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**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 would be cleaned up for between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000. Justice Maxey added that the cost probably would "be nearer \$30,000,000."

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 virgin 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 clean and improve it. The fact that 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."

**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 1939 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 his 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 1941, 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 will be 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 Callo, an official of the Philadelphia Ice Cream Co., S. 9th st. near Ellsworth, paid fines of \$25 each on two charges preferred against 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 1/2 butterfat. The State requirements call for 10 percent butterfat. Callo was also fined for selling ice cream containing brine.

Max Jorns, of N. 12th st. near Spring Garden, was fined \$50 on a charge of having meat in his show case which was terminated 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 4th and Chestnut sts. They were charged with selling sausage with excessive fat content.

Leo Smith, of W. Huntingdon st. near 90th, had his fine of \$50 paid on a sausage violation by Edward Collins, an attorney, who said he was representing the Bath Packing Co., which Smith said sold him the sausage.

Mrs. Pauline Kimeiman, 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. 88th st. near Hatfield; Samuel P. Oszito, of Lindbergh boulevard near 61st st.; Samuel Terrano, of N. 12th st. near Columbia ave. and Mrs. Reba Radnick, of Haverford ave. near 69th st.

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



INUNDAED 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 MOVES ONLY THROUGH THE FLOOD some of Thirty-second St. The water, gurgled up out of the ground in numerous spots and then reared down lifted curbstones six inches into the air in