

# War Machine System Near Peak

(Continued From Page 1)

so desperate that Director of Public Works John H. Neeson is getting a special appropriation of \$633,750 for emergency repairs, or \$300,000 for a rehabilitation program which was to have given Philadelphia an up-to-date dependable water supply, purification and distribution system, already a year behind schedule. The expenditure was authorized by the voters two years ago following a survey. It was necessary, however, to design the filter beds, pumps, etc., and that required nearly a year.

By that time the city was faced with priorities. Neeson tried hard to get a blanket priority rating for the whole program, making many trips to Washington to explain the critical conditions to officials of the War Production Board and its predecessor, the Office of Production Management. By reviving the plans to substitute concrete for iron, steel and other critical materials, the metal requirements were cut from 49,900 to 33,600 tons.

Government officials originally said that priorities should be applied for piecemeal by the various contractors and subcontractors. That would have caused hopeless confusion, Neeson said.

**Not a Top Priority.** While A-4 is far from a top priority, it is as high as any being granted to municipalities. Neeson said it would enable him to call for bids on \$7,000,000 worth of equipment and materials. Work will be started on installation of two new electric pumps at the Queen Is. station and on other improvements.

In the meantime, the Dravo Corporation, of Pittsburgh, successful bidder on the nine new electrically driven pumps to be installed at Lardners Point, managed somehow on its own initiative to get an A-2 priority, which is well up.

Dravo will begin installation of two of the new pumps late in the summer, but they cannot be taken in service in time to help ease care of the peak load.

**Hopes to End Waste.** Neeson now has a real hope of averting a summer pinch by lighting the load on the overtaxed plant by eliminating the Filometer (waste water) surveys carried on as a WPA project here in the evenings of 6,000 gallons a day during 1941 and Neeson hopes to save an equal amount this year.

The job is simple enough—measure the flow at two different points on the same pipe. If the amount decreases, they know there is a leak.

**Main Break Discovers.** At 3d and Dickinson sts., plumber crews discovered a main break which showed no surface evidences whatever; the water was draining away under the surface, and it rained a day. As an adjunct of the Filometer surveys, Neeson is preparing to tax the city's coverage pumping stations of waste water for conservation of water by consumers. The chief source of domestic water was asked to leaky faucets. A mere drip from a spigot can mean the loss of up to 640 gallons of water in 24 hours.

The waterworks rehabilitation program probably would have been finished before now—and at less cost to the taxpayers too—but for the reluctance of Philadelphia officials to accept New Deal assistance.

**Wilson Planned Vainly.** The late Mayor S. Davis Wilson applied in vain with City Council to pay for money from the old Public Works Administration (which made outright grants of 45 percent of the cost of projects) not only to rehabilitate the waterworks but to complete the long-overdue sewage disposal plant and finance other important capital improvements.

City Council turned a deaf ear until the early fall 1933. Then, with a sudden change of heart, it gave Neeson just two weeks to prepare water and sewage disposal projects for submission to P.W.A.

Neeson (then chief of the Bureau of Engineering, Surveys and Zoning) made good on his part of the job by working himself and his staff day and night. But it was wasted effort; P.W.A. by that time had given out all its funds to more enterprising communities.

**Also Blames Priorities.** Last night, Acting Mayor Bernard Sarnoff also blamed priorities for his administration's failure to rehabilitate the water supply in service in time to help ease care of the peak load.

But he assured representatives of 24 community and civic organizations of Northeast Philadelphia that eventually Philadelphia officials would have the "best" water system in the United States.

He addressed a dinner meeting of the Northeast Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce at the Torresdale-Frankford Country Club, Grant st. and Frankford ave.

# System Cuts Dependence on City Supply; Neeson Seeds Repairs

See editorial, "Short of Vision Yesterday; Short of Water Today."

**By LEEDS MOBERG**

The Philadelphia Navy Yard has built its own auxiliary water supply system as a precaution against a serious breakdown in the antiquated city waterworks.

It was installed a year ago, it was learned yesterday, in apparent anticipation of the present situation, when the intensified demands of defense industries are taxing the city's coverage pumping stations to the danger point.

**Needs Cut by Half.** The yard's own waterworks are now supplying the bulk of its domestic and industrial needs so that its consumption of water from the city mains has been cut to half the former 2,000,000 gallons a day. In any emergency the city water could be dispensed with entirely.

The source of supply is five artesian wells with an output of 700 gallons a minute each—a combined capacity of about 3,500,000 gallons a day compared with a need of about 3,000,000.

**Neeson Speeds Work.** Meanwhile, Director of Public Works John H. Neeson, armed with an A-4 priority rating, announced last week ahead of the long-delayed \$18,000,000 waterworks rehabilitation program, which is now a year behind schedule.

He revealed that bids on \$2,000,000 worth of work will be opened in the next three and a half weeks.

# CITY SPEEDS UP BIDS ON WATER PROGRAM

Armed for the first time with a Federal priority, Philadelphia moved swiftly yesterday to invite bids for the \$18,000,000 waterworks rehabilitation program.

Bids for approximately 1,000,000 worth of materials and equipment will be opened by April 15, it was announced by John H. Neeson, Director of Public Works.

**OTHER BID PLANS LAID.** On April 8, he said, bids will be opened for power transformers, electric switch gears and a control switchboard for the Torresdale filter plant in the Northeast. On the same day bids will be opened for sludge collection equipment and machinery for the rapid sand filter beds, also at Torresdale.

Bids on a preliminary treatment works to be installed at the Queen Lane filter plant will be received and opened on April 15.

**A-4 PRIORITY OBTAINED.** In addition, Neeson said, some \$100,000 of pipe and equipment will be needed for the near future.

It was not until late last week that Neeson received the A-4 priority for waterworks rehabilitation. He obviously had obtained a certain amount of the needed pumping equipment from the Federal Government and will be expected to get installation before the end of this year.

# SHORT OF VISION YESTERDAY; SHORT OF WATER TODAY

Mrs. Philadelphia water works. That's the question city officials ultimately must answer, as defense plants lay new and greater burdens on the city's decrepit water supply system.

The Mayor and his aides blame the situation on priorities.

Truth is, priorities are not to blame for the plight in which our City Fathers find themselves. An A-4 priority has been granted on materials required to complete the long-delayed \$18,000,000 rehabilitation program. That's as high as any priority granted municipalities in these days of total war.

But under that priority, the city can't hope to complete the immediately needed improvements this year. Hence, there may be a shortage, especially during the summer months.

To blame Uncle Sam for the answer, is to forget completely the fact that the City Fathers since the early 1930's have put off water plant improvements year after year—and never began to get interested in them until the war made it look as if machinery might be hard to get.

This newspaper has been campaigning for a better water system for more than 10 years. And if the C. O. P. Organization running City Hall objected to taking suggestions from us—

It needed only to hearken to Chief Van Loan, of the Water Bureau, one of Council's own appointees, who told them five years ago: "That one of the two 6,000,000-gallon pumps at Belmont station was completely out of commission; and that failure of the other pump would leave a third of the city without water. That at Queen Lane station only three out of 11 boilers were fit for operation, most of them being 30 years old; and the "newer" pumps 15 to 20 years old; that the filters at Torresdale were clogged, and the 40-year-old boilers at Lardners Point were working 24 hours a day.

Since then, minor repairs have been made, largely through W. P. A.

But the big job, the job of thorough rehabilitation, the City Fathers put off and off until, for political reasons, a referendum finally was held on an \$18,000,000 bond issue for water improvements.

The public overwhelmingly approved that water bond issue—TWO YEARS AGO.

Yet even then—long before we were seriously affected by the war—Council chose to do nothing. The bonds were not sold. Improvements were not made.

After a year had passed, not a cent of the 18 millions had been spent.

Only last fall, when election pressure again became effective, did the City Fathers begin to besite themselves. But even now, very little has been done.

With water consumption now running 25,000,000 gallons a day above normal, and summer ahead—

Those years of indifference will be paid for—in needless consumer hardships and dangers of water shortages in defense factories. Let the responsibility be placed where it belongs:

On the City Fathers, who couldn't imagine missing the water until the war ran dry.

# INSTRUCTION MANUAL FOR BASIC COURSES

PENNSYLVANIA CITIZENS' DEFENSE CORPS

The Official Instruction Manual, prepared by the Institute of Local and State Governments, University of Pennsylvania, for the Pennsylvania Council of Defense is being printed in The Evening Bulletin, in a form convenient for passing into a scrapbook, so that all members of the Corps and the general public may acquire a copy of this valuable study and reference guide.

## General Course

### Introduction

A. The purpose of a local organization for civilian protection is to provide a "passive" defense against enemy air raids and to protect civilian life and property.

B. Passive defense is designed to minimize the effects of enemy bombardment.

1. Enemy objectives in air raids are:
  - a. To destroy or cripple defense production activities.
  - b. To disorganize communication and transportation, and
  - c. To break down the morale of the civilian population by creating fear and panic.
2. The enemy can be frustrated by proper organization of counter-measures and training of service squads to:
  - a. Control the movements of the population during a raid.
  - b. Direct the public to maximum shelter available and instruct them in taking cover.
  - c. Repair broken mains, power and gas lines.
  - d. Reopen streets and restore communications.
  - e. Extinguish incendiary fires before conflagrations are started.
  - f. Rescue persons trapped in demolished houses and buildings.
  - g. Render prompt first aid and hospitalization to the wounded, and
  - h. Provide food and shelter for those made homeless by enemy bombardment.
3. Citizens' Defense Corps are being organized and trained to protect civilians.

## BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ARM BAND CERTIFICATION CITIZEN'S DEFENSE CORPS UNITS

Hours Required	GENERAL COURSE		FIRST AID COURSE		FIRST AID COURSE		FIRST AID COURSE		FIRST AID COURSE		NO. OF COURSES	NO. OF MEN
	5	3	7	2	3	10	7	2				
Total No. Units	16	9	2	15	6	9	2					
Staff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	20
Messengers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	20
Drivers*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	20
Auxiliary Firemen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	27
Rescue Squads	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	40
Auxiliary Police	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	23
Bomb Squads	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	18
Air Raid Wardens	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	23
Fire Watchers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	10
Emergency Food & First Aid	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	7
Medical Corps*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	27
Nurses' Aides*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	17
Demolition & Clearance Crews	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	10
Road Repair Crew	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	10
Decontamination Units	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	20
Utilities Repair	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	7

\*Additional specialized courses are required as part of the basic training for Drivers, Medical Corps and Nursing Aides.

\*If the 10-hour course is not offered, the twenty-hour course must be taken.

NOTE—Duties are optional, not included in totals of courses or hours required.

All members of Corps Units are required to take certain basic training courses to qualify for Arm Bands. The above table is a quick reference guide to training courses required of members of each of the several Corps.

## General Course, Unit 1-1 to 1 1/2 Hours

### CIVILIAN DEFENSE ORGANIZATION

#### A. United States Office of Civilian Defense

1. Functions include planning, coordination, etc.
- a. Initial planning and execution of programs designed to protect civilian life and property in air raid emergencies.
- b. Promotion of activities designed to sustain national morale and to create opportunities for constructive civilian participation in the defense program.
- c. Advice and assistance to State and local councils of defense through:
  - (1) Regional offices which are the field offices of the OCD and from which liaison officers are assigned to the States;
  - (2) Division of State and local co-operation, which works with State and local authorities in organization and civilian protection problems;
  - (3) Literature on training standards and regulations, problems, and the subject matter of civilian defense. These publications are sent to the State Council of Defense, which in turn supplies the county and local defense councils in Pennsylvania.
- d. Direction of the Victory Garden and American Unity programs in the States.
- e. Coordination of local defense activities, such as civilian protection organization and clearance crews training standards and regulations, problems, and the subject matter of civilian defense. These publications are sent to the State Council of Defense, which in turn supplies the county and local defense councils in Pennsylvania.

- a. The regions of the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense are coterminous with the Army corps areas. There are nine regions, each with a regional office. Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia are in the third region, with headquarters at Baltimore, Maryland.
- b. Two liaison Army officers have been assigned from the Third Regional Office to the Pennsylvania Council of Defense to aid in civilian defense problems, particularly the planning and establishment of local central centers.

### B. Pennsylvania State Council of Defense

- a. The State Council of Defense Act of 1941 authorized the Governor to appoint a State Council of Defense to coordinate State and local activities and to national and State defense.
- b. The Governor established the State Council of Defense by proclamation on April 17, 1941.
- c. The Council consists of:
  - (1) The Governor, who is chairman.
  - (2) The Lieutenant Governor,
  - (3) The State Treasurer,
  - (4) The Attorney General,
  - (5) Secretary of Internal Affairs,
  - (6) Adjutant General,
  - (7) President pro tempore of the Senate,
  - (8) Speaker of the House of Representatives,
  - (9) A citizen appointed by the Governor.
  - (10) A citizen appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate, and
  - (11) A citizen appointed by the Speaker of the House.
- d. Functions include coordination, research, special programs.
- e. Co-operation with OCD and other Federal agencies in civilian protection and such programs as physical fitness, salvage, and rationing.
- f. Advice and co-operation with local governments in problems of civil defense and civilian protection.