

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

DECEMBER, 1960

WAGNER ASKS EMPLOYEES TO BACK LITTER CLEAN UP

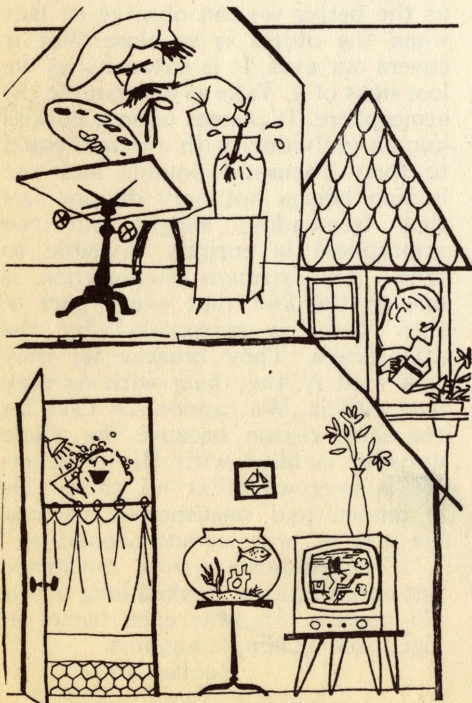
Managing Director Donald C. Wagner urges City employees to back up the City's campaign to keep the streets of Philadelphia clean.

He notes that municipal employees can do much to make the current anti-litter campaign a success by setting an example for the community at large.

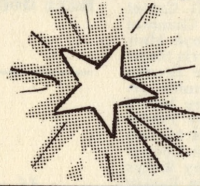
Mr. Wagner suggests that employees—

- . Dispose of litter properly,
- .. Urge their families and friends to exercise similar care,
- ... Report flagrant cases of anti-litter ordinance violation to the Police Department Sanitation Unit (MU 6-9700 ext. 1722 or 1176; or automatic 936).

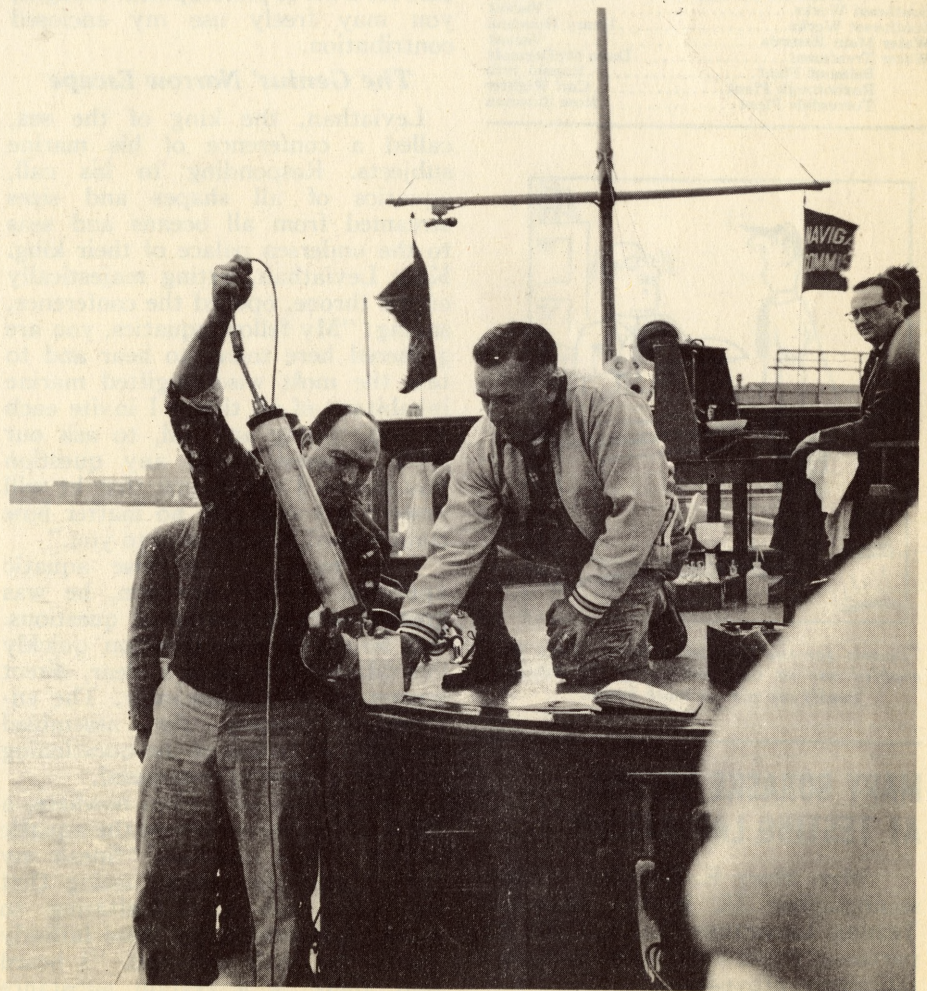
Supervisors can help particularly, Mr. Wagner notes, by bringing this message to the attention of employees.



To all employees of the Water Department, I offer my warmest wishes for a New Year full of the best things of life.



SAMUEL S. BAXTER
Commissioner



"SAY WHEN", mumbles David McCartney (left), of the U.S. Geological Survey, to his boss, Norman Beamer, chief chemist, during a recent river cruise organized by USGS and the Water Department. Mr. McCartney has just pulled up a water sample from the Delaware. Press representatives on board saw the old (above) and the new (page 4) methods of river monitoring used jointly by the two agencies. STORY ON PAGE 4.

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

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THE WATER DEPARTMENT

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TO ALL EMPLOYEES

I would like to extend to each of you a very sincere thank you for your contributions to the 1960 United Fund Campaign. As I am sure you know, the Water Department has exceeded its quota by a large amount, and has achieved a greater percentage of its goal than any other Department in the City Service.

Your generous contributions have reflected credit upon the Water Department throughout the City of Philadelphia.

Unfortunately, I cannot personally thank each and every individual for his generous contribution. However, I can extend to you by means of this letter my personal thank you.

Aside from the outstanding generosity of each of you, I was highly impressed by the wonderful team work and cooperation which was displayed throughout the Department. This fine example of giving to a worthy cause provides a great satisfaction to me. Once again, I am proud to say that the employees of the Water Department have done far more than expected.

SAMUEL S. BAXTER
Commissioner

Letters to the Editor

If you think that your readers care for a bit of philosophical thought, you may freely use my enclosed contribution.

The Genius' Narrow Escape

Leviathan, the king of the sea, called a conference of his marine subjects. Responding to his call, aquatics of all shapes and sizes streamed from all oceans and seas to the undersea palace of their king. King Leviathan, sitting majestically on his throne, opened the conference, saying: "My fellow aquatics, you are gathered here today to hear and to test the most wisdom-gifted marine inhabitant of all times. I invite each of you, young and old, to ask our most honored friend any question you desire. I assure you that he will answer any question no matter how complicated it may seem to you."

As soon as the wise aquatic appeared on the platform, he was greeted with a barrage of questions. But he noted each question quickly yet calmly, then gave a clear, direct answer to each questioner. The enthusiasm among the assembled mounted in tempo as the questioning and the answering progressed.

Suddenly, as if from nowhere, a small fish appeared before the aquatic genius with a question. "Speak my child," said the genius, seeing that the little fish was hesitating to speak. Encouraged by these fatherly words, the little fish said. "I heard that there is a certain substance called 'water'; what is it?"

A deadly silence fell upon the audience. Though it lasted only a few moments, these few moments seemed to the impatient audience as an eternity. Finally, the silence was broken by the low muttering voice of

the old aquatic. "I must confess that I heard of that substance, but I do not know what it is."

Those assembled were so stunned by the negative answer of their admired genius that their hearts stood still like a frozen waterfall. King Leviathan then intervened and in an almost pleading voice said; "Tel us at least your hypothesis about that mysterious substance called 'water'." A flicker of delight swept over the old aquatic's face and a flood of words showered from his mouth upon the audience.

"That substance", he explained to them, much in the manner of a college professor lecturing a classroom, "must be very near to us. Usually, the nearer an object is to us the better we can observe it. But when the object is so close that it covers our eyes, it is natural that we lose sight of it. Take as an example the atmosphere. It presses upon a normal human individual with a weight equal to forty thousand pounds and the human beings not only do not feel that tremendous weight but the atmosphere is entirely invisible to them. This strange phenomenon is due to the fact that every part of their body is surrounded by the atmosphere. They breathe it; they talk with it; they hear with it; they live with it. We cannot see God for the same reason because the whole universe is filled with His presence. He is everywhere at all times. He is unseen and unsuspected because He is in us, with us and around us."

The audience, with moistened but admiring eyes, looked long at the old aquatic. He was even better at logic than at simple answers.

Reuben Pearl
Chemist I, Queen Lane Lab.



"Thanks for the Christmas Bonus, Boss. It enabled me to buy something the whole family can use—a tooth brush."

MARY BORASKE RETIRES AT TESTING LABORATORY

Mrs. Mary E. Boraske, a clerk-stenographer II, in the Materials Testing Laboratory has left the department under the City's mandatory retirement provisions.

Mrs. Boraske, who is 70, entered the Water Department in October, 1954. She was previously employed by the Electric Storage Battery Company and by Wiedersheim and Fairbanks. She lives at 2625 West Allegheny Avenue.

WATER DEPARTMENT WINS TOP HONORS IN UNITED FUND PUBLIC AGENCY DRIVE

The Water Department ran away with all honors in the recent United Fund campaign. The department's employees contributed \$20,316.

This was almost 133% of the goal set for the department by United Fund headquarters, or 169% of the \$12,000 administrative goal set by the Mayor.

In terms of percentage of goal achieved, the Water Department's record was the best of any government agency (federal, state or city) in the Philadelphia area.

About 93% of the department's employees contributed. Units with 100% participation were; The Fairhill Pumping station; Load Control center; Race Street Pumping station; Roxborough Water Treatment plant; Water Treatment Chief's office; Water Operations—Administration; Projects Control section; Administrative Division office; Commissioner's office; I.B.M. unit; Personnel section.

Honor Units and Leaders

Special honors were bestowed on drive leaders and their units at a luncheon in the Engineers' Club on November 4. John Briggs, assistant chief engineer, accepted a framed print and a certificate on behalf of the engineering division . . . the champion contributor among the department's four divisions. Vice Admiral Ephraim R. McLean, Jr., Ret., chairman of the industry, finance and commerce department of the United Fund drive, made the presentation.

Certificates for runners-up in the divisional competition were accepted by Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold, Water operations; Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky, Sewerage operations; and Administrative Services Director B. Barney Palmer.

Awards were also presented to sectional captains representing different categories of employees: Category "A" (units with 50 or more employees), first place award to the Distribution section, Elmer Goebel, captain, and second place to the Construction branch, Vincent Hughes, captain; category "B" (units with 20 to 49 employees), first award to Roxborough Water Treatment plant, Edward Thompson captain, and second place to the Southeast Sewage Treatment works, Rae Powell, captain; category "C" (units with less than

20 employees), first place award to the Testing laboratory, William Crooks, captain, and second place to the Water Treatment office and Quality Control laboratory, Elwood Bean, captain.

Two individuals who did most to make the drive a success were also honored. They were Mrs. Dorothy Kutys, Personnel office, and Robert Willard, business agent for Water Department Local No. 394.

THE WAY TO SERENITY

*There was a young fellow from Trinity
Who took the square root of infinity
But the number of digits
Gave him the fidgets:
He dropped Math and took up Divinity.*

APPOINTMENTS

Six new employees joined the Water Department in the past month. They are:

Charles E. Dyson, Jr., clerk-typist I, Logan garage; John Williams, custodial worker I, Torresdale Water Treatment plant; Walter R. Eisenhower, machinist I, Plant Maintenance section; Samuel John McCoy, clerk II, Design branch; Sylvia Weiss, clerk - stenographer II, Water Operations—Administration; George W. Clements, security officer I, Distribution section

The department extends a cordial welcome.



TOP AWARD FOR UNITED FUND PERFORMANCE in the Water Department went to the Engineering Division. John Briggs, assistant chief engineer (left), accepts a framed print for his unit from Vice Admiral John R. McLean, Jr., Ret., chairman of the industry, finance and commerce department of the United Fund.

PRESS INSPECTS RIVER GUARDIANS

Managing Director Donald C. Wagner held one of his most unusual press conferences November 15 when the "Commonwealth", a sturdy state owned craft, chugged away from the Fireboat pier on the Schuylkill River.

The boat carried more than a dozen newspaper reporters and television men, together with representatives of the Water Department and the U. S. Geological Survey, on one of those "first" tours that occasionally make history.

At three points along the Delaware River, a pioneer program had just got under way, and the Commonwealth was headed toward one of these points.

The program, the first on any tidal estuary in the United States, had been long in the planning. Now it was a reality.

Automatic instruments stood guard over the Delaware River, reporting hour by hour on pollution, temperature, salinity and other important river conditions. The instruments were analyzing the river automatically and recording findings continuously on charts. Never before had instruments been used on this scale for monitoring a river permanently.

As the boat swung down the Schuylkill, Mr. Wagner and Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter explained the new program to the press representatives. The City and the U. S. Geological Survey had been carrying on river study jointly since 1949. The new electronic sentinels were a long leap forward in this study.

Automatic monitoring of the Delaware would alert Water Department personnel to changes in the river that might affect water treatment; permit long range analysis of river data by electronic computer; enable public and private agencies to plan more efficiently for long range use of the river; provide a closer check on the effectiveness of sewage treatment and industrial waste control programs; make possible a scientific study of flow, tide, underground water, etc. on the Delaware.

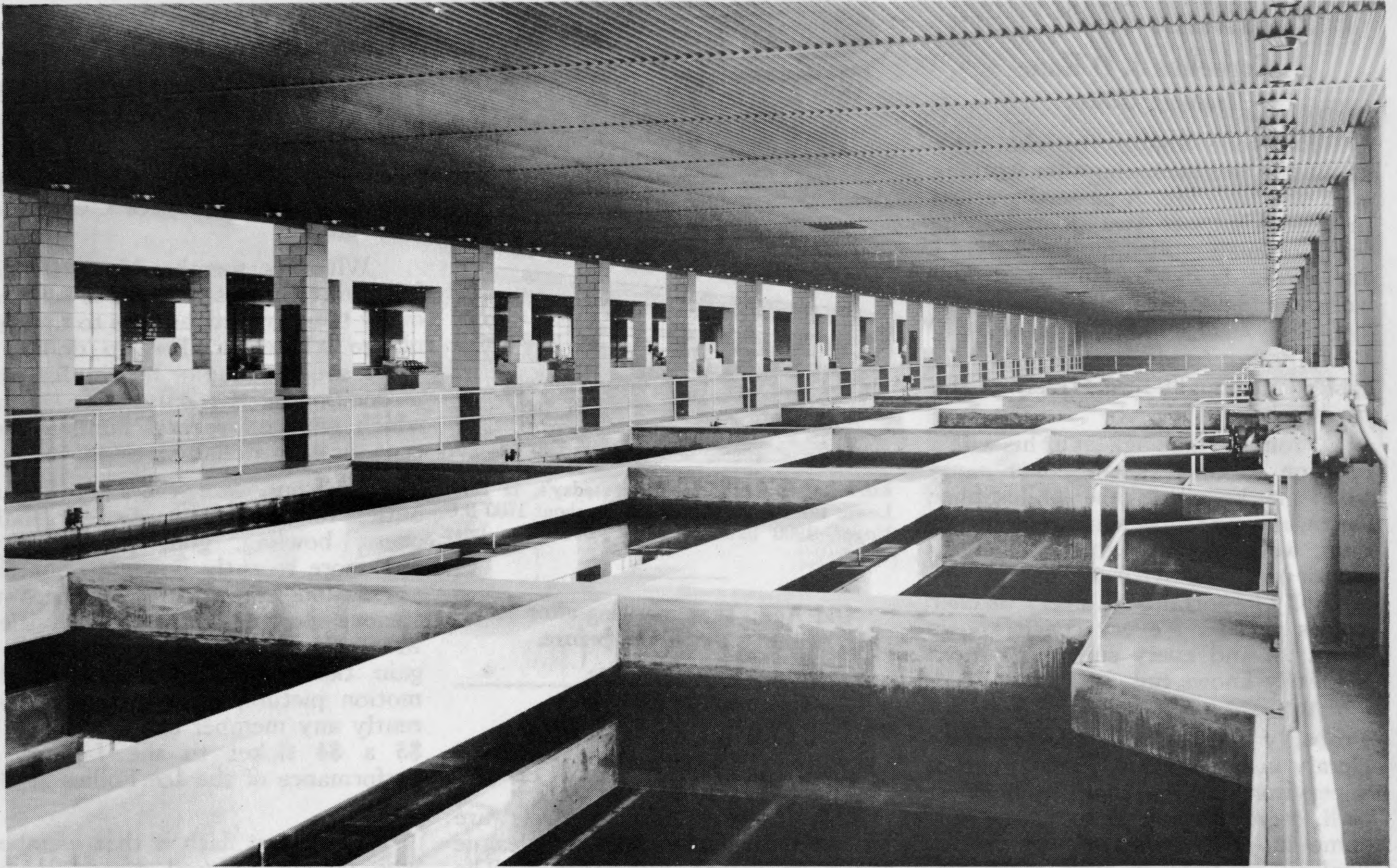
As the sandwiches and coffee were passed out, the boat rounded the Navy Yard and headed up the Delaware. USGS and Water Department representatives tossed a long cable into the river and drew up a

(Continued on page 5)



AN AUTOMATIC DETECTIVE now partially replaces Joseph Radziul, holding flask (above), as well as other humans, in monitoring the Delaware River for pollution. Joe, the department's research and development engineer, is making a "dissolved oxygen determination" on a water sample for the television camera man, but the electronic device (below), which Joe and Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter are eying, can do the same thing automatically 24 hours a day. SEE STORY AT RIGHT.





FILTRATION BEDS of the new Queen Lane filter building are one of the current sights to see, if you want a lift for your spirits. This attractive, modern building turns out one of Philadelphia's finest products. Its 40 filter beds, regulated by semi-automatic controls, do this at the rate of 120 million gallons daily.

River Guardians

(Continued from Page 4)

sample for analysis. This was the old way of doing things. Portable instruments for river analysis had improved these manual methods, but the real splash forward was just ahead.

The boat swung into Municipal Pier 11, North, at the foot of Race Street. Here . . . and at Torresdale and Marcus Hook . . . were the groups of automatic instruments. Housed in a tall metal shed, a large, dial faced device pulled water samples periodically from the river, analyzing and recording their dissolved oxygen content . . . a valuable clue to pollution . . . and measuring temperature, for industrial spills. A second device measured and recorded "specific conductance" (the capacity of water for conducting electricity) . . . an indication of salt content, tidal changes, and impending turbidity.

Television cameras ground away, and it was all over.

But the silent sentinels continued their watch over the river.



IT'S POCKET MONEY for George W. Gilbert as he accepts a \$25 check from Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter. The check was bestowed by the City's central awards board in recognition of Mr. Gilbert's suggestion that extra batteries and battery booster cables be used to start stalled equipment.

THAT EXTRA SOMETHING

By Cornelius J. O'Kane
Training Officer

Everyone knows the old story about the two men who were working on a new building. A passer-by asked them, "What are you doing?" The first workman replied indifferently, "I am laying bricks", but the second workman said with a gleam in his eye, "Sir, I am building a cathedral."

It is not hard to guess what the passer-by thought respectively of the two workmen.

From the man aghast at his wife's reaction to that "small poker game with the boys" to the philosopher sorrowing over man's inhumanity to man, we deal with 'attitudes' every day of our lives. 'Attitude' in a person is vitally important . . . every teacher knows this . . . every coach knows this . . . and every supervisor most definitely knows this.

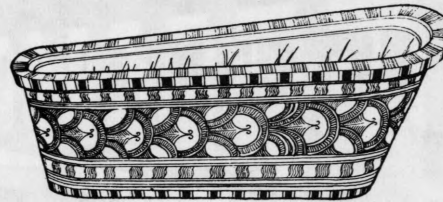
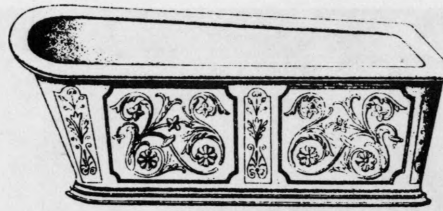
Why is 'attitude' so important? Probably because it is reflected quite clearly in our actions. Every veteran supervisor realizes that intelligence, skill, coordination and speed are welcome in a subordinate, but that a healthy attitude is even more welcome. For the employee's attitude can either benefit or hurt an organization. Attitude may cause the employee to cooperate, be patient and loyal; or it may lead him to criticize, demand, defy, or simply drag his feet.

There are advantages and disadvantages for the employee too.

Attitude Shapes Reactions

It is known psychological fact that two individuals can have identical experiences in a given day, and yet one may consider it a pleasant day while the other ties another knot in a growing ulcer. In a larger sense the same thing occurs in our working lives. By adjusting our 'attitude' to supervision, or our working environment as a whole, we can help to render our working days pleasant or at least not actively distasteful. The wrong 'attitude', however, will just accumulate sour days into sour years.

It sounds great, but by what magical incantation can this happy condition be born? Well, it's a great deal more difficult than magic but at the same time less difficult than carrying the baleful fruits of an unacceptable 'attitude' on our shoulders. Healthy and attractive 'attitudes' are attained by consciously practicing habits of thought day by day which give people the benefit of the doubt, see both sides of the ques-



First known bath resembled today's, in form. Lower tub was used by a Queen about 1700 B.C. Upper, 1900 bathtub, some 3,600 years later.

Old Age: That morning-after feeling, without the night before.

BASKETBALLERS TO PLAY AT BELFIELD REC. CENTER

The newly formed Delaware Valley Industrial Basketball league began its season December 2. The Water Department has entered a team in the league, along with Bell Telephone Company, American Meter Company, Supplee-Biddle-Stelz and Cuneo Press.

The Water Department team will play its games at Belfield Recreation Center, 21st Street and Chew Avenue, on Friday nights.

Edward Milburn, Northeast Sewage Treatment Plant, business manager of the team will serve as temporary coach. Any employee interested in coaching the team should contact Mr. Milburn at Aut. 1721 or CU 8-8013.

tion, and consider cooperation and loyalty to be possible under almost all conditions.

When a supervisor rates a subordinate, recommends promotions, assigns work, or treats his employee in one way rather than another, he is influenced greatly by the 'attitude' of that person and the actions caused by that 'attitude'. So it would pay all of us to take a close look at our own attitude . . . chip off a rough edge here . . . file down a sharp point there . . . make it shine'

There is no price tag on this kind of self-improvement . . . and the potential returns may take our breath away.

RECREATION GROUP LURES NEW RECRUITS

New members are being heartily wooed by the Employees' Recreation Association.

With its membership drive in full swing, the association is offering many tempting attractions to the employee whose membership dollar is being sought. Rumor has it that the association is the only organization which pays off several hundred per cent on each dollar invested.

Not only are there the usual outlets for pent up energies—softball, chess, bowling, golf, photography, and more recently bowling—but the association offers reduced prices to various sporting and social activities. Members on November 16 got bargain tickets for a showing of the motion picture, "The Alamo". Currently any member can buy for only \$3 a \$4 ticket to the January 4 performance of the Ice Follies at the Arena.

The latest flash is that members who bought reduced season tickets for the Philadelphia Eagles games will get first crack at tickets to the National Football League Championship game.

As if the member's cup were not already running over, he will soon be able to while away the tedium of the lunch hour by playing checkers. The association is now distributing a number of checkers sets to Annex and field locations. The sets are being loaned on the request of members, with the approval of unit supervisors.

* * * * *

No, No, No!

Bowling league players will soon appear in "technicolor". The Recreation Association's board of directors has authorized purchase of brightly colored bowling shirts, so that the team will cut a fashionable figure in the league.

As a result of all this, the association's membership committee (of which Erwin Baskin is chairman) has a sporting chance to snag that 100 per cent membership it is after. The chief targets are the Distribution section and the Sewage Treatment works. The Personnel office is the first unit to report 100 per cent success.

PAY RAISE LOOMS JANUARY 1 - EMPLOYEES RETAIN INCREMENT

Another cheerful New Year awaits City employees. For the second straight year a much needed raise will swell their salary checks.

The amount this time is 5% for most City (including Water) employees, compared with 6% last year. The uniformed services (police, park guards, firemen) will receive 6% this time.

Best news of all is that the raise will not affect the annual increment to which the employee is generally entitled. Thus some Water Department employees will receive their 5% increase plus an increment in January; others will get their increment later in the year.

Again—as in previous years—the increases came about as the result of careful study and hard work on the part of many persons: The Mayor, administration officials, City Council, the Civil Service Commission, and representatives of the labor unions.

Details of Increase

For Water Department readers, the NEWS offers the following details on the increase.

Amount:—The 5% increase is based on annual salary as of January 1, 1961. The date the raise takes effect is January 1.

First Pay Check:—As a Water Department employee, you will receive one pay check on January 13, 1961. The check will cover five days at the old pay rate and five days at the new rate. (Shift workers will be paid according to the days worked, December 26 to December 31 at the old rate and January 1 to January 8 at the new rate). Your January 27 check will cover a full two weeks at the new rate.

Anniversary Date:—For purposes of the annual increment, you will retain your present anniversary date. Thus, if you have not already reached the top pay step for your salary class, you will receive your annual increment on your anniversary date. For the many City employees who have a January 1 anniversary date, the increment will become effective January 9, 1960 when the Water Department's first full pay period begins. It will appear in the January 27 check.

Payroll Deductions:—Along with the 5% increase in salary (and later the increment) will come changes in your deductions. Federal taxes, City wages taxes, and possibly pension and Social Security deductions, will change as your gross salary is increased. This must be considered when reviewing your first full "take home" pay check at the new rate. You will get the first full check, covering two weeks at the new rate, on January 27.

Questions:—If you have questions about the pay increase, consult your supervisor or timekeeper. The latter, if unable to answer your questions, will obtain the information from the Personnel office. Please do not call the Personnel office personally. The office can supply the information needs of all employees more efficiently through channels.

PERSONNEL OFFICE REVIEWS USE OF SICK LEAVE IN 1960

With the close of the year, the Personnel office is reviewing sick leave taken by employees during 1960. Employees who used eight or more days of sick leave in 1960 will be subject to special conditions when they request sick leave in 1961. These employees will be notified by letter shortly after the first of the new year.

The purpose of the sick leave control program is to ensure that sick leave is used for verifiable personal illness or non-service connected injury, and to ensure compliance with the department's sick leave regulation.

Earlier this year 456 Water Department employees received Certificates of Recognition for a perfect sick leave record in 1959. Certificates of Recognition will be awarded also to employees with a perfect sick leave record for 1960.



AN OLD TIME SLIDE RULER is examined by Eugene V. Bonner, chief of Sewer Records and Information (right) as Samuel Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner, holds a modern slide ruler for comparison. The old slide ruler (or should we say "rulers") is one of two such antiques in the possession of the Water Commissioner's Office. A revolving cylinder inside the casing formed by the elaborate instrument aided in the calculations. An instruction book, dated 1884, goes with the ruler.

Personal Notes

Administration

Water Operations lost three secretaries when Hattie Sherman, Marie LaFont and Elise Wright transferred to other City departments. Hattie, Deputy Commissioner G. E. Arnold's secretary, had been with the City since 1948 and with Water Operations since 1957—is now with Public Property. Marie, Mr. Appleyard's secretary came to Water Operations from the Law Department, and is now with the Fairmount Park Commission. Elise, Mr. Scott's secretary, started in Collections and before working with Water Operations worked in Water Personnel; is now in the Police Department. We wish all these girls the best of luck and know they will be greatly missed in this department.

Congratulations and best wishes are in order for Dick Starr, and Mrs. Starr, underground renewals coordinator with the Engineering division, on the birth of their fifth child—Barbara Ellen—on the 7th of November. Barbara weighed in at 7 lbs., 7 ozs.

Joel Levin, accountant for one year with the Accounting unit, recently left for a position in private industry.

Mrs. Marie Grant, another Accounting unit employee, was on the sick list for a while and we sincerely hope that she will be completely well and back to work real soon.

Our sincerest sympathies are extended to Edith Archibald of the Cost Accounting unit, on the sudden loss of her father in early November.

Meter Shop

Sympathy is extended to the family of the late Joseph Clemson, who died suddenly on November 10.

Sympathy is also extended to Joseph Kawalski upon the loss of his sister.

Design

We would like to congratulate Gene Zanier upon receiving his new appointment to Civil Engineer III. He is now with the Main Sewers and is a welcomed member.

Torresdale Filter Plant

Thomas Neely, filter plant operator I, recently returned from a six weeks vacation. He and his family

GENE ZANIER BECOMES CIVIL ENGINEER III -- DEPARTMENT PROMOTES SEVEN OTHER WORKERS

Eight employees have moved to higher positions in the past month.

Heading the list is Gene J. Zanier, promoted from civil engineer, class II to III, in the Design section. Mr. Zanier, who has many years of experience in design engineering, entered the old Department of Public Works in 1946 as a junior engineering field aide. By 1950 he had risen to assistant engineer, and in 1954 he became a civil engineer II in the Water Department.

A graduate of Drexel Institute of Technology with diplomas in structural and public works engineering, Mr. Zanier lives at 1623 South Camac Street.

John B. Easley, formerly a sewage plant operator II at the Northeast works, has been transferred to the Southeast works as a sewage plant foreman. Mr. Easley entered the department in 1954, and has moved steadily up to supervisory responsibilities. He lives at No. 7 Ashton Road.

Other promotions have gone to: Robert Albergotti, from clerk-typist I to II, IBM unit; Harry W. Bartle,

visited his ancestral home, Ireland. Wonder if he kissed the "Blarney Stone"?

Joseph Watson, clerk II, is in Frankford Hospital recuperating from a heart attack. We are all rooting for your complete recovery, Joe!

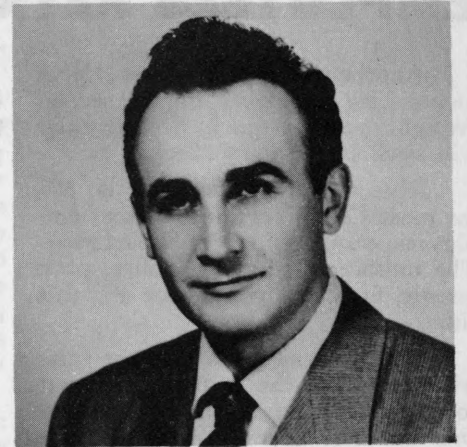
We welcome Samuel Cirelli, operations supervisor, back to work at Torresdale filter plant. Sam recently recovered from a "cerebral flutter" which had him hospitalized for a short period.

The front office at Torresdale filter plant is brightened by the addition of Mrs. Ethelyn Pitts, clerk-typist I.

Miss Ethelyn Hinton, clerk-typist I, acquired a wedding ring on November 12 from Mr. Howard Pitts. The ceremony was a quiet one, performed at the Zion Baptist Church, and bride and groom are residing at 6220 N. Gratz Street.

Leroy "Bud" Campbell, chemist I, was toppled from the ranks of bachelorhood on October 23. The girl that did the trick was formerly Miss Estelle May. They are residing at 8712 Lykins Lane.

Not to be out done by his brother, Clarence Campbell, equipment operator, went down a well worn matrimony path on November 26.



GENE ZANIER

from public works inspector I to II, Construction branch; Mary Ann Kasprzak, from clerk-typist I to II, Northeast works; LeRoy Kelley, from sewage treatment operator I to II, Northeast works; Robert F. Adams and Alfonzo Taggart, from tabulating equipment operator I to II, Administrative division.

Have You Changed Your Name?

To protect your Social Security benefits, be sure to submit a W-4 card and "Change of Address or Name" form in the event that you change your name. These forms can be obtained from your supervisor or timekeeper.



"Well, I gotta pay my income tax!"

KEEP CHRISTMAS IN YOUR DRIVING

**Start your trip in time
Don't drive fast
Don't drive after drinking
Watch out for pedestrians**