Atlantic Seaboard.

Those in charge of water supply, whether in the city proper or in the suburban communities, can do everything possible to conserve water so that everyone receives an adequate share, but selfish wastage by a few consumers can upset their efforts.

In weather like this the demand for water naturally shoots up suddenly to abnormal proportions. There is greater daily consumption for drinking and for bathing purposes, and in many cases, especially in the suburbs, for irrigating lawns, flower beds and vegetable gardens dried out because of lack of rain.

In addition more water is used in the many public and private pools to which overheated citizens of the city and vicinity flock to obtain some relief.

The water plants in Philadelphia and

those serving the nearby communities are geared for the seasonal jump in consumption and are usually, from the standpoint of capacity, able to take care of it.

But the measures and precautions they may take can be unbalanced by sudden excessive use of water for long periods without a letup, possibly by protracted lawn or garden watering.

The result may be a lowering of pressure that will mean the reduction in water supply available to some householders at the very time they need it most.

It becomes a neighborhood duty to conserve water, especially during heat waves and dry spells, by using it for essentials only. A person permitting his lawn-sprinkler to run on full force all day long is "hogging" the supply and unfairly preventing others from getting their share.

So that everyone may have enough of this precious commodity in hot weather be sure to see to it that in your household water is not wasted.

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City Charter *Inquirer-1/20/50 104 M 8*
Special Agency for Water Needed

Fifth of Six Articles
By Frederic G. Hyde

RECENTLY, because of New York City's desperate water shortage, commentators and cartoonists here had a chance to quip that Philadelphia water, while awful to taste, was at least plentiful. Theirs was a rueful sort of humor at best.

For the fact remains that this city faces a water-supply problem quite as stupendous, in proportion, as New York's. Philadelphia now draws the bulk of its supply—approximately 357,000,000 gallons daily, according to the Bureau of Municipal Research—from the Schuylkill and the Delaware, and has to chlorinate and filter it to remove the impurities dumped into both sources by upstream communities.

As New York goes ahead with its program of tapping the Delaware's upper reaches to supplement its water supply, Philadelphia in turn will be forced to look to the Poconos for a new source. Eventually this is going to mean an outlay of millions for new reservoirs and aqueducts.

And, despite extensive but largely unpublished replacements, the city has an enormous job ahead of it in installing a new system of water mains. Some of those now in use date back almost to the founding fathers, as main breaks and localized water shortages too frequently testify.

IS A job of this magnitude to be left in the hands of a city agency which, although it boasts one of the best engineers in the country and a competent staff, is still subordinate in status? That is another of the questions the City Charter Commission, now drafting a new basic law for Philadelphia, probably will be called upon to decide.

At present the Water Bureau, under Elbert J. Taylor as chief, is a division of the Department of Public Works, whose director is Thomas Buckley. In addition, the department comprises the Bureau of Highways and Street Cleaning, Lighting and Gas, City Property, Mechanical Equipment, Engineering, Surveys and Zoning, Aeronautics and the Boards of Highway Supervisors and Surveyors. Thus, exclusive of the Water Bureau, Director Buckley has his hands full.

Obviously the agency that handles the city's water supply in the future, by whatever title it is known, will need a free hand, and that means independent status, as a department in its own right.

The National Municipal League, in its "Model City Charter," does not go into detail on this point, except to provide in an appendix that "the city shall have power to own and operate any public utility, to construct and install all facilities that are reasonably needed, and to lease or purchase any existing utility properties used and useful in public service."

Philadelphia already has such power; the question is how and by what agency it shall be employed.

THE Charter Commission, if it decides against setting up a Department of Water under either a city manager or a strong mayor and council, conceivably could solve the problem by recommending that the city go back to the State Legislature for power to establish a Philadelphia Water Authority.

An authority, as opposed to a city department, would have the ability to issue its own bonds for the construction of a new water-supply system. This might be a decisive advantage, since by so doing, the city could avoid a further drain on its own borrowing capacity.

But from the viewpoint of establishing a competent city charter, free of loopholes and leaving as few loose ends as possible, a water authority could be considered a distinct drawback. In the Board of Education, the city already has one "untouchable" autonomous agency in its midst; city planners do not hanker for more.

As mentioned previously, all questions of setting up new departments, shifting bureaus from one department to another, and otherwise tinkering with the organizational structure of the city government become academic if the City Charter Commission recommends a city manager setup.

In such a case the manager would form his own organization. Under a strong mayor, governing with council, the commission might go so far as to specify the number of departments and the jurisdiction of each.

MANY other cities, for example, have separate police and fire departments. These are now combined in Philadelphia under the Department of Public Safety. They make the department the biggest single unit in the city, in point of personnel, but the department has only a few other functions, which might be transferred to other agencies if fire and police became departments in their own right.

This might seem a purely technical question, except for one factor: the Philadelphia Automobile Club (AAA) is backing a proposal for a Department of Safety and Transportation, which presumably would take over and enlarge the functions of the present Bureau of Traffic Engineering. Such a department would have its work cut out for it in attempting to reduce Philadelphia's still tragically heavy toll of deaths and injuries resulting from traffic accidents.

Still another chore for the same department, if it were created, would be to find a solution for the

city's constantly increasing traffic congestion. Here is a problem that literally threatens Philadelphia's very life as a community.

Department stores here already are being forced to establish branches in the suburbs as the only means of retaining the trade of out-of-town shoppers who refuse to become entangled in the hopeless snarl of mid-city traffic.

The trend, if continued, may eventually leave the heart of the city (the so-called "high value" area which pays a heavy portion of the real estate taxes) little more than a shell. Halting it is a job big enough for any city department.

UP TO now, this discussion has dwelt almost wholly on the problems of the managers and administrators who would conduct the city's daily affairs under the new charter, and may have seemed to neglect the ones who constitute the people's voice in government: the members of City Council. The latter, too, appear to be in for a shuffling at the hands of the Charter Commission.

The basic questions concerning Council boil down to two: First, does that body as it is now elected provide adequate and fair representation for the great body of the voters generally? and second, should Council have as great an influence as it now wields in the administration of public affairs, as opposed to pure policy-making?

To take the second question first, because it requires less space, a City Council which meddles to any extent in administration violates a cardinal principle of American governmental theory: that of checks and balances.

Council is supposed to be the legislative branch of the government, confining itself to policy and law-making and leaving the execution, or administration, of its policies to the executive branch, the mayor and his department heads, while the courts, the third branch, settle any disputes between them and see that neither the legislative nor executive functions are abused.

UNDER a political setup which until last Nov. 8 closely approximated a one-party system, the lines of demarcation between the three had grown exceedingly dim. With a few shining exceptions, all were parts of what Treasurer Richardson Dilworth used to call "the City Hall gang."

Whether the Charter Commission can produce a lasting and effective

antidote for this unhealthy sort of amalgamation remains to be seen. The recent abrupt shift in the city's political climate may make the task seem easier—but the commission can't count on it.

Installation of a city manager form of government would be one way of restoring effective separation of functions. A simon-pure professional manager, to protect his job and his reputation, would see to it that council did not encroach on his domain as administrator.

If such a plan were adopted, the commission might also provide for a much smaller council than the present one of 22 members. This is standard practice in other major city-manager cities, such as Cincinnati, which has nine councilmen; Kansas City, Mo., nine, and Rochester, N. Y., nine.

A smaller council gives its individual members more work to do in committee, less time for politicking—and, since the prestige of the job is in inverse ratio to the number of council members, it is argued, better candidates will seek election.

IF INSTEAD of a city manager the commission were to retain the present system of a mayor and council, but give greater powers to the mayor as a means of centralizing responsibility, it would still be possible to reduce the size of council, with the effects set forth above.

Council then would become more of an advisory group—though this is something that cannot be carried too far, lest the people find they have handed over their powers to a potential dictator.

Quite aside from the place of council in the government, and the part it is to play, is Question No. 1, asked earlier. How well it represents the people is a matter that involves the basis on which it is selected, and whether any provision is made to assure the minority of some voice, regardless of how badly it has been outvoted. These topics will be taken up tomorrow in the final article of this series.

Concluded Tomorrow

Guard Our Water Supply *3-16-50 706*

Worth heeding is Judge Grover C. Ladner's warning that Philadelphia should be wary of New York's plans to help solve its water shortage problems by diverting more millions of gallons daily from the upper Delaware River and its tributaries.

The veteran water conservationist says that such a project would "rob the people of Pennsylvania and New Jersey of their rights to the water of their own watershed." It is his belief that New York should undertake a stream clearance program in the Hudson River similar to that now being conducted by Philadelphia in the lower Delaware and the Schuylkill, to ease its water difficulties.

A tri-State water pact, allocating to New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey the amounts to which each is fairly entitled, is needed for the Delaware watershed. A preliminary report on this subject by the Inter-State Commission on the Delaware River Basin suggests a three-State compact for an integrated water project in the upper Delaware to supply the metropolitan areas of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. It calls for reservoirs which, according to Judge Ladner, would be used initially to provide a billion gallons a day for New York.

A full report by the Commission is due in August. Before it is approved, and the go-ahead signal given for new large-scale dipping into the Delaware by New York, assurance must be given that the rights of the Philadelphia area in the distribution of Delaware water are fully protected for the future.

Metering Survey *Bulletin-7/5/49*

City Council is under ever increasing pressure to keep water and sewer operating costs down and income up. The whole public improvement program depends upon keeping these facilities on a self-sustaining basis.

Universal metering would help keep operating costs down, and would make it far easier for Council to face consumers on the question of fairness of its charges. On the issue of fairness the heat on Council has grown so intense that the Director of Public Works has been asked to make a survey of the charges for unmetered service and recommend a program for complete metering of all properties.

The Director will encounter some knotty problems, but they can all be solved. Purchase of meters by the City in quantity, and systematic installation by city forces or persons working under city supervision, would probably make the work cheaper.

Metering every unmetered service is a fairly long operation, at best. The City Planning Commission has been suggesting that \$1,000,000 a year be spent on it for six years. Its plan is to assess the property owners for the cost, a method which they might welcome if it brings relief from high water and sewer rents. Such a process carries just a step further the assessment of frontage charges for laying water and sewer pipes.

City ownership of the new meters is to the essence, and that raises the question of acquiring title to the privately owned meters now in place. Perhaps the city could buy them. With depreciation written off, many of them can't be worth much any more.



UNEARTHING TREE-TRUNK WATER MAINS ON VINE STREET

Frank De Felippes (left), foreman of a construction crew, and Al Tyman, a city water inspector, looking over the tree trunks which served as water mains under Vine st. for more than 200 years. They were dug up yesterday near 10th st. as work progressed on the Vine st. improvement program. Tyman holds one of cast iron pipes that served as a connection between the logs. The wood seems unharmed by the long service.

Don't Waste; First Against Water Shortage *December 11, 1949*

Philadelphians haven't had to put with Dry Fridays and Save-Water Thursdays. They haven't been able to alibi a needed shave by boasting that a fuzzy face proved civic patriotism. They haven't had to stint on baths and dish-washing.

The well-advertised plight of New Yorkers has been due to an unusually prolonged period of drought. The shortage brought to public attention a long list of wasteful practices which aggravated it. The drip-drip of countless leaky faucets wastes millions of gallons in every big city. Philadelphians are as wasteful as other Americans in the use of water.

New York's plight, however, may have made many grumblers at the quality of Philadelphia's water realize the city's great good fortune in having such enormous potable resources in the two rivers that flow by its doors. No one questions that the system needs improvement, the beginning and indispensable foundation of which would be the cutting off of waste.

New York's troubles generated a nationwide scare because they raised the fear of serious depletion of the country's water resources. There was apprehension of an ominous general lowering of the water table in the underground sources. But the national situation, according to Secretary of the Interior Oscar Chapman, is reassuring. We shall never run out of water in the foreseeable future, if adequate protection measures are taken, say departmental experts.

The growth of cities has created new water supply problems in the country at large. Industrial use of water has enormously increased the drafts made on underground water supplies. That is why the Federal Government is taking water conservation seriously. All its efforts are co-ordinated. Flood control, an official report says, is actually a program for the use of flood waters, and for the conservation of the water resources of the nation. When storage is used as a flood control measure an effort is made to put the stored waters to immediate beneficial use.

There are those who see in the oceans of the globe inexhaustible supplies of potable water. Distillation experiments in World War II were notably successful in yielding drinkable water.

But nothing that may come in the future decreases the necessity of conserving present supplies, especially by avoiding waste.

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Water Meter Puzzle

**Thousands of Gauges
Lost in Repair Shops**

Inquirer Last of 3 Articles
8/10/50 By Kos Semonski 114

THOUSANDS of water meters removed from homes to the Water Bureau's shops at 29th and Clearfield sts., for repairs, have been "lost," title company executives, real estate brokers, and home-owners declared yesterday.

Search clerks, charged with the responsibility of checking into such matters when the title firm is liable, explained to their superiors that the records on the disposition of these meters failed to indicate what happened and sometimes no records could be found at all.

This, in addition to the inefficient "guesswork" meter-reading system, has forced title companies to keep more than a quarter million dollars in home-sellers' funds tied up in thousands of frozen settlement accounts.

WHILE home-owners wait for months and often years for a special reading, or the return of the meter, the title to their properties is technically clouded, it was reported, unless the bureau's records are accurate.

The bureau's operation, however, has been charged with being so inefficient and its records so muddled that one title company has discussed a plan under which it would not insure the home-buyers against unpaid water bills.

Other companies have discussed the same matter and reported they too may soon take such action unless the bureau's "guesswork" figures are replaced promptly with accurate ones.

A VICE president of the Wyoming Trust Co. said the problem of finding "lost" meters is a serious one, since his firm insures the water meters for the home-buyer.

Many persons have found that once the meter was removed, it frequently became "lost," and no amount of searching through records could establish where or how it "disappeared."

One of the problems, a city official explained, has been the difficulty the bureau has had in keeping abreast of repair work.

A shortage of parts during the war built up a backlog of 40,000 broken meters.

In June last year, John J. Stapleton, general chairman of the legislative and civic affairs committee of the Philadelphia Real Estate Board, charged that 50,000 water meters were held in the repair shops.

While figures for this year were not available, it generally was conceded that the number is even greater.

**NEW CITY AIRPORT
WON'T BE READY
UNTIL MARCH 1**

Construction Delays May Hold Up Opening Till April 1

Construction of the Northeast Airport has run into unexpected delays and the field probably will not be ready for airline service until March 1 or even April 1.

Director of Public Works John H. Neeson told City Council yesterday that the city and the Civil Aeronautics Administration are having difficulty in obtaining equipment necessary to finish the airport.

Priority Status Changed

Materials for the field, originally given a military priority rating, have been changed to a civilian status, Neeson explained, with the result that delivery of cast iron pipe, sewer pumps, and radio equipment is likely to be delayed two months or longer.

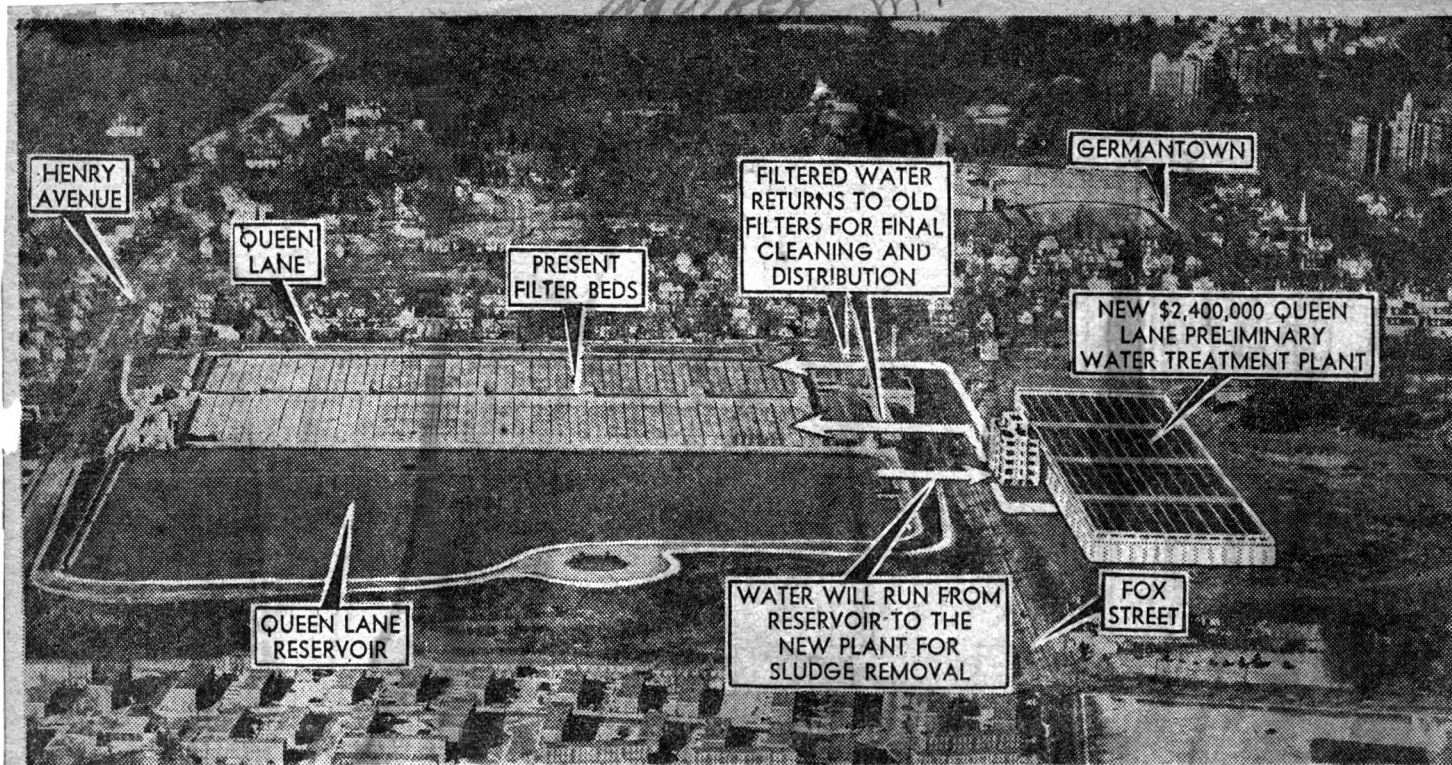
City—and airline—officials had hoped the new field could be opened for service by December 23, a year after the Federal Government closed the Municipal Airport in Southwest Philadelphia because of nearby military hazards. Neeson said that appears now to be out of the question.

As for the Municipal Airport, Neeson said it may not be reopened for civilian flying until six months after the war ends. He was unable to say what the relative roles of the Municipal Airport and the Northeast field will be in Philadelphia's postwar aviation picture.

Appropriations Promised

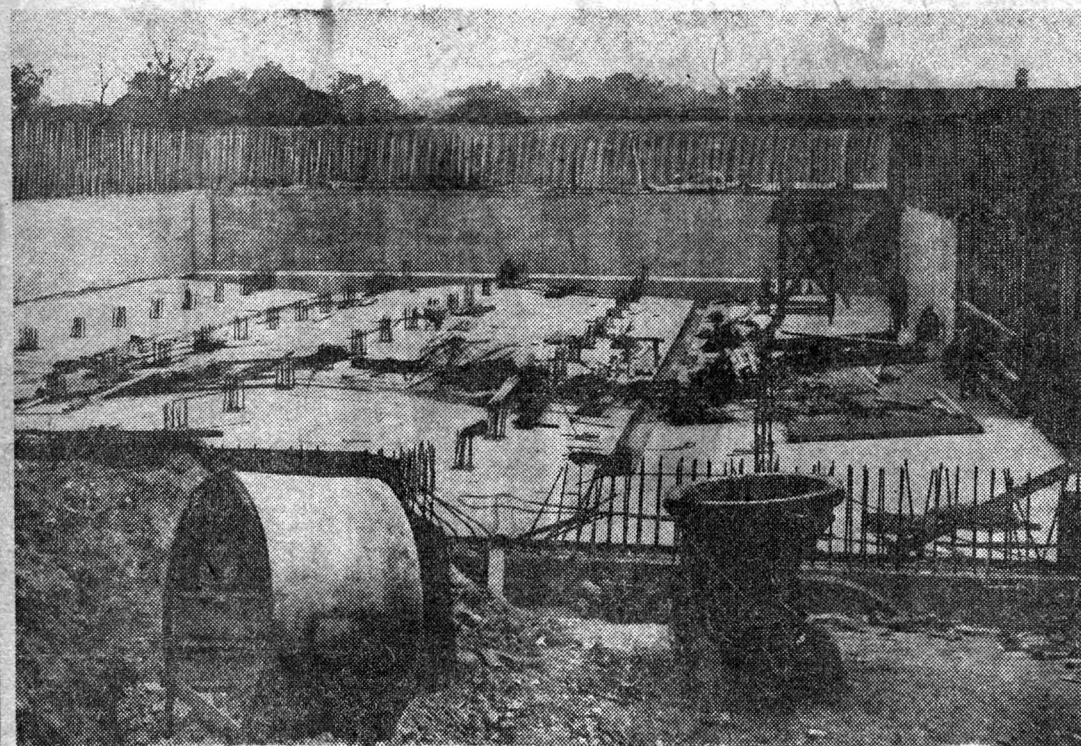
Neeson appeared before Council yesterday in connection with the budget hearings. Council cut the payroll appropriation for the closed airport from the \$81,950 proposed to \$30,950, based on actual costs of the past year. Councilmen gave assurance, however, that they will act promptly in appropriating necessary personnel and maintenance funds for the Northeast Airport when the time comes.

A \$50,000 item for ground rent to the Federal Government on the Municipal Airport site was eliminated because \$90,000 is available in unexpended funds toward meeting the \$38,000 quarterly payments.



WORK PROGRESSING ON NEW TREATMENT PLANT AT QUEEN LANE

Upper photo-diagram shows a general view of the Queen Lane pumping station. The present reservoir and the connecting filter beds are at the left. When the projected two-story preliminary treatment plant (at right) is completed, water will be drawn from reservoir and chemically treated before it is pumped into the filter beds. Three tunnels (indicated by arrows) will draw off the water and return it to either end of the beds. Below is shown lower basin in the new plant, the upper section of which has not been started.



115 LOWER BASIN OF PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION

**Queen Lane Plant
25 Pct. Completed**

Work on the preliminary-treatment plant at the Queen Lane pumping station, only one of its kind in this area, is about 25 percent completed, according to G. Edwards Sheldrake, filter plant supervisor for the Bureau of Water.

When the \$2,400,000 plant is completed next year, it will have a normal rated capacity of 120,000,000 gallons of water every 24 hours. It will, however, be capable of an overload of 25 percent—or 30,000,000 gallons a day—above that amount.

BEDS FILL WITH SLUDGE

At present, water is drawn from the Queen Lane reservoir directly into the adjacent filter beds. That process tends to keep the beds filled with sludge and requires almost continual cleaning of the filters, it was explained.

When the new plant is completed, water will be drawn through 11-foot-diameter tunnel into the upper story of the two-story treatment plant. It then will pass through a baffle into the lower basin of the plant, which is equipped with straight-line sludge collectors. After the sludge has been removed, the water will pass through two eight-foot tunnels into either end of the present filter beds.

Sheldrake said the use of the preliminary-treatment plant "will provide almost perfect water to put on the filters" and thus give residents of a wide area extending generally west of Broad st. and north of Hunting Park ave. better water than they have ever tasted.

FIRST STEP IN PROGRAM

Erection of the new plant is the first step in the modernization of the entire pumping station, according to Sheldrake.

Other projects include the installation of electric pumps and a complete chemical storage building. The latter structure will be eight stories high and will be in front of the treatment plant. It will contain laboratories and administration offices.

It was estimated that improvement of the filters will cost \$33,900 and the new equipment will cost \$349,600.

The Queen Lane projects are part of the city's \$37,381,500 program to improve its drinking water supply. That figure includes \$13,948,000 for water-treatment facilities and \$17,383,500 for the distribution system.

OZONATION PLANT BUILT

Last year an ozonation plant, largest in the world, was placed in service at a cost of \$728,000 to eliminate tastes and odors from water in West Philadelphia.

At the Lardner's Point pumping station, work costing \$503,419 has been completed, while improvement of the Torresdale pumping station at a cost of \$1,696,000 is nearing completion.

During the meeting the conferees

**ate GOP Backs
Water Authority
to Supply Phila.**

By JOSEPH H. MILLER

Creation of a State Water Authority to bring Philadelphia's drinking supply from a Pocono watershed will be proposed in the Republican State platform to be adopted by the party's State committee at a meeting in Pittsburgh next Saturday.

The decision to recommend the creation of the water authority was reached last night at a meeting of Philadelphia Republican leaders, Gov. James H. Duff and former Judge John S. Fine, the party's nominees for Senator and Governor. The meeting was held at the Barclay.

CONSOLIDATION SUPPORTED

Three other proposals to effect improvements in Philadelphia were agreed upon at the meeting, it was said.

They called for:

Creation of a Philadelphia Port Authority along the lines of the recent New Jersey proposal for the purpose of expanding the city's waterfront.

Support of the city-county consolidation constitutional amendment when it comes before the Legislature for a second time next January.

State aid to the Philadelphia General Hospital and Philadelphia Hospital for Contagious Diseases for the care of mental and tubercular patients.

OTHER STATES AFFECTED

In addition to Duff and Fine, those attending the meeting included Republican City Chairman William J. Morrow, Mrs. Edna R. Carroll, vice chairman of the Republican City Committee; Republican State Chairman M. Harvey Taylor, Sheriff Austin Meehan, County Commissioner Morton Witkin and Councilman Louis Schwartz.

During the meeting the conferees

Continued on Page 30, Column 1

State-federal-municipal program to stop the discharge of mine wastes into the Schuylkill and clean out the 30,000,000 tons of silt now clogging the river bed.
Orders Given Communities
As a corollary, the State Sanitary Water Board has ordered communities along the river as far upstream as Reading which now have primary sewage treatment works to install complete treatment facilities within the next two years.
That order is meeting considerable resistance. Communities above Reading have no treatment

contacted City Solicitor Frank F. Truscott to obtain information concerning the legal aspects of the Philadelphia program.

The proposed plan to establish a water authority calls for cooperation between the States of New Jersey and New York for the construction of dams in the upper Delaware River to bring the water supply to Philadelphia and communities along the line.

Although the water authority plan has been agreed upon, details of the proposal have not been worked out. Before arriving at a detailed plan, the conferees will confer with the Interstate Commission for the Delaware River Basin (INCDEL).

Several years ago, when plans were discussed to bring Philadelphia's water supply from the Poconos, it was estimated the cost of such a program would approximate more than \$200,000,000.

Philadelphia Water Department
Historical Collection
2004.019.0032B

OLD GOP CLIQUE RUNS WATER DEPT. 117

Escobedo hires Chicago firm at 50g to 'assist'

By HERBERT D. REIS
(DAILY NEWS Staff Member)

Following the hiring of nine out-of-town consultants to aid in creating a new Civil Service setup, several of them at \$1000 per month, Frank J. Escobedo, personnel director, has signed an additional \$50,000 contract with a Chicago firm, to "assist" his department.

Details of the new arrangement were disclosed today with discovery of an agreement with Public Administration Service, an Illinois corporation, which will be paid as much as \$80 per day for the service of some of its staff members, although the enterprise is described in the contract as existing "not for pecuniary profit."

HIGH SALARIES

Some of the other experts which the city will retain will be paid from \$40 to \$60 per day; another group will be compensated at rates ranging from \$50 to \$65. The \$80 rate is higher than the daily compensation of Mayor Clark. The Mayor's annual salary is \$25,000.

While the arrangement bearing the signature of Escobedo as well as that of H. F. Pope, executive director of Public Administration Service, stipulates that this organization shall not be paid more than \$50,000 for a job survey and a job classification and other work it was explained the plan may cost the city twice that sum. That is because this group is to "assist" in the work, while the municipality must supply most of the personnel, and an estimated additional \$50,000 may be involved in the undertaking.

Considerable confusion was created when the first copy of the contract was made public. Under the law, all contracts are subject to public scrutiny. This agreement did not bear the signature of Lennox L. Moak, finance director, although under the new City Charter he must approve all such undertakings. One Chicago employe of the corporation was already at work on the job survey and job classification, despite the fact that City Controller Stephen E. McLoughlin, Jr., had not yet seen the agreement. Under the Charter likewise the City Controller must

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Chicago firm hired at 50g by Escobedo

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certify on the contract that the necessary funds are available.
LEGAL FORM APPROVAL

The contract had been approved only as to "legal form" as required by law, by City Solicitor Abraham L. Freedman and one of his assistants, Joseph Gaffney, Jr.

Already, Public Administration Service is receiving a separate \$30,000 for assisting Moak to reorganize the municipal finance system. A staff of Chicagoans is likewise at work in the Finance Department.

Unlike other experts previously retained by the Personnel Office, the new group is not to have food and lodging at the expense of the city. The \$50,000 contract stipulates that the rates of pay fixed are partly in "lieu of subsistence." This was interpreted as meaning that because of the high pay allotted, there was to be no additional compensation for hotel bills and meals.

There are 17 paragraphs vaguely outlining what Public Administration Service is to do. The following are samples:

"Development and/or review of project materials and arrangements for which the Service shares responsibility and intermittent short term participations in Philadelphia."

"The project as tentatively defined subject to such improvisation as may be necessary and

practical to provide preliminary information for the budgetary process attending the calendar and fiscal year 1953."

"Assist generally in the integration of the new plans and procedures with existing systems and records."

It is understood the \$50,000 limit does not include telephone service. That would be an additional cost to the city. Office space must likewise be provided by the municipality. Cost of travel in and around the city by the Chicago experts must be borne by the taxpayers.

Fine Keeps C Between Morr

FOUR HORSEMAN CREATE UNREST IN WATER DEPT.

The old GOP clique, known as "the four horsemen," which ran the Water Bureau in the last Republican regime, is still running the new Water Department set-up in the Democratic administration.

And employes claim that the clique is responsible for the unrest and dissension which have created a major labor-relations headache for Mayor Joseph S. Clark, Jr., and his cabinet.

The departmental employes identify "the four horsemen" as: Elbert J. Taylor, former Chief of the Water Bureau, now Chief of Operations.

Charles Vickerman, former Assistant Chief of the Bureau, now assistant chief of operations and the man in charge of personnel.

William R. Webster, former auditor in charge of Water Bureau payrolls, who now holds a similar job.

Frank Gallagher, former chief clerk of the Water Bureau, who now holds the same title in the new department.

These four men rule the roost on the 8th floor of City Hall Annex, while Water Commissioner Samuel Baxter, who is in command of the department, sits on the 11th floor and, it was thought, knows nothing of what is going on except what these

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FOUR HORSEMAN CREATE UNREST IN WATER DEPT.

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four men tell him. Last week, it became known around City Hall and the Annex, however, that Baxter has not been fooled even though he has been sitting three floors above "the four horsemen."

It was said that the Commissioner was "fully aware" of the conditions which had been brought to his attention and that he was busy making a private investigation.

Baxter even was quoted as

Monday, May 12, 1952

saying that he was "sick and tired" of giving orders and not having them carried out and that he was "getting to the bottom of the whole mess."

Among the "conditions" which the department employes say are responsible for the unrest and dissension, are threats to elderly per diem clerical workers of assignment to pick and shovel work; favoritism to other employes through civil service classifications while jobholders who took examinations successfully are by-passed.

Overtime payments to favored employes and "beating the brains" out of others not favored by the clique also are charged by the employes.

The employes charge that Republican ward leaders still are able to get favors done in the Water Department through their connections with "the four horsemen," some of them having been GOP wheelhorses for years.

The employes say that only a major shakeup in the department will set things right and restore efficiency and they are looking with great anticipation for the results of Commissioner Baxter's investigation.

Philadelphia Water Department
Historical Collection
2004.019.0033A

1946 City Plan to Improve Water Is Branded Failure

INQUIRER - 4/23/49

The 1946 program launched with so much fanfare to give Philadelphia palatable water has collapsed, the Citizens' Council on City Planning said yesterday in a blistering survey of the work of the Bureau of Water.

The report carefully traced the history of the deterioration of the city's water in the last 40 years and the failure of all moves to map and execute long range programs since the first such attempt in 1920.

The 1946 plan has gone the same way, with only one-sixth of the money which citizens believed would go toward giving them tasteless and colorless water, actually being spent on new treatment facilities, the report said. Instead, most of the money went to lay new mains and fix old ones.

LACK OF PLANS CHARGED

And no detailed plans have been made to spend the \$12,000,000 on which voters will be asked to pass in November, with the "obvious danger" that this money also will dribble away in patch-and-fix jobs on the whole city water system, the report declared.

Nonetheless, in its final 17 recommendations, the Citizens' Council recommended that city water should neither be farmed out to a private company nor put under a separate authority but should be continued as a municipal operation. But it urged a completely revised Bureau of Water and perhaps even a new city Department of Public Utilities administering the huge business operation which water supply represents.

RED FEATHER AGENCY

The Citizens' Council which drafted this report is a Red Feather agency comprised of representatives of 125 civic organizations and headed by E. Walter Hudson, a hotelman. Vice presidents are Harold W. Brightman, president of Lit Brothers; Walter P. Miller, Jr., chairman of the Committee of Seventy, and Benjamin W. Frazier, Germantown manager for the Philadelphia Gas Works Co.

The report was sprinkled with

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observations showing that 30 percent of the Water Bureau's 1000 employes are more than 60 years old, that in one month the Water Bureau had on file citizens' complaints of 46,000 defective water meters, while 14,630 meters were in its shops awaiting repair—and still only half the city's 470,000 water-users had meters at all.

ANTIQUATED BILLING

In addition to too many being too old, the employes of the Water Bureau work under a complex "job classification" system of 109 separate job titles, and are hampered by a bad administrative set-up, an antiquated billing procedure and tight-fisted City Council control, the report said.

Present officials of the Department of Public Works and the Water Bureau "can take pride" in improvements "completed in the face of formidable obstacles," the report said.

"But the fact remains that Philadelphia's water supply is still not satisfactory," it added. "Approved plans have been disregarded, urgently needed improvements have been pressed with insufficient vigor, suggesting that both past and present management of the system is in some measure responsible for the continued existence of a water problem in Philadelphia."

'MILKED OF PROFITS'

In justice to the Water Bureau, the report adds, citizens should be aware that for years the water system was "milked" of an annual "profit" of two to three million dollars on the sale of water—money which was diverted to other purposes by City Council while the water system was allowed to decay.

And the Water Bureau has never gotten any budget credit for its job of maintaining 20,910 fire hydrants and two networks of high pressure fire mains, the report said.

The scale of the problem confronting the city was emphasized by the data prepared by the Citizens' Council on the city water system as it stands today after 30 years' neglect.

SUPPLIES 470,000 CUSTOMERS

"It's a big business, supplying almost 470,000 customers with a daily average of 350 million gallons of water. During summer months this average is exceeded. On the day of peak demand last year the output was almost 470 million gallons, or 117 percent of rated capacity.

"The plant, which includes five raw water pumping stations, five filter plants, eight filtered water pumping stations, two filtered water reservoirs, two high pressure fire service pumping stations, almost 2600 miles of main and 20,900 fire hydrants, represents a capital investment of over \$100,000,000."

MONEY IS DIVERTED

The 1946 program's timetable has been ignored, and money remaining from the unachieved 1940 program has been diverted toward re-

pairs and laying of new mains for new housing, the survey said.

Enough "studies" have been made of Philadelphia water, it observed, and as its first recommendation declared:

"1.—A comprehensive water-works improvement program covering at least the next 10 years should be promptly developed on the basis of existing surveys and proposals."

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Citizens' Council then made 16 more specific recommendations:

"2.—The program should be directed toward improvement of the quantity and quality water which can be provided from present sources of supply.

"3.—The program should include projects to permit drawing all of Philadelphia's water from the Delaware River at the Torresdale intake and to permit abandonment of the Schuylkill as a regular source of supply.

"4.—The program should have as its immediate objective the complete installation, within the next two years, of all necessary equipment to remove objectionable tastes and odors in the water and to reduce its mineral content.

"5.—The program should incorporate a schedule for systematic maintenance of the distribution system.

"6.—Meters should be extended to all water services during the next five years.

"7.—As a precaution against possible future inadequacy of the existing Delaware River source of supply, Philadelphia should safeguard its claims to the Wallpack Bend reservoir site.

"8.—All waterworks revenue should be reserved for the operation, maintenance and improvement of the water supply system.

"9.—Delinquencies in payment of water bills should be reduced by enforcement of existing regulations.

"10.—Both current and delinquent water charges should be rendered on a single bill.

"11.—The Water Bureau's accounting methods should be revised and improved.

"12.—Repair of defective meters should be speeded.

"13.—Leakage surveys of the water supply system should be continued.

"14.—The number of job classifications in the Bureau of Water should be reduced.

"15.—The overbalance of older employes in the Bureau of Water should be eliminated, and a compulsory plan instituted for the pensioned retirement of City employes.

"16.—The water supply system should be operated as an independent municipal utility with a segregated budget.

"17.—Consideration should be given to the advisability of establishing a new Department of Public Utilities."

THOSE TERRIBLE U. S. DOLLARS

vance Philadelphia toward the goal of more and better water, the Citizens Council on City Planning reported yesterday.

Money allocated for improvement and expansion of treatment facilities has been dissipated piecemeal for maintenance and rehabilitation, the council, which represents about 100 civic organizations, reported.

Of the nearly \$9,000,000 originally allocated for the program, it was said, less than one-third was spent for treatment facilities.

Pollution Seen on Rise

Control of taste and color in the city water has become increasingly difficult, pollution in the Schuylkill and Delaware has risen and maintenance, modernization and improvement of the water supply system has been seriously neglected, the report stated.

The council, noting that the 1946 program "has not been substantially followed" and that its timetables have not been met, warned that the \$20,000,000 the City plans to spend on water improvements in the next three years may be similarly spent for purposes

gators said, continued management of the water system by the City itself would be preferable to management by either a private company or by a water authority.

Program Recommended

The report recommended the following steps:

Development of a ten-year program toward improving the quality and quantity of water from present sources.

Eventual abandonment of the Schuylkill as a source of supply.

Complete installation within two years of equipment to remove objectionable taste, odor and mineral content from city water.

Extension of metering to include all water services.

Use of all water revenues for the water system itself.

Reduction of water rent delinquencies by improved billing and accounting and through speedy repair of defective meters.