

ing Will Discuss Tapping Delaware River to Aid N. Y.

A project to divert 350,000,000 gallons of water a day from the Delaware River to help solve New York City's water shortage problem will be discussed tonight at a meeting of the Water Resources and Pollution Committee of the Greater Philadelphia-South Jersey Council.

The plan is part of a \$540,000,000 program of reservoir and aqueduct construction recommended by engineers of Incoel, the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin. It is designed to solve the water problems of both New York City and the Philadelphia metropolitan area.

Judge Grover C. Ladner and

Charles Haydock will discuss the program at the meeting in the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Judge Ladner will review the legal angles and Haydock, a water engineer, will cover the technical aspects.

Representatives of New York City's Water Supply Board and members of Incoel will attend.

Also to be discussed is the proposed development of hydro-electric power on the Delaware. "The Delaware River Development Corporation of New Jersey has asked the Federal Power Commission for a

Taylor Supports Tri-State Water Says Incoel Plan Would Benefit City

Philadelphia would receive benefit from otherwise wasted flood waters under the proposed tri-state project for the Delaware River, Albert J. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Water, said today.

"Water is becoming an important commodity from the standpoint of conservation," Taylor declared.

Under the plan of the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, he said, excess flood waters that now run down to the sea and don't do anyone any good "would be stored for use during the annual periods of dry weather low flow.

TAP HUDSON N. Y. URGED BY LADNER

Suggestions that New York City draw future water supplies from sources other than the upper Delaware River were renewed by Judge Grover C. Ladner today in regard to characterization of his views as "claptrap."

The Philadelphia jurist and conservatist cited proposals of the Hudson River below Poughkeepsie as a permanent solution to their water supply problems.

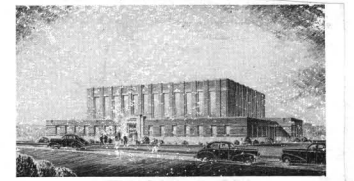
Ladner's statement followed criticism of his recent discussion of an interim report on tri-state water supply possibilities released by the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin.

Sharing the Delaware

Judge Ladner has had the courage to say out loud that the Incoel approach to dividing the waters of the Delaware may not be the best.

Incoel, a Commission containing representatives of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, is working toward a compact under which the three States would share the Delaware. The effort is born of a desire with which many will sympathize, to keep the hand of the Federal Government out of such affairs as the States can settle for themselves.

Judge Ladner remarks that there is something irrevocable about a compact. A State which found it had made a bad bargain, perhaps because the engineering estimates went wrong, could not revise the agreement without consent of those who had made a good bargain, and usually those who have made a good bargain sit tight.



TORRESDALE FILTERED WATER PUMPING STATION

This new station, located on a State Road and Ashburner Street, was officially opened on Friday, November the 4th and in the absence of President Anderson, Chairman of the Board Clarence E. Bertolet represented the Chamber at the Dedication Exercises.

The opening of this station marks the completion of a project, which was started in 1929 when steel pipe distribution lines 72" and 93" in diameter were laid in Kensington to the Torresdale Filter Plant. The contracts for the equipment were awarded in 1941, but due to World War II, the work was deferred, and it was not until 1949 that construction started on the pumping station.

The station will contain pumps having a total capacity of 215 million gallons daily. Pumps are centrifugal type, electric motor driven, served by purchased power of 13,200 volts. Water for their suction is received from a concrete dual conduit 6 feet by 23 feet each. The pumping units are of the following capacity: 4 at 40 Million Gallons Daily—1750 H.P.—2300 Volts 2 at 20 Million Gallons Daily—900 H.P.—2300 Volts 1 at 6 Million Gallons Daily—563 H.P.—2300 Volts 3 at 3 Million Gallons Daily—250 H.P.—2300 Volts

The first six units have a rated head of 200 ft. and will be used to pump filtered water into the Kensington and Central City areas. The other pumps will be used to pump filtered water into the northeast section of the City.

The station, a brick structure, with a glazed terra cotta interior, is approximately 130 feet long by 120 feet wide. The pump pit extends about 35 feet below the ground, and the superstructure rises about 45 feet above the ground. The total cost of the work is approximately \$1,683,000.

The station will be operated in conjunction with the Lardner's Point Pumping Station, thereby providing additional capacity.

Save Philadelphia's Water

RECENT statements from the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, through its secretary, James Allen, have appeared to indicate that body favors the scheme concocted by New York City to steal the Delaware River water near its source in New York State to insure the metropolis of an adequate supply, so this year's experience of a dire shortage will not be repeated.

But such a device must not be permitted and Judge Grover C. Ladner, whose deep interest in the issue has brought the facts to the public's attention, is justified fully in waging a fight against this maneuver. His reply to Allen, in which he points out that the plan is not one that can be formulated and put into effect privately, should warn the interstate group that its actions are being watched closely.

Judge Ladner's suggestion that New York construct a dam above Poughkeepsie to build a supply of water from the Hudson River, is a logical one. The Hudson is New York's own river and its waters do not supply the needs for many communities in two States, as the Delaware serves both Pennsylvania and New Jersey. There is no sensible point in robbing Philadelphia and the other communities in the Delaware Valley solely for the selfish purpose of providing adequate supplies for New York City.

The water problem long has been a difficult one to solve. Philadelphia's full supply from two rivers has provided for all its necessities, but if that supply is to be threatened because of the self-interest of a city that has been derelict in modernizing its own system until drought brought it forcibly to its people's attention, adequate action should be taken.

Judge Ladner's rebuke to the Incoel secretary in reply to his criticism of the jurist's views is well taken, and in the future it might be well for this body, or any public board, to take the people into its confidence and obtain an expression of opinion before even mapping a definite program. Philadelphia needs the Delaware's waters and should fight to prevent their theft.

THE CHARTER COMMISSION looked into the future in drafting the departmental section which sets up a separate water division. There is no doubt the water problem has grown to a point where it deserves departmental, rather than bureau status.

What makes the question interesting is that the charter drafters saw fit to insert a clause which says that setting up a water department shall not be construed as preventing the City from creating a water authority or from contracting with a private operator to run the system.

From the beginning, the water authority idea was in the minds of the charter drafters. It was not until about a month before the final draft was published that the "private operator" clause was inserted.

Last year, there was general speculation about a water authority. Now, the contract seems to private operation more strongly, similar to the lease of the city-owned gas works to the Philadelphia Gas Works Co.

Things just don't happen without good reason. Perhaps someone knows something.

Philadelphia Water Department
Historical Collection
2004.019.0030B

Incoel engineers have recommended a \$540,000,000 program of reservoir and aqueduct construction. One feature of which would relieve New York City's critical water shortage. The plan has been opposed in some quarters as dangerous to Philadelphia's water supply.

Taylor dismissed this criticism, stating that the agreement between Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey would provide for the release of water to adequately supply all three states.

Taylor described the plan as the "development of a stream system in an orderly fashion." The development is the undertaking on the Delaware tributaries in New York.

The Hudson could supply an enormous quantity of drinking water, he says, but its waters are "so full of pollution it would not be a safe source of supply from a health standpoint."

Whether the Hudson River could ever be made a safe source of supply is problematical, Dr. Graham says. Extensive research would have to be carried out to determine which discharges from industrial plants and sewage treatment plants would be a study made in a laboratory of limnology. Limnology is the science of life in streams, lakes and ponds.

STAFF members of the Academy, under the direction of Dr. Charles M. B. Cadwallader, president, have been bringing techniques to bear on animal and plant life in streams and studying the effects of industrial and municipal wastes for several years.

Last year Dr. Ruth Patrick, chief of the limnology departments of the Academy, headed an expedition to Texas to study the Guadalupe River waters. Dr. J. J. Van de Vennerus Co. is now building a nylon salt plant. Plants, snails, fishes, clams and insects were collected. Such a study goes far beyond a mere chemical analysis of the water, but establishes the normal pattern of plant and animal life in the river.

The idea of such a survey, Dr. Patrick explained, is not to determine whether the water is fit for drinking but, whether it may be used for industrial purposes, for recreation and fishing. Laboratory tests of the Guadalupe fish and plant life are now being conducted in the laboratory of the academy.

Philadelphians need have no fear of a water shortage such as struck Trenton last year, in the opinion of Dr. Graham. He believes that the flow of the Delaware and Schuylkill, even under minimum conditions, is more than adequate to meet the city's requirements at least for the next 50 years, "a short time in planning water supply." He has faith in the ozone treatment. He says that chlorine produces a safe water but not always a palatable water.

The Philadelphia jurist and conservatist cited proposals of the Hudson River below Poughkeepsie as a permanent solution to their water supply problems.

Ladner's statement followed criticism of his recent discussion of an interim report on tri-state water supply possibilities released by the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin.

"I note that Incoel's Secretary Allen has referred to the warning in my talk before the Water Resources and Pollution Committee of the Greater Philadelphia-South Jersey Council as 'claptrap,'" Ladner said.

SCORES ALLEN
"Secretary Allen's complaint that I have precipitated public discussion on a proposal that had not yet been formulated comes with rather poor grace and inconsistency."

"If the proposal was so indefinite as not to permit discussion, I do not understand how he expected to sell such a 'pie in a poke' to the many high state officials with whom he recently was cloistered . . ."

"Surely it does not mean that he alone is privileged to speak on the subject."

Standpipe Asked For Somerton

Buckley Wants City To Condemn Site

A program for improved water supply for Bustleton and Somerton was made public today by city officials.

Acting at request of Director of Public Works Thomas Buckley, Mayor Samuel asked City Council to authorize condemnation of about 11 acres of ground for a standpipe and a booster pumping station.

The site is generally on Tomlinson road between Bustleton ave. and City Line, near the Budd plant in Somerton.

\$150,000 Standpipe
Albert J. Taylor, chief of the water bureau, said plans provide for construction of a 200-foot diameter steel standpipe 85 feet high and 100 feet in diameter. The cost is estimated at about \$150,000.

Below the Belt

The Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin-Incoel for short—is a public agency working on an enormously important problem, the development, control and conservation of the Delaware basin's resources.

It is not to be assumed that Incoel is in possession of all the wisdom on the subject, to the exclusion of everybody else, or that it couldn't make a mistake.

Judge Ladner, whose devotion to the public interest in questions of water supply cannot be challenged, and whose thoughts are always worthy of consideration, has ventured to doubt whether a compact between the interested States is the best way to decide how the Delaware waters should be shared. He stated his case in a dignified and objective manner before the Greater Philadelphia-South Jersey Council.

Incoel's reply is to brand the Judge's remarks as "claptrap," without stating what might be wrong with them unless it is that they do not agree with Incoel's views.

Incoel therefore seems to lose the first round on a foul. It will be in the public interest if Incoel trades punches strictly on the issues. Judge Ladner may be right or he may be wrong, but it will take more than name-calling to convict him of error before the bar of public opinion. It is important to Pennsylvania to protect as best it can its interest in the flow of the Delaware. This is Incoel's job. That agency might reasonably be expected to deal with criticism as if they were working with informed critics toward a common objective.

FPC in Urged to Reject Delaware Power Project

The Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin (Incoel) yesterday asked the Federal Power Commission to reject an application for a preliminary permit for the proposed development of a hydro-electric power project on the Delaware River.

The application, filed by the Delaware River Development Corp., Jersey City, has requested permission to make survey plans and estimates for the project to be located on the river in Sussex and Warren counties, N. J., Monroe, Northampton and Pike counties, Pa., and Orange county, N. Y. The preliminary permit would not authorize construction of any facilities.

James H. Allen, Incoel's executive secretary, pointed out in a letter to

the FPC that its agency now is making a detailed engineering study for utilization of the waters of the upper Delaware and claimed that for studies made by the New Jersey corporation would be a duplication of effort and unnecessary.

He added that "if any hearings are to be held in this matter, we desire an opportunity to be heard."

The New Jersey corporation has proposed construction of three dams and power houses at an estimated cost of \$47,000,000.