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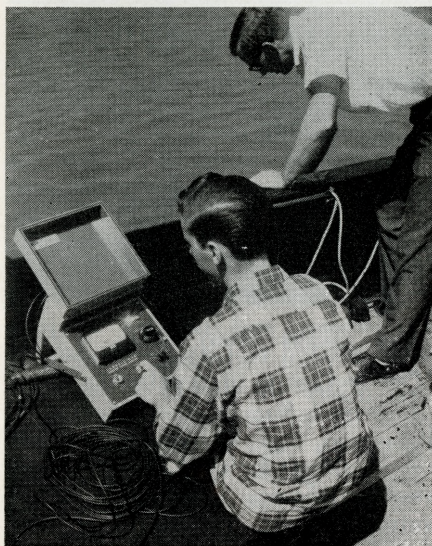


WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

JUNE - JULY 1961

AGENCIES STUDY INFLUENCE OF SUNLIGHT ON FLUCTUATING CONDITION OF DELAWARE



DISSOLVED OXYGEN IN THE DELAWARE RIVER is measured by Frederick L. Schaefer (left) and Thomas E. White, of the U. S. Geological Survey, with a new portable device. The sensitive cable and recorder, jointly tested by the Water Department and USGS, may reduce lab work and sampling personnel. For another development, see story at right.



Bottled sunlight is being collected from the Delaware River by a team of research men working the mid-night shift.

Believe us, this is a serious study. Each night at 8 o'clock a tiny boat from Johns Hopkins University pushes away from Pier 11 North into the river. On board are representatives of the Water Department, the U. S. Geological Survey, and the university, with a great array of bottles and lines.

As the boat chugs up the river, bottles are lowered to various depths and anchored in the stream. Other bottles, anchored the night before, are pulled up and taken aboard. Hour after hour the toil goes on, and about 3:00 A.M. the valiant crew returns to port. Its labors, however, are not over, for the bottles must be rushed to the U. S. Geological Survey's laboratory for analysis.

In every crewman's mind is the question: How much sunlight did the bottles capture?

Lest the reader think that we are not really serious, or that the crew had a slight case of sunstroke (suffered at night, of course), we offer a few further facts.

Photosynthesis

This nocturnal venture, which will run through much of the summer, is intended to collect data on "photosynthesis" as a factor in improving the river. Photosynthesis is that process by which plants utilize sunlight to grow. Thus sunlight helps green algae to grow in the Delaware, and these microscopic plants in turn release oxygen into the stream. Other things being equal, the more oxygen in the water the better its condition.

By placing water samples at various depths, the research men de-

(Continued on Page 2)

P-A-X TELEPHONES TO VANISH THIS AUTUMN AS NEW UNIFIED BELL SYSTEM TAKES OVER

The City's automatic telephone system will disappear this autumn when a new unified system providing both internal and outside service will go into effect.

Along with the old automatic (or Keystone) system, the Water Department will lose its familiar LOcust, BAring and other Bell numbers.

The long established MUunicipal 6-9700 Bell number will serve all City departments in future, but individual telephone extensions will be variations of the basic municipal number so that citizens can dial particular offices directly if they know the correct variation. Thus a particular office might have a MUunicipal 6-6609 number and the citizen could reach the office either by dialing that number or by telephoning the main switchboard, MU 6-9700.

By the same token, employees will be able to reach other offices by dialing directly, and can call outside by dialing "9" followed by the desired number.

The role of telephone operators will be largely confined to handling incoming calls of citizens who don't know the number of a particular office or where a problem should be handled.

To simplify the routing of calls to offices in the Water Department, it is planned to list the Customer Service Section in the public telephone directory as the recipient of all requests for service or information, day or night. This section will have a special number. Certain other offices will be listed, but only a main switchboard number will be given.

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

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THE WATER DEPARTMENT

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Roxborough Plant..... Carl Righter
Torresdale Plant..... Rose Sideman



ELEANOR O'DONNELL

ELEANOR O'DONNELL GETS DREXEL BACHELOR DEGREE

Mrs. Eleanor E. O'Donnell, engineering aide III in the Design Branch, received the degree of bachelor of science in civil engineering from Drexel Institute of Technology on June 17.

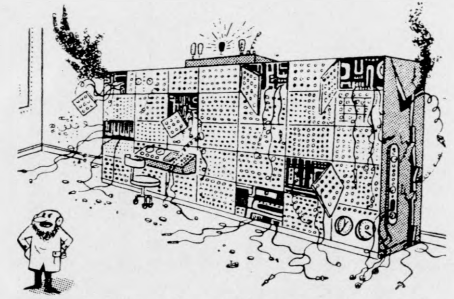
Mrs. O'Donnell is the first woman to graduate in civil engineering from the institute's evening school.

The mother of an 18-year old son, Francis J., Jr., now studying at the University of Dayton, Mrs. O'Donnell pursued the rugged engineering course over a period of eight years, while holding down full day time jobs with private firms and the City.

An employee of the Streets Department's 9th survey district for one and one-half years, she transferred to the Water Department in 1957. Still earlier she was employed by the Philco Corporation and American Viscose Corporation as a draftsman. She had studied drafting at the Spring Garden Institute.

Believing in the importance of keeping busy, Mrs. O'Donnell does ceramic work, dressmaking and reading in her spare time. She served as an editor on a newspaper published by the Society of Women Engineers, was special chairman for her graduating class at Drexel, and is a member of the Cross Keys Fraternity, a service group.

She and her husband, Francis J., live at 4163 Tower Street in Roxborough.



"Look, Tom! I've told you a thousand times. The network fluid analyzer is for hydraulic studies . . . NOT for balancing the department's accounts."

EMPLOYEES WIN TRAINING CREDIT

Twenty-four Water Department employees have received certificates from the Philadelphia Government Training Institute for successful completion of courses. The courses, offered twice a year by the City and college sponsored institute, lasted for eight weeks, and covered subjects closely related to City operations.

The recipients of certificates are:

Advanced Supervision: Hubert J. DiGiacomo, and William R. Snyder, Logan Garage; Edward J. Green, Construction; James J. Marinan, Load Control Center; Reuben Pearl, Belmont Laboratory; Joseph T. Prince, Race Street Pumping Station.

Basic Supervision: Thomas J. Hansen and Elwood J. Unruh, Torresdale Water Plant; Robert W. Henry, Jr., Belmont Laboratory; Robert S. Lignelli, Logan Garage; Violet Preston, Meter Shop.

Budget Practices: Raymond J. Harris, Commissioner's Office; Richard S. Starr, Engineering Bureau; Robert G. Sweeney, Sewerage Operations—Administrative.

Communications: Peter A. Flood, Customer Service; Elmer Goebel, Distribution; Edward F. Hertkorn, Design.

Office Practices: Georgiann Harrell, Meter Shop; Kathleen Hunt, Distribution.

Personnel Practices: Mary G. Cotten, Belmont Laboratory; John B. Easley, Southwest Works; Kathleen Hunt, Distribution; Bartholomew F. Monaghan, Meter Shop.

Philadelphia Government: John C. VanFossen, Torresdale Water Plant.

Waves of American tourists have begun flowing to all the corners of the earth, where they'll do their best to overlook the plumbing, the lack of air conditioning, the native drivers, the confusing currencies—and the American tourists.—Wall Street Journal.

SUNLIGHT STORY

(Continued from Page 1)

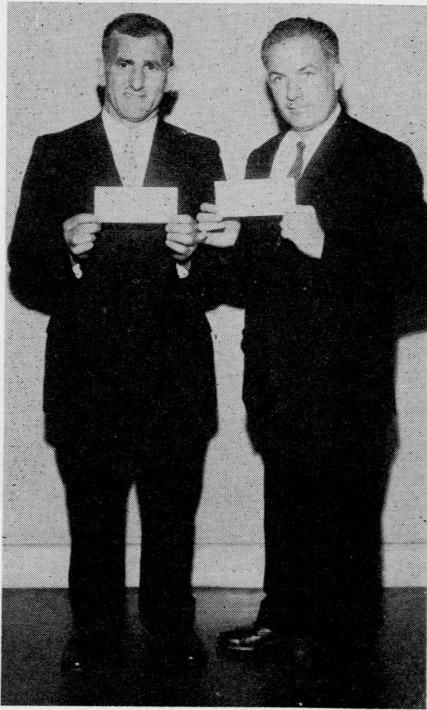
termine changes in dissolved oxygen content of the bottles and thus have a clue to the effect of sunlight on algae growth at the different depths.

Simple? Not really. The mathematics involved will be out of this world, when the attempt is made to isolate the "sunlight" factor from other factors influencing the condition of the river. Incidentally, the Water Department and USGS installed automatic monitoring instruments at four points along the river last November to measure some of the "other" factors . . . salinity, temperature, "pH," dissolved oxygen, etc. The new photosynthetic study is only an extension of this bigger and permanent study of the changing stream.

It all proves that our valiant crew are really brainy men, and not at all what you suspected.

More happy voyages to Joseph Radziul, Paschal Celenza, Peter Westine, and Alfred Kennedy, of the Water Department; Norman Beamer and Leo McCarthy, of USGS; and Dr. C. H. Hull and Robert Samworth, of Johns Hopkins' department of sanitary engineering and water resources.

Success doesn't always go to the head—often it goes to the mouth.



TWO MEN WITH IDEAS ARE MORRIS PIROLI (left) AND FRANK R. CLYDE. Mr. Pirolli, an equipment operator II in Distribution, won \$160, including the City's grand annual award, for suggesting replacement of the ball bearing on a guillotine saw with a bronze bushing, thus reducing maintenance. Mr. Clyde, a civil engineer I in Projects Control, got \$15 for pointing out the need for floor numbers on stairway doors in the City Hall Annex.

"NEWS" TO BECOME BI - MONTHLY PAPER

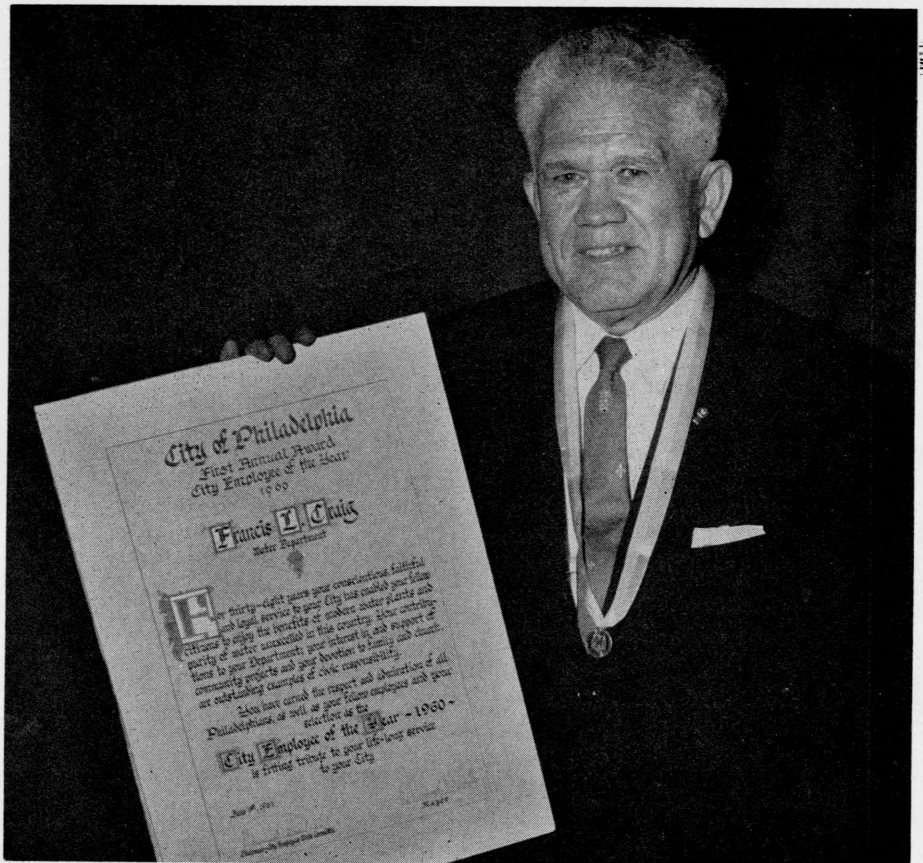
The Water Department News will be henceforth a bi-monthly, rather than a monthly, publication.

The purpose of this change is to improve still further the quality of the house organ content, as well as to ensure regularity of issuance.

The next issue of the paper will be for "August-September."

Readers aware of interesting stories, or desirous of writing, are urged to become contributors to the News even though they may not be regularly assigned as reporters. Anyone with a genuine talent for writing will be gratefully placed on the staff.

THE EDITOR



FRANCIS L. CRAIG, CIVIL SERVANT PAR EXCELLENT

CITY NAMES FRANCIS L. CRAIG FIRST "EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR"

June 1 will probably live in municipal history as "Water Department Day." For on that day two veteran Water Department men carried off top honors at the City Employees' Week luncheon.

Francis L. Craig was chosen over a dozen contenders from other departments as the "City Employee of the Year."

Morris Pirolli received one of the two grand annual awards for valuable suggestions (see picture).

For Frank Craig, the amiable and well versed chief of mechanical engineering, the award came as the pleasant surprise which crowns 38 years of municipal service. The award, however, was not in recognition of long service; it was the proof of highly productive service.

During World War II, Mr. Craig was responsible for maintenance and operation of the City's outworn water and sewerage facilities. He kept

these facilities going in the face of shortages of equipment and personnel. His savings since then on pumping costs, as a result of measures which he has devised, have amounted to \$500,000 dollars yearly. His analysis of water treatment resulted in a correction that saves \$500 a day.

Another \$20,000 yearly saving may be partly accredited to Mr. Craig in future because of the new Load Control System which he nursed into being. He prepared plans and specifications and oversaw installation of the new system. The continuity of water service in Philadelphia, while the city's water treatment plants have been rebuilt, owes much to Mr. Craig's ingenuity in devising alternative methods of distribution.

Those who know Mr. Craig regard him highly. The department's executives rely on his judgment in many important matters. His remarkable memory and quick grasp of problems have been invaluable aids.

BARGE GOES TO SEA WITH SEWAGE SLUDGE

Digested sludge from the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works is now being dumped at sea.

The first trip was made May 10 when the barge, "Interstate 30," was filled with 841,000 gallons of sludge at City Pier 217 North and then towed through misty weather into the Atlantic Ocean. Guided by radar, the tug hauled the barge to the target area, a 2.6 square mile bit of ocean $11\frac{1}{4}$ miles southeast of the Delaware Bay entrance.

The digested sludge, largely inorganic and quite innocuous because of full treatment, was emptied into a patch of water where the peculiar pattern of ocean currents would hold it securely to the ocean bottom. In the face of a brisk wind, the unloading took five hours.

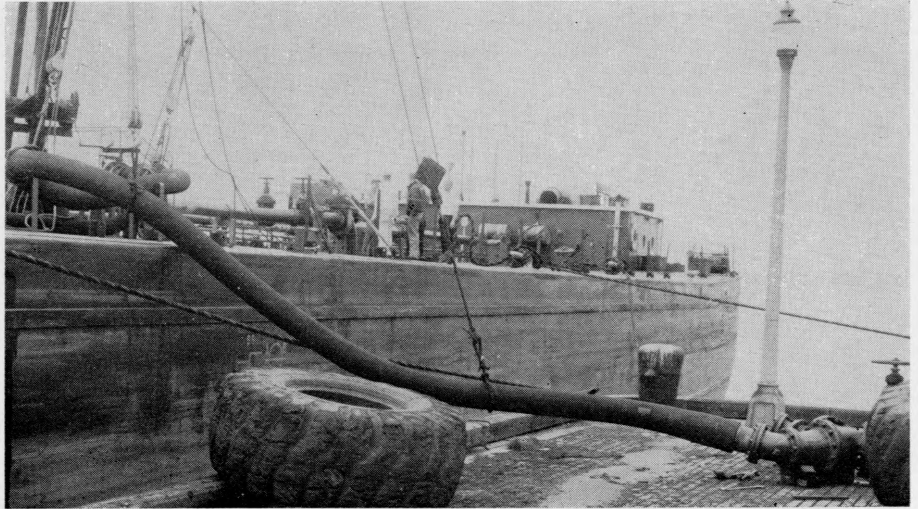
Behind this first trip of "Interstate 30" was a story of rising sewage flow to the Northeast Works, of a plant working far above its design capacity, of rapidly filling sludge lagoons, and the lack of space for new lagoons. Greeley and Hansen, consulting engineers, after long study, recommended disposal of sludge at sea as the most economical alternative to disposal in lagoons.

Schedule Weekly Trips

The Interstate Oil Transport Company received the first contract, \$162,800 for disposal of 27.5 million gallons of sludge over the next year. Weekly trips will be made, except during the summer months.

Sludge is pumped into eight compartments of the barge through a pipe line stretching from the sewage works' digestion tanks. Two remaining compartments are filled with river water for flushing and cleaning of the other compartments after sludge disposal.

Disposal of sludge at sea was initiated by the Passaic Valley Sewerage Authority in 1925 and since then it has been adopted by other East Coast communities, including New York City, West Chester County (N.Y.), Elizabeth Joint Meeting (N.J.), Middlesex County (N.J.), and the towns of Linden and Roselle in New Jersey. While these communities dump untreated or partially treated sewage at sea, Philadelphia is the first city to dump only the end product of a highly developed treatment process.



DIGESTED SEWAGE SLUDGE IS PUMPED ABOARD a barge at the Northeast Treatment Works in preparation for hauling of sludge to the Atlantic Ocean.

DILLENER TEACHES IN DREXEL CLASSES

John Dillener, Torresdale's active superintendent, has been teaching a class in water supply engineering at Drexel Institute's Evening College . . . one night a week for three hours.

Mr. Dillener in fact is never far from the class room. Days . . . when he can spare the time . . . he personally takes school classes through "America's biggest push-button water plant" and lectures them on water treatment; evenings he studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

A chemistry graduate of Marysville College, Mr. Dillener has been working since 1957 at the job of giving Philadelphians high quality water. He previously held key positions with the Atlas and Hercules Powder Companies.



WATER & SEWAGE WORKS

*"Dirty days hath September,
April, June and November
From January up to May, the
rain it raineth every day,
All these have thirty-one,
without a blessed gleam of sun,
And if any of them had two and
thirty,
They'd be just as wet and twice
as dirty."*

CREDIT UNION CITES MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Municipal employees are urged by the Philadelphia City Employees Credit Union to join that organization.

Benefits—available to all members—include the following:

1. Systematic saving through payroll deduction,
2. A return on investment (four per cent dividend was paid in 1960),
3. Life insurance for all eligible members at no cost,
4. Loans at an interest rate of one per cent per month on the unpaid balance. Thus a loan of \$100 repaid in one year costs about \$6.50 in interest.

Membership application cards and payroll deduction authorization forms, recently distributed, should be returned to the Philadelphia City Employees Credit Union, Room 806, 1 North 13th Street, Philadelphia 7. Benefits become available with receipt of the first payroll deduction by the credit union. At present 478 Water Department employees are credit union members.

BORAWSKI AND STROUSE LEAD LIST OF 22 NEW PROMOTIONS

Two new load control dispatchers and a new civil engineer III are among 22 recent promotions announced by the Personnel Office.

Named a dispatcher at the Load Control Center is Henry Borawski, of 3327 East Livingston Street, who has a number of years of departmental service. Mr. Borawski moves from the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant, where he worked successively as an electric pump operator and a filter plant mechanic. A graduate of U. S. Navy engineering schools, he tested compressors and repaired motors for the Philco Corporation during the 1940's.

Also appointed a load control dispatcher was Daniel J. McCusker, a 1960 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. In the few months he has been with the department, Mr. McCusker has undergone training for his new duties.

Albert Strouse, a civil engineer in the Design Branch, has been promoted from class II to III. Mr. Strouse's municipal service goes back to 1946 when he did sewer designing for the old Department of Public Works. Subsequently he entered the Department of Streets, and in 1952 he transferred to the Water Department. He is a graduate of the evening technical institute at Temple University, where he studied machine design. Mr. Strouse lives at 2132 Unruh Avenue.

Other Promotions

A number of promotions to emergency water distribution crews were made. These include:

Foremen: Robert Riebel, Joseph C. Everett, Richard W. Connolly, and Joseph Lenzi. Riebel and Lenzi were repairmen, Everett an equipment operator, and Connolly a regular distribution foreman.

Repairmen: George Biles, Roger M. Broley, Thomas R. Davey, John C. Fay, Harry Lavins, Frank Janits, Frank A. Troehler, and William G. Biles. All were previously repairmen on regular crews.

Dispatchers: Algy Edmonds, from clerk II, and Louis Ferro, from clerk I.

Appointed as repairmen on regular water distribution crews were King Roseborough, a former trainee; James Hendric and English Peay, previously pumping station mechanic helpers.

Hugo B. Ings, a trades helper in the Schuylkill Pumping Division, has been named an electrician, while James A. Phillips, of the Design Branch, has been promoted from engineering aide, class I to II.

The most eloquent lines are not written nor spoken—they're worn.

The drawback to telling a good story is that it reminds the other fellow of a dull one.



ALBERT STROUSE
Civil Engineer III



NEW FOREMEN OF EMERGENCY DISTRIBUTION CREWS check file (above) as they take over job. Left to right, Joseph Linzi, Joseph C. Everett, and Richard W. Connolly.
BELOW, HENRY BORAWSKI begins duties as dispatcher at the Load Control Center.



APPOINT VICKERMAN WATER SYSTEM HEAD

Charles E. Vickerman, a veteran of 32 years with the City's water system, has been appointed Chief of Water Operations.

Mr. Vickerman, an electrical engineer with a B.S. from Drexel Institute of Technology, entered the old Bureau of Water in June, 1929. Since 1953 he has been serving as assistant chief of Water Operations.

He replaces Victor A. Appleyard, who resigned as chief last December 31 to become executive manager of the Chester water system.

During his long career, Mr. Vickerman has moved through a succession of increasingly responsible positions, from laborer to electrical draftsman, from assistant engineer (electrical and design) to assistant chief of the old Bureau of Water.

In his new position Mr. Vickerman will be responsible for a water system with an inventory value of \$200 million, including four water treatment plants, 17 pumping stations, a load control network, and 3,000 miles of water mains. He will report to Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold.

During World War II Mr. Vickerman served as a major with the U. S. Army at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland and later in England and Normandy. After studying civil affairs and military government in England, he aided in the restoration of public works and utilities in France. Still later he was military governor of an area in Bavaria, with responsibility for supplying hundreds of thousands of inmates found in concentration camps.

NEW EMPLOYEES!

Alfred P. Liggon, laborer, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; James S. Williams, sewage treatment operator I, Northeast Sewage Treatment Works; Luther Fairley, plant helper I, Northeast Works; Alexander W. Patterson, engineering aide I, Materials Testing Laboratory; Clyde A. Taylor, Jr., trades helper, Schuylkill Pumping Division.

Booker T. McCray, field inspector I, Industrial Wastes Section; John J. Taylor, clerk I, Meter Shop; Henry S. Hill, chemist I, Queen Lane Laboratory; Leah C. Weiss, clerk-typist I, Design Branch; and George N. Rice, laborer, Sewer Maintenance Section.



CITY HALL TOWER IS MADE EYE APPEALING by two comely misses . . . Carol Frey, of the City Representative's Office (left), and Carol Perlstein, Department of Licenses and Inspections.

ALL-STARS PLAY THURSDAY

Employees are invited to see the Water Department All-Stars in action against other softball teams in the Eastern Division of the Cooperative Industrial League. The All-Stars, who won the division championship last year, play every Thursday at 8:30 P.M. at the Stenton Recreation Center, 16th Street and Wyoming Avenue.

Manager of the All-Stars is Edward Milburn.

A Letter to You

From Gerald E. Arnold
Deputy Commissioner

It is often assumed that a public utility such as the Water Department has little interest in the activities of its employees outside the work day. One glance at our growing Employees' Recreation Association will quickly dispel this idea.

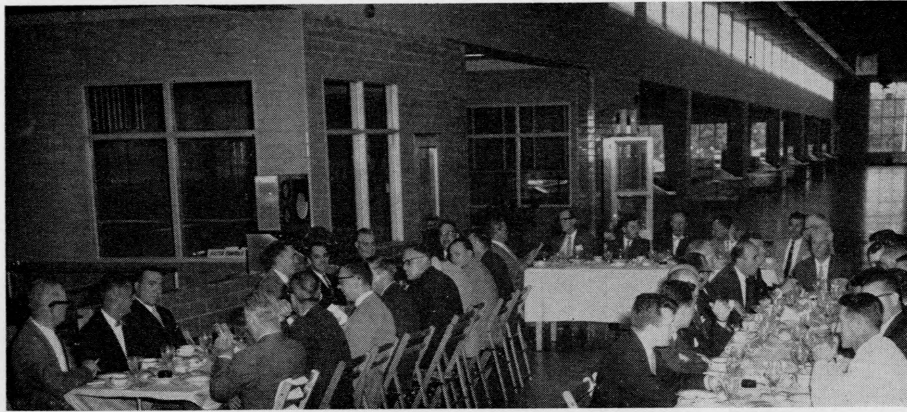
This association has grown with full management and union support from approximately 300 members three years ago to over 900 members at the present time. The program of the Association has increased each year and now includes a fine reduced ticket program which allows a member and his family to attend various theatrical, athletic and other recreation events at reduced prices, a very popular departmental softball league, bowling league, a chess team, and many other worthwhile recreation activities.

Perhaps, I would not be as enthusiastic about the association if it were a "company-run" group. On the contrary, the association is entirely employee supported and employee run. Interested employees are given the opportunity to develop as recreation activity leaders, to participate in planning sessions, to estimate budgets for the various activities, etc.

I hope that more and more of our employees will use the facilities of the Recreation Association in planning off-the-job-activities for themselves and their families.



BOWLING CHAMPS OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT are these sturdy players from the Distribution Section. L. to r., Fred Miami, Joseph Stellabotte, Tony DiLuzio, Mark Lalli, and Harvey Comer. Players bested other teams to take seasonal, as well as second-half, championships.



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS, Philadelphia Chapter, dines at Torresdale Water Treatment Plant prior to tour of plant. Frank Boal, deputy secretary of Pa. Department of Labor and Industry, addressed group. Engineers praised safety features and housekeeping at Torresdale.

SAFETY CONSCIOUS UNITS TO WIN EMBLEM AFTER 50,000 ACCIDENT FREE MAN HOURS

The "Green Cross for Safety" will doubtless become as fashionable in the Water Department as a cool glass of Philadelphia water.

This is the latest wrinkle in the master safety committee's continuing campaign against accidents.

The Green Cross of Safety, insignia of the National Safety Council, will go to departmental units, which successfully survive (in most cases) 50,000 man hours, or one year, without a disabling injury. Either a flag or an emblem will be bestowed upon winning units, and all employees in such units will receive certificates of recognition July 1, 1962.

Some units because of their large personnel force and heavy work load may be sporting the new banner in the breeze within a few months. Others with fewer personnel may require a year. The Design Branch and the department's collection of administrative offices will start with a "handicap," since their accident opportunities are fewer than those of field units. To put it gently, their score card must show 150,000 man hours without a disabling injury.

Rules of Contest

The rules of the new safety game are simple. Each winning unit may display the Green Cross for Safety until a disabling injury occurs to one of its employees. Then the award must be returned and the unit must start over.

Awards will be made by the master safety committee, consisting of Safety Officer John T. Cappio, chairman;



Charles E. Vickerman, chief of Water Operations; Edward D. Bastian, chief of Sewerage Operations; Abraham Finkelstein, chief of Design; Abraham Barmish, chief of Sewer Maintenance; William W. Barnes, representing Sewage Treatment; and Vincent L. Hughes, of Construction.

The minimum number of perfect months required for each unit to meet its quota of man hours follows: One, Distribution; two, Construction; three, Northeast Works; four, Sewer Maintenance and the Meter Shop; five, Delaware Pumps, Schuylkill Pumps, Belmont Plant, Water Treatment Office, Torresdale Plant, and Southwest Works; seven, all City Hall Annex offices collectively; eight, Customer Service; nine, Southeast Works; 10, Building Maintenance, and Design; 11, Logan Garage; 12, Roxborough Plant, Central Stores, Plant Maintenance, Load Control Center, and Testing Laboratory.

OFFER LOW PRICE SUMMER THEATER

Special price reductions are being offered summer theater goes through the good offices of the Employees' Recreation Association.

The association has arranged with the Camden County and Valley Forge Music Circuses for discount tickets on all performances, except the late Saturday show, this summer. Thus members of the association will be able to buy \$1.25 tickets for 75 cents and \$2.50 tickets for \$1.75.

Non-members may enjoy this privilege by joining the association.

Remaining theater performances are:

Camden County: July 17-22, The Merry Widow; July 24-29, Gentlemen Prefer Blondes; July 31-August 5, Damn Yankees; August 7-12, The Most Happy Fella; August 14-19, On The Town; August 21-26, Annie Get Your Gun.

Valley Forge: July 17-22, Damn Yankees; July 24-29, The Merry Widow; July 31-August 5, The Most Happy Fella; August 7-12, Gentlemen Prefer Blondes; August 14-19, Annie Get Your Gun; August 21-26, On The Town.

Tickets may be obtained through Joyce Ficchi, Aut. 369, or LO 8-5950, ext. 12, and Sylvia Weiss, Aut. 725 or LO 8-5950 ext. 203. Azad Attarian is ticket services committee chairman.

Among other Recreation Association privileges for amusement seekers this year:

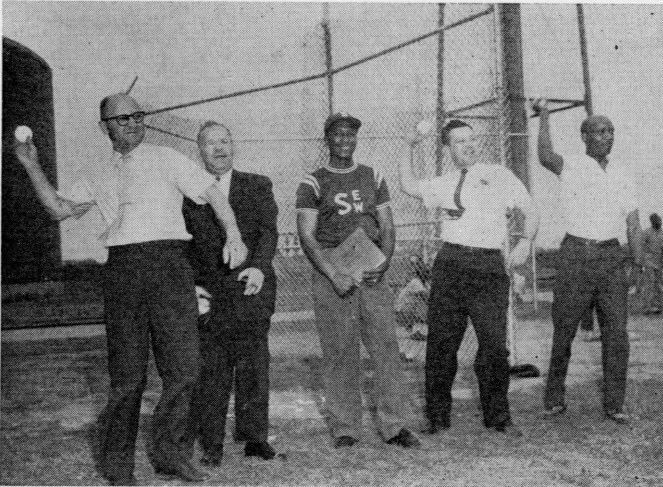
Special discount tickets for the steel pier in Atlantic City.

The First Night Club of Philadelphia, which now has 68 Water Department members . . . all eligible for discount tickets at local theaters.

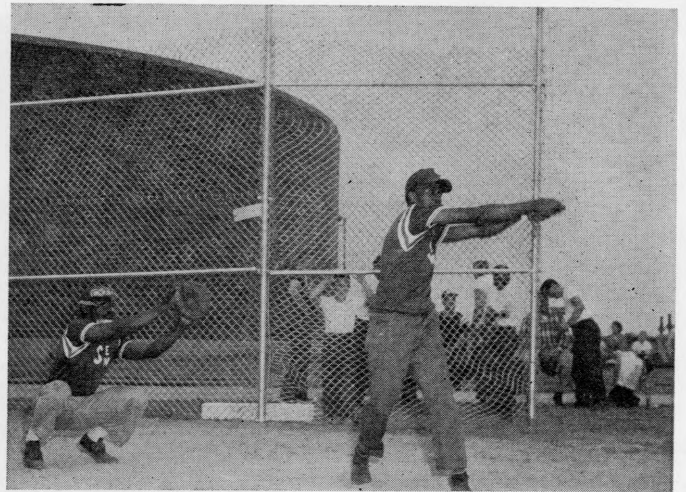
Tickets for seven games of the Philadelphia Eagles for only \$21, compared with a value of \$70. Originally only six games were offered at \$18.



"And another thing, Wilkinson—if there's one thing I like to see, it's a clean desk! Remember that!"



SOFTBALL GAME AT SOUTHWEST SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS was launched with a shower of baseballs from (l. to r.) Ralph Hoot, chief of sewage treatment; Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky; Robert Easley, team manager; Edward Bastian, chief of sewerage operations; and Leon Taylor, Southwest chemist.



GEORGE L. TILLMAN waits in vain for the ball as Edward Pittman connects with it during a warm-up preceding the opening softball game at the new Southwest Works field. The field was cleared and laid out by Southeast-Southwest team players during off-duty hours.

SOUTHWEST PLAYERS DUST OFF NEW SOFTBALL FIELD

The men of the Southwest Sewage Treatment Works held a ball game and buffet dinner at their plant, early in June to celebrate completion of their new softball field.

The new field, complete with backstop, benches, foul poles and all the necessary improvements, is the off-duty handiwork of personnel from the Southwest and Southeast Plants. Located on vacant Southwest land, it is reported to be as fine a field for softball as can be found anywhere in the city.

Following a buffet dinner, served to players, families and guests, Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky threw out the first ball. The game pitted the Southeast-Southwest team against the "All Star" team from the remainder of the league. The hosts lost.

On hand to help the celebration were Edward D. Bastian, chief of Sewerage Operations; Ralph A. Hoot, chief of Sewage Treatment; Carmen Guarino, superintendent of Southeast and Southwest; George Carpenter, sanitary engineer; and Ervin L. Davis, executive assistant to Commissioner Baxter.

SICK LEAVE PICTURE: EMPLOYEES HEALTHIER

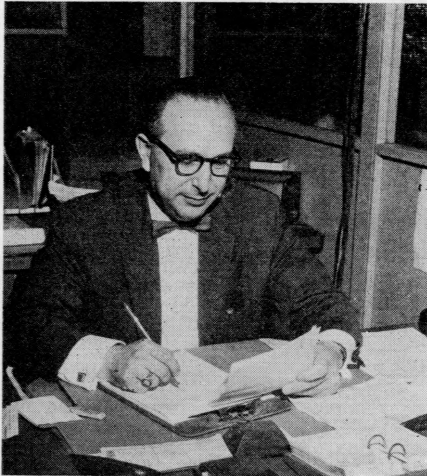
That Water Department employees are a healthy lot is indicated by their sick leave record in 1960. Certificates of recognition have been distributed by Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter to 469 employees who took not a single day of sick leave during the entire year.

Of these employees, 207 received certificates for the second year in a row.

Another favorable sign was the sick leave rate for the first quarter of 1961. This stood at 1.7 days per employee, compared with 2.4 days in the first quarter of 1960. As a result the Water Department had one of the lowest sick leave rates in the City early this year.



SAFE DRIVER AWARDS FOR 1960 are accepted by employee representatives on behalf of fellow workers. William E. Helms, Philadelphia Safety Council (2nd fr. rt.) presented 183 awards.



JACOB BALK
Meter Shop Supervisor

NAME JACOB BALK METER SHOP CHIEF

Jacob Balk has one of the Water Department's king size jobs. He has been named supervisor of the busy Meter Shop, which repairs and resets 60,000 water meters each year.

For several years Mr. Balk has been the right hand man of B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director, who has general oversight of the shop. As assistant supervisor, Mr. Balk routed 14 truck crews, supervised the shop's administrative units, kept an eye on productivity, and carried out a sweeping reorganization.

Productivity has climbed steadily. Last year the shop turned out 87,000 jobs with only 80 employees, the smallest personnel strength in many years. The year before a larger staff handled 104,000 jobs, but this fast pace was found to be well above what was needed to keep the City's 520,000 water meters in tip-top condition.

The efficient Mr. Balk is credited with an important role in establishing these new production records.

Mr. Balk entered the Meter Shop in 1951 as a clerk, moved to the department's principal administrative unit two years later, and then—in 1957—became assistant supervisor of the Customer Service Section. Prior to his City service, he did selling and bookkeeping for Salers Dairy Products. He lives at 7031 Large St.

The amount of sleep required by the average person is about five minutes more.

Few of us get dizzy by doing too many good turns.



A FISHERMAN'S PARADISE is the Schuylkill River at this time of year. Two anglers hold a 15 lb. golden carp. Numerous fish thrive in the cleaner stream.

LOUIS B. SKLAR SETS UP YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Many of our employees are engaged in worthy community activities and it is a matter of pride to add the name of Louis B. Sklar, of the Design Branch, to this list.

A few weeks ago the Pannonia Ladies' Auxiliary presented the

Bernice Sklar Ruess Pal Award for Girls, consisting of a plaque and a bond, to Miss Marcia Belfer, for leadership and general excellence. The award was established by Mr. and Mrs. Sklar in memory of their deceased daughter Bernice Sklar Ruess, and is intended to encourage young people to grow into good citizens.

TIPS ON GARDENING

By Elwood Unruh
Gardener, Torresdale Plant

A question often asked is "Why go to the trouble of raising annuals—or the expense of buying started plants—instead of planting perennials?"

The answer, or should I say my answer is, annuals and perennials both have a place in the garden. With annuals one can have an extremely large variety of color and arrangement throughout the whole summer until frost. The arrangement and color scheme can be changed completely from year to year. Should a new corner or section of the property become available for flowers, annuals provide the immediate fill in solution. Variety, originality and expedience are three excellent qualifications for annuals.

Perennials, while in wide variety,

do not offer the wide range of continued summer bloom as do annuals. There are many perennials which will bloom and give wonderful display in spring considerably earlier than the heat loving annuals. There are others, which are truly aristocrats of the flower world, that bloom for varying periods throughout the summer months. Finally there are the late summer and fall varieties that give the end of the season another show of color in the garden.

I have omitted any name of annuals and perennials. Many are familiar in varying degrees with them. Some readers may only be getting started. To all, I recommend the use of seed and plant catalogs. They are educational—gardenwise!

TOSSING AWAY HIS PENCIL for a set of wings, Louis K. Mathes, former graduate engineer in Design, is now a 2nd lieutenant with the 52nd Fighter Group, Suffolk Co. AFB, New York. Lou plans to marry soon, and then become a jet pilot.



PERSONAL NOTES

Construction

Mary A. Shea, Clerk Stenographer II, passed away suddenly on April 21. She had been employed by the City for the past 40 years, starting with the Old Bureau of Water. Miss Shea was an active member of the B.V.M. Sodality in Our Lady of Victory Church, and also the Alumni Association of Hallahan Catholic High School. She will be missed by many in the Water Department.

Joseph F. Stork, office engineer, is at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery as he is missed by all.

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Torresdale

A big welcome home for Joseph Watson, who has returned to work after a five month illness.

Lots of Luck to Luigi Morsa, who was promoted to painter I and is now with Public Property.

Torresdale wishes a fast recovery to Albert Turner.

Torresdale Filters extends a hearty welcome to: William Moore, custodial worker I, and Robert Runkle, who transferred to Torresdale from Logan Street Garage as storekeeper.

Lots of Luck to Joseph Hannigan, operator II, whose wife just completed their first dozen children with a boy. (May 9, at 5:09 A.M.) This now makes seven boys and five girls for the Hannigan family. Joe's first eleven children were each born in a different month. The latest just missed April by eight days, which would have made a baby born in each month of the year.

Satan Gets Mad

By B. Barney Palmer
Administrative Services Director

The local newspapers called it one of the worst water main breaks in the history of the city. The City Council interrupted its budget hearings to comment on the large volume of telephone calls. The weary Water Department workers were happy, however, that a "big break" had been repaired quickly and efficiently. Certainly restoring water service in record time was worth the trials of working in icy water up to the waist.

At 2:30 A.M. the Water Commissioner, after touring the job site and satisfying himself that water service had been restored, entered his vehicle. Though tired after his long vigil, he recalled with satisfaction the manner in which his employees had tackled the job. Fortunately, thought the Commissioner, the main broke in the district where his best workers operated. Fifteen minutes after the alert, the district supervisor showed up with two prize crews. With the arrival of the Commissioner, other crews appeared.

Noting the arrival of the latter, the Commissioner wondered why the efficiency of the district crews varied from mediocre to excellent. He saw that as the later arrivals merged with the earlier crews, the enthusiasm and vigor of the prize crews were communicated to all the mediocre ones. Without a spoken word, the contagion spread. The crews tacitly competed in getting the job done in best manner and fastest time. At the completion of the job, the tired, wet employees shook hands all around.

With these pleasant thoughts, the Commissioner went to bed.

While the Commissioner slept, other forces were at work. Satan read the Progress Report on the "break." The more he read, the redder he became. Smoldering with rage, he bellowed to his deputy to call in all disciples assigned to the Human Damnnamics Unit, Water District Crews, Section Eight.

"I want them in Conference Room Hades in 15 minutes," shouted the devil. "They are due for a roasting on their miserable performance."

Fourteen minutes later the disciples were assembled. Striving to control his fiery temper, Satan thundered, "Five years ago this group was given an intensive course in human damnnamics. You received specialized training in six major areas: techniques for destruction of leadership behavior, methods of destroying social relations, procedures in developing conflicts between individuals and groups, effective ways to confuse the roles of groups, and destruction of motivation and group loyalty. Since then you have received yearly refresher courses."

Slamming the Progress Report on the table, Satan continued, "This report refutes every principle for which we stand."

Burning with fury, Satan pointed his pitchfork at disciple "Failure," who was responsible for the behavior of the prize crew: "Effective at once you are relieved of duty for gross negligence and the inability to perform the duties and responsibilities of your position. The specific charges are as follows:

1. You wilfully allowed the supervisor to build a cooperative work group through desirable workers' attitudes. You permitted the supervisor full ac-

cess to the master keys—communication, consultation and collaboration.

2. You failed to play on workers' suspicions, fears, and hostilities toward management. You permitted employees to feel the goals of the organization were good.
3. You permitted the group to become powerful enough to satisfy the individual's needs for belonging, recognition, security and opportunity.
4. You permitted conflict to remain at a low level by allowing solid work assignments and by allowing employees to share in problems.

BARNEY PALMER— TEACHER BY STORY

Barney Palmer teaches the course in advanced supervision in the Philadelphia City Government's Training Institute.

Not one to follow dryasdust methods, Barney has written a number of original yarns to stimulate the thinking processes of his students. Into these tales he has woven various principles of modern psychology as well as the latest techniques of supervision. When the student has studied the story, he is supposed to comment on the techniques illustrated. This makes for lively class discussion.

One of Barney's tales, unhappily shortened by the editor for space reasons, is printed here.

5. You permitted supervisors to explain changes to their employees; you permitted high group loyalty coupled with high production; you permitted free communication between supervisor and employee.

"Disciple 'Failure,' you will report immediately for reassignment at our lowest level," yelled Satan.

After a burning lecture to the other disciples, Satan wound up the meeting by ordering his emissaries to disrupt the work of crews by fostering jealousies, garbling work assignments, keeping individuals misinformed, and promoting undesirable cliques. Glancing around the room Satan concluded, "Gentlemen, your progress reports hold the key to your jobs. Any questions? Meeting adjourned."

