

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

MAY, 1960

NOW FOR THAT HOLIDAY IN SUNNY PUERTO RICO

Thoughts of vacation are drifting through many a languid mind these spring days, and with them come visions of the sparkling waters and blue skies of the Caribbean.

As if in answer to these secret wishes, the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association has arranged an eight-day trip to San Juan, Puerto Rico, at a nicely reduced price.

The tour, which leaves July 30 by Pan American World Airways, will include eight days and seven nights at the (we quote) "fabulous" San Juan Intercontinental Hotel. There will be many extras, such as a barbecue, cocktail party, special luncheon, fashion show and sightseeing.

The fully air conditioned San Juan Intercontinental is rated as one of the most luxurious hotels in the Caribbean. There is swimming on a 1,500-foot private beach as well as in a private pool.

For members of the Recreation Association, the cost of the trip, including air travel, hotel room (two to a room), and the "extras," will be only \$180. Meals are not included.

A brochure giving full details on the trip will be distributed in the near future. It is requested that all inquiries be held until members of the association receive the brochure. Non-members still have time to join the association for \$1 dues.



"YOU say it's a main leak, but how do I know that this wasted water won't show up on my next bill?"

WATER TO LOSE 44 EMPLOYEES UNDER MANDATORY RETIREMENT



RICHARD de CHARMS
Retiring Construction Chief

BOYS! DON'T MISS IT THE PARTY IS MAY 25

The department's 44 (mandatory) retiring employees will receive a rousing send-off on Wednesday, May 25, when officials give them a farewell party in the Mayor's Reception Room.

The party, which is scheduled for 3:00 P.M., fits appropriately into City Employees' Week . . . an annual affair held in honor of the City's 28,000 employees.

Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter and his deputies will head the receiving line. Principal Water Department division chiefs will also be on hand. It is planned to invite a few of the City's top officials.

The affair will feature a few light snacks, some entertainment, the inevitable speech or two, a lot of handshaking, and some group singing.

Special invitations to the 44 employees will be mailed out shortly.

The City's mandatory retirement provisions will remove many a familiar face from the Water Department scene by July 1. Forty-four employees in all types of positions are scheduled to leave in accordance with the Civil Service requirement of compulsory retirement at age 70. This provision, adopted two years ago, takes effect July 1.

The department will lose 13 engineers, three public works inspectors, three engineering aides, an architect, seven laborers, six clerks, various skilled categories, and even a 70-year old sewer crawler.

The wheels of the personnel section have been grinding for some time on the processing of paper and counseling of those to leave. Most of the positions will be filled by the time the last veteran leaves. These mandatory retirements are in addition to those which would normally occur during the year.

Heading the list of those who will lay down important responsibilities is Richard de Charms, chief of the Construction Branch. A civil engineer V, Mr. de Charms has been with the department for eight years. Two of his assistants, Maurice T. Connell and Walter E. Witte, will also retire. Biographical details on these three appear elsewhere in this issue.

A listing of other retiring employees follows. Some of them will be featured in later issues of the NEWS. Ages are in parentheses.

Howland Has 16 Years

Charles Howland, 425 Sedgewick St. (73), a civil engineer III, serving as capital improvements engineer with Engineering Bureau; has 16 years with department; formerly with Bureau of Municipal Research, Benham Engineering Company, and New York State Department of Health.

(Continued on page 9)

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

Published Monthly By
THE WATER DEPARTMENT

Commissioner	Samuel S. Baxter
Editor	Raymond J. Harris
Editorial Assistant	Mary Wolicki
Art	Henry Cheatham
	James Gaskin
Printing	Wilbert Mitchell & Staff
DIVISION	REPORTER
Administrative	Rosemary Rosenthal
Construction	Mary A. Shea
Customer Service	Lillian Greenfield
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Design (Main Sewers)	Mario G. Celoni
Design (Mechanical)	Rocco Giannini
Design (Specifications)	Joseph Mair
Design (Structural)	Morris Siegel
Distribution	George Braden
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Mechanical Engineering	Harry Myers
Meter Shop	Harry Yablin
Northeast Works	Michael Matteo
	Joseph Cooper
Personnel	Dorothy Kutys
Plant Maintenance	James Mariman
Pumping	Vacant
	Shirley Henry
Delaware Division	
Southeast Works	Robert Jones
Southwest Works	Henry Hoochuk
Water Main Records	Edward Migliaceni
Water Treatment	Dave McDermott
Belmont Plant	Ronald Still
Roxborough Plant	Carl Richter
Torresdale Plant	Joseph Watson

OFFER BARGAIN TICKETS FOR "CAN-CAN" SHOWING

Two May performances of the much publicized film, "Can-Can," will be offered to members of the Employees' Recreation Association at reduced prices.

The association is now distributing application blanks to all its members who desire to attend the showings, which will be held at the Mid-Town Theater on the evenings of May 19 and 25.

This is the latest in a series of special bargains obtained by the association's board of directors for members.

Want to become a member? See the association representative in your unit.

Promotions

Herbert L. Courtney from equipment operator I to pumping station mechanic in the Distribution Section.

Eugene McCabe from crane operator to sewer maintenance foreman I in the Sewer Maintenance Section.

Mrs. Gwendolyn E. Sharpe from chemist I to laboratory technician at the Materials Testing Laboratory.

Bernard C. Burse from laborer to sub-foreman at the Southeast Sewage Treatment Works.

SOFTBALL GAMES MOUNT AS SEASON OPENS

Softball fever is rampant in the Water Department as players limber up in opening games.

On the Industrial League front the department's regular team defeated two opponents in quick succession. The Reading Railroad was overwhelmed 11 to 0 on April 27 and the Yellow Cab Company 15 to 5 the following evening. The Water team, which has won championships in past years, is raring to go under its veteran field manager, Lesser Lindenbaum, and its new business manager, Edward Milburn.

On top of this the Employees' Recreation Association has launched a Water Department Softball League. Teams are now being formed in Distribution, Northeast Works, the Annex, Schuylkill Pumping, and at the Southeast and Southwest Works. With appeals out for more teams, it looks as though the league will be a smash hit.

This is a Clean Story

Hi! I'm Herman.

I'm a particle of dirt. I had a very humiliating experience not too long ago, and I'd like to tell you about it.

I was calmly floating down a creek one sunny day, when all of a sudden I got pulled into the intake of the water company. I didn't know where I was or what was going on, but I heard someone call the water I was in "raw water." Then I was put in a "settling basin." I realized then what was happening. I was hurt, deeply hurt. They wanted to get rid of me! They didn't want me in their water.

Well, just to be stubborn, I decided I wouldn't settle like I was supposed to. It dawned on me, then, that they really wanted to get tough. But I decided to stick it out to the last. I was put through a machine that put aluminum sulfate into the water. Oh, what terrible stuff! It was to take the mud out of water. It caused flock. What a gooey mess! I know I was supposed to stick to the flock and sink to the bottom. But I wasn't going to do it. I wasn't going to give in that easily. I pulled and tugged at the mass of goo. I finally got away.

After that I was put in a settling tank to settle some more. Again, I didn't settle. But then, my doom came at last. I was hoping to see the inside of a house, but I never got that chance. They put the water I was in through a filter. I went through

gravel, then sand. That was really rough.

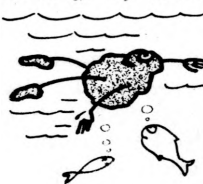
Now came the hard part. They had tile on the bottom with tiny little holes. I didn't get through. I knew in two or three days they'd clean the filters, so I waited. After they cleaned it out, they took

the dirt (what was left) outside and threw it away. But I'm no ordinary hunk of dirt, I wanted to know what they did to the water after we were gone. I sneaked back to the window sill and peeked in. After I was gone, the water was put in the clear well, chlorine and fluoride were put in.

Then a series of tests began. I'm sure glad I didn't have to go through all that. They had a turbidity test, an alkalinity test, a pH test (parts of hydrogen), a chlorine test (every hour), a fluoride test, a threshold odor water test (I guess they were trying to smell us) plus a few other tests. Gee, they sure kept up a constant safeguarding against water which is contaminated with us. I'm now kind of glad someone didn't drink me up and that I didn't get through that last filter.

—By Miss Barbara Sommerville

Age 13, Camp Hill School



PLAN OPEN HOUSE FOR PUBLIC DURING CITY EMPLOYEES WEEK

Philadelphians will have an unusual opportunity soon to see what City employees do with their business packed hours.

The occasion will be City Employees' Week, which will be observed from May 22 to 29.

Started six years ago to honor the municipality's 28,000 employees, the week has grown steadily in importance. It has brought with it recognition for little noticed, but valuable civil servants, and at the same time has educated the public in the workings of City government.

The educational theme will be highlighted this year with Open House activities in various departments. To make it easier for interested citizens to visit City facilities, free bus tours will be run to numerous field installations. These innovations are expected to give a new look to City Employees' Week.

Launched with a proclamation by Mayor Richardson Dilworth, the week will feature a noontime luncheon for City employees in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel on Tuesday, May 24. At the luncheon the Mayor will present "Awards of Honor" to employees who performed some outstanding deed or made some unusual contribution to better government during the preceding year. A colorful program of entertainment is being arranged.

Many City departments will keep some of their field facilities open at least one evening during the week for the general public. Visitors will be guided through the facilities and in some cases offered special programs.

One of the unusual features of this year's observance will be the free bus tours, which will be operated Saturday morning and afternoon, May 28, and Sunday afternoon, May 29. The tours will originate at Reyburn Plaza and two outlying points. Free tickets will be distributed by the Mayor's Office for Information and Complaints, room 121, City Hall.

The tentative schedule follows:

Tour 1 to Northeast—Starts at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Saturday, and 2:00 P.M. Sunday, from center city and from intersection of Germantown and Cheltenham Aves. Will include Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, Riverview, Police Academy,

and Torresdale Water Treatment Plant.

Tour 2 to Northwest—Starts at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Saturday, and 2:00 P.M. Sunday, from center city and from end of elevated line in Northeast. Will include Roxborough Incinerator, Ridge Avenue Fire Training School, Cheltenham Avenue District Health Center, Fire Station at Cheltenham Ave. and Baynton St., and Child Welfare Center.

Tour 3 to South—Starts at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Saturday (no tour Sunday) from center city. Will include Pier 11, a recreation center, and Southwest Sewage Treatment Works.

Tour 4 to West—Starts at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Saturday (no tour Sunday) from center city. Will include Trade and Convention Center, Philadelphia General Hospital, Fire Station at 43rd and Market Sts. (with Licenses and Inspections office), and a new health center at 43rd St. and Chester Ave.

Tour 5, a Nature Tour—Starts at 10:00 A.M. Saturday from Center city for Wildlife Preserve, operated by Department of Recreation. Starts at 2:00 P.M. Saturday for Fairmount Park tour. No Nature Tour on Sunday.

For citizens who would like to see offices in City Hall and the Annex, there will be a walking tour, conducted by the Mayor's Office for Information and Complaints. This will occur twice each day from Monday, May 23 through Friday, May 27.

FROM OUR MAILBAG

Letter commenting on agreement relative to abandonment of Navy owned 30-inch sewer:

"The Government considers that the excellent assistance rendered by the City of Philadelphia in all phases of this transaction represents the optimum of inter-governmental cooperation."

U. S. Naval Base

Letter from another admirer:

"To the City Water Department—I think your Water Department is just great.

(signed) Flash the great"



Everyone likes to see a broad smile—especially if she smiles at him.

A ditch digger got a dollar too much in his pay envelope and didn't say anything. The next week the paymaster, discovering the error, deducted a dollar.

"Say," the ditch digger said, "I'm a dollar short."

"Well," said the paymaster, "you didn't complain last week when you were a dollar over."

"Yes," said the ditch digger, "a guy can overlook one mistake, but when it happens again, it's time to complain."

THOMA, EYLER, McKEOWN LEAVE ON CITY PENSION

Retirement has come to two employees in the department's field installations.

They are Joseph Thoma, 4542 Tackawanna St. and Lester Eyler, 1930 East Willard St.

Mr. Thoma, 65, has been with the department since 1953. He worked as an operator at the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant. Before entering City service, he was employed by the Baldwin Soco Works and the Atwater Kent Manufacturing Company.

A carpenter at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, Mr. Eyler, who is 71, has worked for the department since 1950. Previously he worked for various builders, such as McCloskey and Company, Barclay White and Company, and Herzog. He was also self-employed.

James McKeown, an operator at the Schuylkill Division pumping station, has gone on disability pension. Sixty-eight years old, Mr. McKeown, who lives at 155 Fountain St., has been with the department since 1946.

APPOINT BASTIAN NEW SEWAGE CHIEF

Edward Daniel Bastian, a New York consulting engineer, has been named as the Water Department's first chief of sewerage operations.

Mr. Bastian, who has broad experience in the water and sewage fields, assumed his duties May 3. He will serve as principal assistant to Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky.

The newly created post in sewerage operations will be comparable to that now held by Victor A. Appleyard, chief of water operations.

Mr. Bastian, 42, has been an associate of Buck, Seifert and Jost, a firm of New York consulting engineers, since 1956. While with the firm, he made numerous reports and investigations on sanitary, sewage collection and water supply problems for municipalities and public authorities on the East Coast.

A 1940 graduate of the Newark, N. J. College of Engineering, with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering, he received his master of science degree in sanitary engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June, 1947.

For a number of years (from 1947 to 1953), Mr. Bastian was employed by Buck, Seifert and Jost as a sanitary engineer. During this period he supervised operation of three sewage treatment plants for the Hampton Roads Sanitation District Commission, made water distribution system studies for various New York and Connecticut communities, served as resident engineer at the White Oak Ridge Pumping Station of East Orange, N. J., and carried on many field investigations.

Between July, 1953, and February, 1954, he worked for Malcolm Pirnie Engineers, New York City, making water supply studies in Springfield, Mo. As chief engineer for Bromberger and Gartman, White Plains, N. Y. (February, 1954—January, 1955), Mr. Bastian supervised construction of three sewage treatment works for the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and rebuilt slow sand filters for the City of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

A registered professional engineer in New York and New Jersey, Mr. Bastian is married.



"Horsepower was safer when we were the only ones allowed to use it."

Personal Notes

Administration

Congratulations are in order for Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky on the marriage of his oldest son on March 27 in Chelsea, New Jersey. We hear it was a most impressive ceremony and the happy couple left for a month's honeymoon in Europe.

Mr. Barofsky's secretary, Joan Rementer, left the Water Department at the end of March for a position in private industry. She was given a luncheon at the Essex Hotel by a group of her co-workers, plus a lovely gift for her trousseau. It was Joan's picture in the last issue of the Water Department News that made that issue so interesting and although we will all miss her charming personality—we nevertheless wish her lots of luck in her new job.

In this same vein, we wish to welcome Mrs. Rose Sheridan from the Construction Branch as Mr. Barofsky's new secretary. Rose has been Mr. deCharms secretary for three years and her co-workers had a little party for her and gave her a very lovely white sweater. We know Rose will enjoy working for Mr. Barofsky and his staff.

Customer Service Section

Francis Helverson of this section celebrated his 28th wedding anniversary on March 4.

EXTEND PHOTO CONTEST

The closing date for the Amateur Photography Contest, sponsored by the Employees' Recreation Association, has been extended to October 1.

The association's directors have voted to award a trophy, as well as the \$10 originally offered, to the contestant who submits the best black and white or best color photograph. Five dollars will be awarded as second prize.

Construction

Samuel Costello is in the Jefferson Hospital and we are hoping for his speedy recovery.

Warren Bush has returned home after hospitalization at Roxborough Memorial Hospital. We hope for him a speedy recovery, also.

Delaware Division Pumps

We wish Angelo Camillo, who is in the hospital, a quick return to health.

Sewer Maintenance

A speedy recovery to Mr. Gerardo DiTrollo, who is in the Lankenau Hospital.

Birthday greetings are extended to Delores Johnson, Robert Wilson and Nick Menna who are all under 21. (?)

Mr. Borrelli and his wife are vacationing in Miami Beach, Florida. Hope you and your wife are enjoying the sun Fred, and hope to see that sun tan when you return.

Meter Shop

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Reckeweg celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary by taking a trip to New York City.

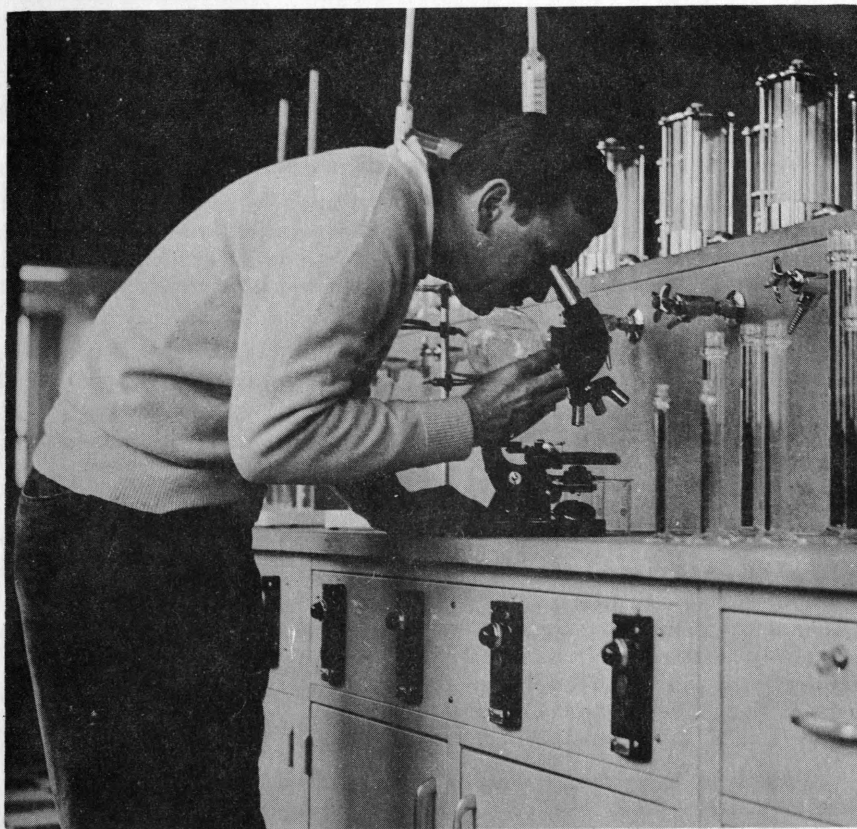
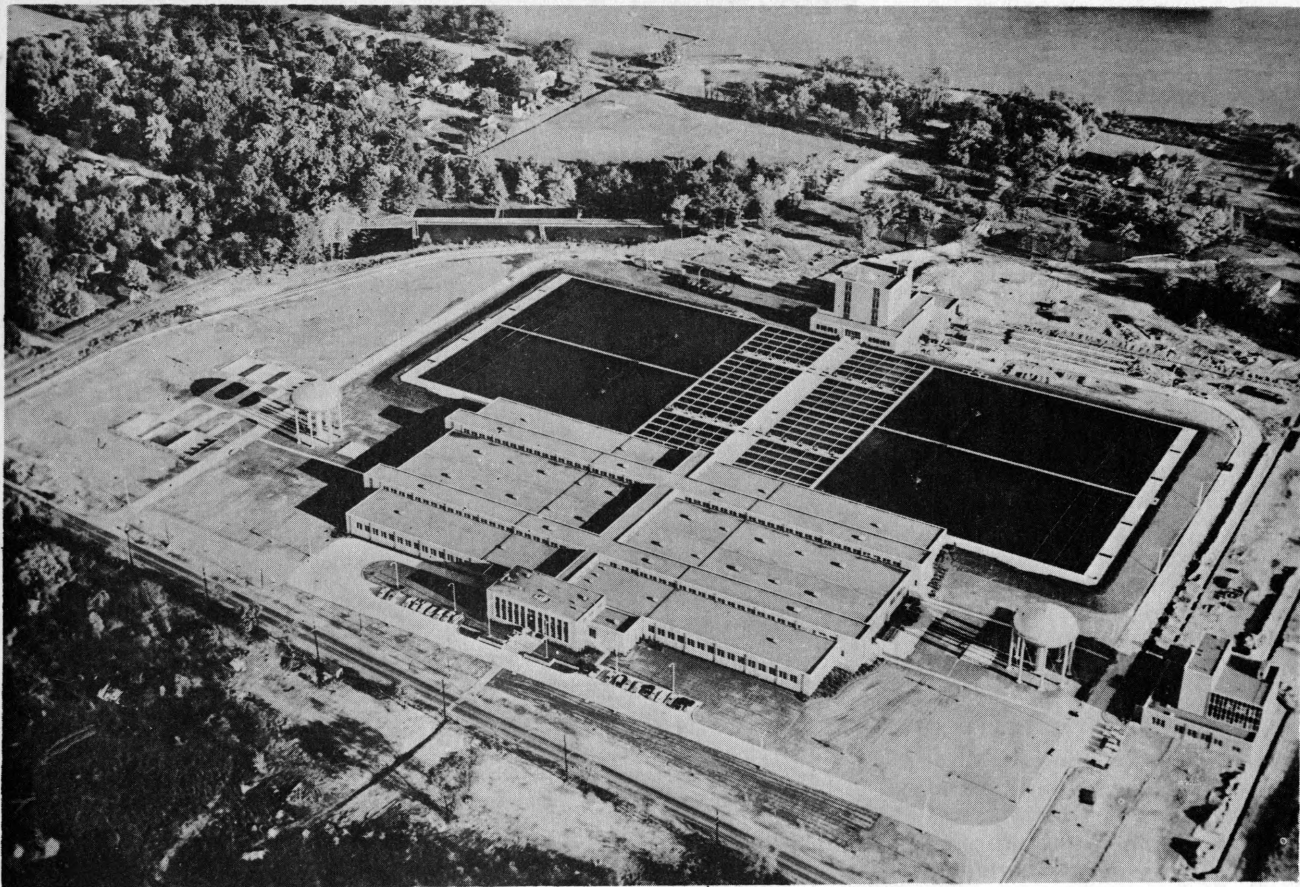
Mike Pacillio has been hospitalized in the Roxborough Memorial Hospital. The Meter Shop wishes him a fast recovery.

Here's to an early recovery from sickness for Joseph Fine.

Designing

Welcome back Senors' Gibson, McDowell and Lalli from your wonderful vacation in Mexico.

Senor Gibson attended the bull fights in Mexico City.



TORRESDALE

The aerial photograph above is proof that the new Torresdale Water Treatment Plant is eye catching even in the winter. Now that spring is here the plant is graced by wide green lawns, budding trees and carpeted river banks.

From the roof of the pre-treatment building, visitors can look in one direction at the boats plying up and down the river, and in the other at the gleaming buildings and basins of the plant itself.

Philadelphia's push-button plant has numerous features of interest, from automatic chemical feeding devices to semi-automatically controlled filter beds. Not the least of these features is the sparkling laboratory, with its array of modern equipment. At left, Sylvester J. Campbell, lab supervisor, busies himself with some of this equipment, used in keeping strict watch over quality of water flowing through and leaving the plant. Note the row of silver faucets which bring water samples from various points in the plant.

NEWS LETTER

Published By Office
of the City Representative

Recreation Department, laying plans to cope with biggest summer program ever, launches spring leadership program this month at 118 installations with activities for all ages, groups throughout city . . . First swimming pools open in May.

* * * * *

New installations, improvements to the Port will highlight annual "World Trade Week," starting May 22. Follows on heels of "Armed Forces Week" . . . Coming this summer, day-long excursion cruises down the Delaware through colorful D-C Canal to Baltimore . . . March customs collections showed striking 35% gain over 1959, totaled almost \$5.5 million.

* * * * *

Downtown show windows exhibiting model of City's new stainless steel elevated cars, first of which begins operating on Market-Frankford line this year—270 have been ordered.

* * * * *

Recommended Reading — City's popular annual report, "A New Decade—A New Challenge!" published with Sunday newspapers April 24 . . . "Philadelphia Showcase," telling how Commerce Dept. and City Representative's Office bolster area trade, now available at Division of Public Information, Room 201 City Hall . . . Coming up—Schuylkill Expressway Interchange Map, Fairmount Park Attractions and Activities.

* * * * *

Newest addition to neighborhood parking lot program slated for vicinity 5th and Olney . . . three self-supporting lots opening within month (41st and Lancaster, 52nd and Chestnut, Ridge and Poplar), three others scheduled this year.

* * * * *

At Your Service—New Facilities upcoming include district Health Center (Broad and Lombard), playgrounds, (16th and Berks, Kelvin and Faraday, Howard and Berks, Taney and Pine), police station (20th and Pennsylvania Ave.) . . . PGH adding new Cancer Detection Unit.

* * * * *

Short Shorts—Registration starts May 2 for November elections.



MR. AND MRS. ABRAHAM FINKELSTEIN (center) observe Abe's 60th birthday amid big turnout of friends and relatives.

A NOTE OF THANKS

From Abe Finkelstein
Chief of Design Section

"On Saturday March 5, 1960, I was supposed to be host to 21 relatives of mine at Palumbo's Restaurant to celebrate my 60th birthday. All day Saturday I had stayed in bed fighting a cold so as not to disappoint my wife who had made the arrangements for entertaining the above group.

"I arrived at Palumbo's at 7:45 only because I had trouble starting my car. As I approached my table I was greeted by a tumultuous outburst of Happy Birthday, Abe. I stood aghast and nonplussed. Instead of the 21 I expected there were 115.

"Believe me it was the greatest surprise of my life and the most thrilling. Some of my warmest friends outside of the personnel of the office were there. A very great percentage of the Design personnel were there.

"I couldn't believe how a group of Design employees could be assembled without me knowing anything about it. Believe me, I know the pains that some of the men must have gone through to attend this celebration. Living in the southeast I know from my own knowledge how tough it must have been to be there.

"I want to thank each and everyone who came and helped to celebrate my birthday and I consider it an honor to have been able to be with them on my most important day."

EDITOR'S NOTE: In spite of the winter's most severe snow storm, 113 persons attended the party for Abe. Since a birthday is always timeless—especially when you pass 40—the News feels there is no deadline on reporting such an important event. Congratulations, Abe.

Vine Street Extension being replanted with trees, shrubs . . . Good response to Penny's Wednesday "Ladies Day" excursions from upstate communities . . . 140,000 school pupils to get dog license reminders . . . City's first heliport in operation next month.

TIME OFF FOR TESTS

Employees will be excused from work to take City Civil Service tests,

it has been announced by the Water Department Personnel Office.

Civil Service Regulation 22.14 provides for such leave, but requires the employee to inform his supervisor at least 24 hours in advance by showing his notice from the City Personnel Department. Time off will be for a reasonable period to include reaching, taking and returning from the examination.



TOKENS OF ESTEEM from colleagues are presented to Walter E. Witte, Richard de Charms, and Maurice T. Connell (left to right) by Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter.

Thank You

This is to express our appreciation of the delightful celebration honoring our retirement, and to acknowledge the hard work involved in promoting it.

We thank everyone for the handsome presents that were given to remind us, in future years, of the pleasant associations we have had in City work.

We would also like to express our particular appreciation of the loyalty and cooperation that we have received from the ladies and gentlemen in the Construction Division in promoting the City interests, and the devotion and consideration accorded us by the Water Commissioner through the years.

WALTER E. WITTE
MAURICE T. CONNELL
R. de CHARMS

ONE HUNDRED FELLOW EMPLOYEES HONOR CONSTRUCTIONS ENGINEERS AT LUNCHEON

Gifts and speeches were showered on three of the department's leading engineers at a luncheon April 26 in Kugler's Restaurant. This was the department's way of bidding an official farewell to Richard de Charms, chief of the Construction Branch, and two of his principal assistants, Maurice T. Connell and Walter E. Witte. All are retiring under mandatory civil service provisions.

Nearly 100 fellow workers turned out to honor the three men, who have completed a combined century and a half of engineering service in Philadelphia and elsewhere on the Eastern seaboard. For a number of years Mr. de Charms and his two assistants have been deeply involved in the direction of the Water Department's \$336 million construction program. Many of the department's new facilities were influenced by their hands.

Mr. de Charms, who is 72, took over the Construction Branch in 1952. He brought to the task a varied experience in construction activities, reaching back to the years before World War I.

Between the two wars, he served as resident engineer for construction of a \$3 million bridge at Rochester, N. Y. (1930-32), engineer and chief draftsman for Fletcher Granite Company, West Chelmsford, Mass. (1932-33), senior inspector for the U. S. Navy, Quantico, Va. (1933-34), superintendent for George A. Fuller for construction of a \$450,000 bridge at Rochester, N. Y., and a \$1.25 million industrial plant with docks at Savannah, Ga. (1934-39), and special engineer for the Connecticut State Highway, Hartford, Conn. (1940).

Mr. de Charms went on active duty as a lieutenant commander with the U. S. Navy in December, 1940, and soon rose to the rank of captain. He oversaw construction of numerous projects for the Navy in the war years. From September, 1945 to December, 1946, he served as technical advisor to various sales review boards in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

For several years before entering City service, Mr. de Charms was associate engineer with the New York engineering firm of Knappen, Tippetts, Abbett and McCarthy. He is a graduate of Penn State University (1912) with bachelor of science degrees in civil and mechanical engineering, and a master of civil engineering degree (1917). He saw action in France and Germany during the First World War as a first lieutenant of engineers, with command of troops under fire in three major offensives. He lives at 407 Forrest Hills Ave.

Maurice T. Connell, 71, is a veteran of 35 years of service with the City. Starting as an apprentice without pay in the old City Bureau of Surveys in 1909, Mr. Connell rapidly moved through a succession of positions to become a party chief in 1917, with the job of supervising the laying out of steam, air and water lines, shipways, and gantry crane runways.

In 1918 he left City service to become a construction engineer for the E. H. Harriman Corporation (later the Merchant Shipbuilding Corporation), of Bristol, Pa.

Mr. Connell was drawn back to City service in 1925 as an assistant engineer in the Bureau of Engineering, but in 1932 he began a series of jobs which took him from field engineer for the State Emergency Relief Board (1934-35) and general foreman for the Public Works Administration (1935-36) to senior inspector of construction in the Panama Canal Zone (1936-37) and the Norfolk Navy Yard (1938-40) for the U. S. Navy. He reentered City service in 1940 as an assistant engineer in the Bureau of Engineering. In recent years he has worked as a division engineer in charge of a unit within the Construction Branch. Mr. Connell attended Temple University from 1910 to 1912 and is a registered professional engineer. He lives at 1512 Spruce St.

With 46 years of practically unbroken City service, Walter E. Witte has set something of a record. Beginning as a draftsman in the old City Department of Transit in 1917, Mr. Witte took out a year for service as a first lieutenant with the U. S. armed

(Continued on page 8)

NEW APPOINTMENTS

John F. Keenan, 7126 Greenway Ave., as sewage treatment operator I at Northeast Sewage Treatment Works.

Robert F. Adams, 108 Vassar St., as equipment operator I at Meter Shop.

John H. Buggs, 1234 North Redfield St., as automotive serviceman at Logan Garage.

James Washington, 2248 North 13th St., as engineering aide I in Construction Branch.

Mrs. Vergie M. Duncan, 3432 North Bouvier St., as clerk-typist I at Central Stores Depot.

The department extends a warm welcome to these new employees.

Construction Engineers

(Continued from page 7)

forces in World War I. Returning to City Hall in 1919, he rose through a number of positions—assistant engineer, senior draftsman, and assistant engineer-squad boss. For three years (1935-38) he served as chief school inspector for the Board of Public Education, and then entered the office of the County Commissioners as an assistant engineer-chief inspector.

Mr. Witte came to the old Water Bureau in 1940 as an assistant engineer and by 1946 had become an engineer of construction. Since 1948 he has been a division engineer in charge of a construction unit. He studied at Drexel Institute of Technology from 1903 to 1909 and at the University of Pennsylvania from 1909 to 1912. A charter member of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, he served as state treasurer for more than 20 years. He lives at 5106 North Carlisle St.

CORRECTIONS

The March issue of the Water Department News stated that employees who do not regularly operate City vehicles need not report the suspension or revocation of their operator's license to supervisors. This was not accurate.

All Water Department employees who operate a department vehicle regularly or occasionally must report the suspension or revocation of their operator's license to supervisors.

Kenneth L. Payne, 3018 North Bonsall St., recently retired. The last issue of the News stated incorrectly that Mr. Payne had seven years of service. Actually Mr. Payne completed 15 years of service with the City. Sorry, Mr. Payne. Even editors can goof.



NEW WATER METERS arrive at the Meter Shop where assembly line technicians, pleasant surroundings, and employee incentive have raised output to a high level.

BUSY METER SHOP HITS NEW HIGH WITH 74,000 METER RESETS YEARLY

The average Philadelphian pays little attention to his water meter until he receives a bill for water and sewer service.

There is one outfit, however, which has his water meter constantly on its collective mind. That is the Water Department's Meter Shop . . . one of the busiest places in the entire City government.

Few persons realize the volume of activity carried on by the Meter Shop's assembly lines and its stream of constantly circulating trucks. Yet in 1959 the shop reset 68,524 of the half-million small meters in the water system.

These included 52,520 rotations, a figure well above the department's plan for overhauling 50,000 meters a year, whether or not they need immediate repairs. The balance—15,051—were non-registering meters.

Overhauling of large meters, which account for 32% of all water and sewer revenue, moved at an even faster rate. The shop reset or repaired (often in the field) 5,359 large meters, representing about one-third of all such meters.

All of this was done with a work force, which declined from 96 to 88 during the year.

To the outsider these figures will mean little until he learns that in 1952 the Meter Shop had 35,000 meters awaiting repair and no program of annual rotation. By 1955 the backlog was cleared away and the huge rotation plan was launched. Because of the City's universal metering program, the number of water meters in homes, industries and businesses grew by 180,000 between 1953 and 1959. In spite of this great growth, the Meter Shop came close to its annual rotation goal by 1958 and in 1959 went over the top.

Any casual visitor to the Meter Shop would spot at once the "secret" behind such high productivity. It is simply sound organization, competent employees and reasonable incentive.

Old meters move along in a belt line, with each employee specializing in one operation . . . repair, cleaning, testing, or repainting. Since pay depends upon number of units turned out and there is genuine pride in good work, little time is lost by the highly skilled workers.

Order, cleanliness, and bright new lighting lend a cheerful atmosphere to the Meter Shop.

For all of this, as well as the careful organization, no small share of the credit belongs to B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director of the department, and his shop assistant, Jacob Balk.

WATER TO LOSE 44 EMPLOYEES JULY 1

(Continued from page 1)

Harry G. Werner, 60 West Gowen Circle (74), a civil engineer IV, serving as supervisor of water works improvement for Design Branch; 20 years with department; formerly with E. I. DuPont Company, Day and Zimmerman, Inc., and Delaware River Bridge Commission.

Wilbur Kenworthy, 5123 Wayne Ave. (72), civil engineer I in Construction Branch, 22 years with department; previously with old Department of City Transit, City Commissioners, and Bendix Aviation Corp.

Oswald Roberts, 321 West Llanwellyn Ave. (75), mechanical engineer in Design Branch; six years service; formerly with McArdle and Cooney, Catalytic Construction Company, and United Engineers.

Stephen Ziegler, 4937 Morris St. (81), civil engineer I in Design Branch; 22 years service.

James A. Barrance, 1437 West Cayuga St. (72), mechanical engineer II in Design Branch; eight years with department; formerly with General Industries, United Engineers, and Sun Shipbuilding Company.

Joseph Higgins, 4715 Old York Rd. (73), civil engineer I in Design Branch; eight years of service.

Gonzalo Munoz, 411 Gate Lane (79), civil engineer III in Research and Development Unit; 13 years of service.

John Latimer, 4409 Tyson Ave. (74), sanitary engineer I in Industrial Wastes Section; 22 years with department; previously with Koehler-Latimer Brass Founders.

Thomas Conlan, 6012 Columbia Ave. (72), public works inspector I in Construction Branch; with department for 16 years from 1944 to date, and worked previously, for City from 1921 to 1932; also with Midvale Steel Company.

William Hawley—35 Years

William Hawley, 6525 Greenway Ave. (77), public works inspector II in Construction Branch; 35 years with Water Department and old Water Bureau; worked for Police Bureau from 1908 to 1918.

Arthur Schroeder, 140 North 21st St. (71), engineering aide II in Design Branch; eight years of service; previously with H. L. Yoh, American Engineering, Whaley Engineering and Salvay Process Companies.

Mrs. Minna Zellner, 2201 Chestnut St., engineering aide III in Design Branch. See article, page 10.

Joseph Kirk, 2627 South 68th St. (76), architect II in Design Branch; 22 years of service; worked previously for S. J. Creswell, Smyser Royer and Harriman Shipbuilding Companies.

Richard Kramaroff, York House Apt. 1112, York Rd. and Summerdale Ave. (75), engineering aide III in Design Branch; 28 years of service.

Harry Andrews, 3432 Indian Queen Lane (80), clerk I in Distribution Section; 26 years with department; formerly with Frank Schoble and Company, and E. K. McGill.

Frank Galloway, 2009 North 61st St. (77), clerk I at Meter Shop; 18 years with department; previously self-employed.

Harold France Retires

Harold France, 4705 Leiper St. (71), civil engineer II in charge of Water Main Information Section; 29 years of service; also worked for J. M. Harris Company and New York Shipbuilding Company.

John Callahan, 2604 North 18th St. (70), clerk I in Distribution Section; department 17 years; formerly with Cramp Shipbuilding Company and Walls Pearsall Company.

Walter Steel, 1523 West Sergeant St. (72), clerk III in Distribution Section; 24 years of service; formerly with J. Fred Zimmerman Company and A. L. Baseball League.

Emisto DiRaddo, 420 Cantrell St. (70), laborer in Distribution Section; 11 years of service; previously worked for O'Brien Machinery and Cleveland Container Companies.

Charles Culling, 3110 North Spangler St. (72), sewage plant foreman at North-east Sewage Treatment Works; 32 years of service; formerly with U. S. Navy.

Francis Clark, 1627 South 54th St. (73), field representative for Customer Service Section; 31 years with department.

George Fred Smith, 230 South 51st St. (72), clerk I for Customer Service Section; with department for 9 years; previously with Burroughs Adding Machine Company.

Charles Fidler, 4473 Richmond St. (75), automotive driver for Central Stores Unit; 19 years with department.

Antonio Garrafa, 7021 Marsden St. (71), laborer at Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; six years of service; formerly worked for Pennsylvania Forge Works.

Elwood Lee, 8084 Montague St. (75), semi-skilled laborer at Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; 17 years with department; also worked for private firms.

Alexander Dennis, 421 North 59th St. (76), laborer at Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; 16 years of service; previously with private firms.

Joseph Furlong, 3702 Midvale Ave. (72), filter plant operator I at Roxborough Water Treatment Plant; 31 years of service; worked for Atwater Kent Company and J. and J. Dodson.

Joseph Mandarano, 4153 Crescent St. (74), custodial worked I at Roxborough Water Treatment Plant; 21 years with Water Department and two years with Streets Department.

William Kuhn, 621 Hermitage St. (80), machinist I in Plant Maintenance Section; 13 years of service; also worked for Midvale Steel Company.

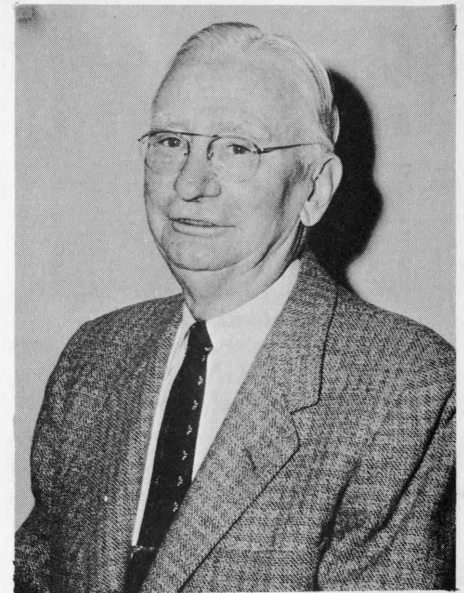
John Sullivan, 4613 North Camac St. (74), machinist I in Plant Maintenance Section; 33 years of City service; also worked for the Budd Company.

Wright, Sewer Crawler

Lloyd Wright, 1810 Federal St. (70), sewer crawler in Sewer Maintenance Section; 26 years with department; formerly with N. S. Hoffecker.

Peter McKinley, 4624 Griscom St. (77), custodial worker I at Race Street High Pressure Pumping Station; 11 years of service; formerly with Edward R. Sabin Company, Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and S. L. Allen and Company, Inc.

Robert Baskerville, 3741 North Sydenham St. (70), laborer at Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; 9 years with Water Department, also worked for City from 1941 to 1948; formerly with Levin Sprinkler Company.



HAROLD FRANCE
Retiring Water Main Information Chief



CHARLES HOWLAND
Capital Budget Expert . . . leaving

Wendell Markle, 595 Hermit St. (71), paving materials inspector at Materials Testing Laboratory; 14 years with department; formerly with Flynn Manufacturing Company and Wissahickon Tool Works.

Henry Lewis, 8424 Navahoe St. (71), clerk III in Administrative Section; 11 years of service; previously with Girard Trust and Link Belt Companies.

Francesco Arcaro, 720 South 6th St. (74), laborer in Distribution Section; department 16 years; also with Pennsylvania Railroad and W. H. Shane.



MRS. MINNA ZELLNER

WOMAN DESIGN AIDE TO END FULL CAREER

Among the 44 employees who will leave the department by July 1 because of mandatory retirement provisions of Civil Service is one exceptional lady . . . Mrs. Minna Zellner.

Her retirement brings to a close a dedicated and interesting career. Starting out as a teacher of art in the Philadelphia high schools, Mrs. Zellner went to work in the U. S. Naval Aircraft Factory at the Philadelphia Naval Base during World War II. There she drew mechanical and electrical details for aircraft, including engines, instruments, and even such things as special aviation clothing and luggage.

After the war Mrs. Zellner moved right into the old City Department of Transit as a drafter, continuing in 1952 with the new Department of Public Property. In 1956 she transferred to the Water Department Design Branch as an engineering aide III. There the quality of her work and her personality was quickly recognized.

Comments John Mirkil, of Design: "We have known Minna for only a comparatively short time. In the span of a few years we have learned to recognize that here is an extraordinary person, who has gathered many friends. By her warmth, kindness and understanding, she brought about a sort of serenity. Mrs. Zellner will certainly be missed and remembered by us all."

Merited words indeed for a gracious lady.

Mrs. Zellner, who lives at 2201 Chestnut St., studied at the New Haven State Normal School for one year (1907-8) and completed three years at the Pratt Institute School of Fine Arts in Brooklyn (1908-11). During World War II, she completed 500 hours in engineering drawing at Dobbins Vocational School.

DO YOU HAVE MONEY WORRIES ?



WIN

from \$15 up to \$500 -
or even more

You may earn that new spring outfit by telling the City how to—

1. Save manpower, money, materials, time or space.
2. Improve methods, quality, service, working conditions, employee morale, safety conditions.
3. Adopt new equipment, methods or applications.
4. Eliminate spoilage, breakage, duplication, waste.
5. Reduce material, labor or service costs.



GOOD FISHING ON THE DELAWARE is coming back . . . thanks in part to the Water Department's extensive sewage treatment program. Scene at Pier 109, South.

Courtesy, Robert Kennedy, Fire Dept.

EMPLOYEE SUGGESTION



INSTRUCTIONS TO SUGGESTER

1. Complete all information requested except "Suggestion Number".
2. Describe your suggestion completely—tell what it will do—where it can be used.
3. Use additional sheets of plain white paper, where necessary, for headings numbered 6, 7, 9 and repeat numbers and headings and **STAPLE** to this form; include drawings or sketches or pictures as necessary.
4. Type, print, or write legibly and be sure to **SIGN** your suggestion.
5. Place suggestion in suggestion box or mail to the Executive Secretary of your Departmental Incentive Awards Committee.

NAME OF SUGGESTER (<i>last name - first name - middle initial</i>)		SUGGESTION NUMBER	
MR. MISS MRS.			
HOME ADDRESS (<i>number and street</i>)	(<i>zone</i>)	ORGANIZATION (<i>department - office - commission - board</i>)	
	Phila. Pa.		
POSITION TITLE	SALARY	SUBDIVISION (<i>section - unit - shop</i>)	TELEPHONE
	\$		KEYSTONE BELL
SUBJECT OF SUGGESTION			

This suggestion is my idea and, to the best of my knowledge, has not been submitted by anyone else prior to this time. If it is adopted, I do not expect nor will I demand any compensation for it other than such award, if any, as may be made in recognition of my contribution. I agree that the City may adopt all or any part or any modification of this suggestion without any further responsibility or liability to me.

Date _____ Signature of Suggester _____

(Your name will be known only to the Committee Secretary who will not include it on the copies of this suggestion he will prepare and forward for investigation and consideration of your proposal. If this is a joint suggestion, all contributors must sign).

(In describing your suggestion, explain **WHAT** should be done, **WHY**, **WHERE**, **WHEN**: and **HOW**)

6. I SUGGEST:
