

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1961

ANNUAL REPORT TO ISSUE FROM PRESSES IN OCTOBER

Fresh from the press in October will come the Water Department's eye catching annual report for 1960.

The 56-page report, crammed with pictures and set off with three attractive colors, is written in a simple style, which should appeal as much to the general public as to engineers. Though outlining the department's many achievements in 1960, the report is particularly apropos at this time. Its extensive factual material is closely related to the department's continuing programs and purposes.

Copies of the report may be obtained by telephoning or writing the Commissioner's Office, Room 1103, City Hall Annex.

Duty is something we look forward to with distaste, do with reluctance and boast about forever after.

FINE WATER TO FLOW WEST OF SCHUYLKILL WHEN "SHOWPLACE" PLANT OPENS IN 1963



NEW EMPLOYEE strikes different poses as security guard shows him the ropes at Water Distribution Hdq. He and a buddy are Watchdog Trainees. Want to do them a favor? Turn to page 8.

The showplace of the Water Department west of the Schuylkill River in 1963 will be the Belmont Water Treatment Plant.

Work is expected to start before the end of this year on the \$10.4 million transformation of the half-century old water works into a modern, semi-automatic plant. The new plant will provide improved service and higher quality water for Philadelphians living west of the Schuylkill. It will be the third in the series of push-button water treatment plants created by the department.

New light brick buildings, with wide expanses of glass, surrounded by paved areas and landscaped grounds, will grace the plot now occupied by weathered structures. Four large sedimentation basins, 18 feet deep and holding a combined 5.7 million gallons, will sparkle in the sun.

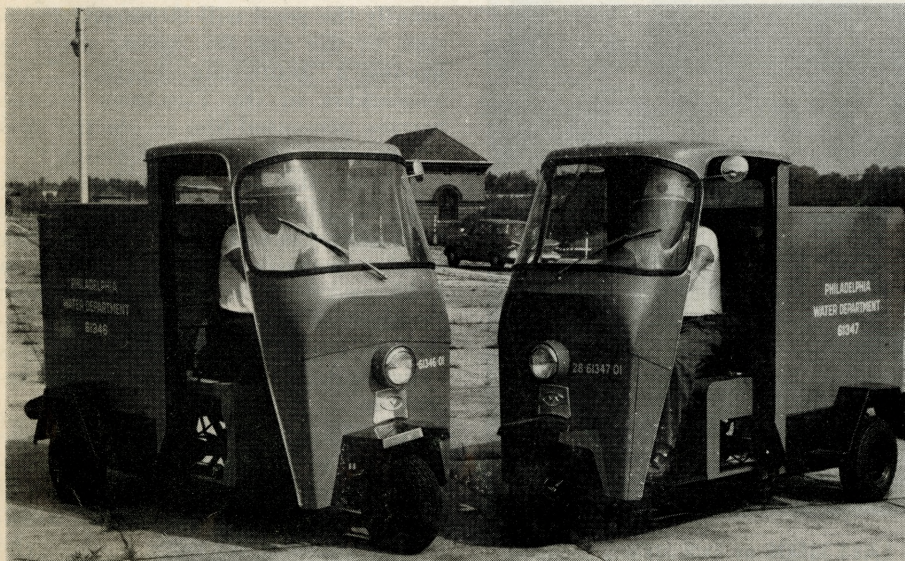
The new edifices will include: A four-story chemical building, housing various types of automatic chemical feeding equipment; a large filter building with two wings extending off a central corridor and housing 24 rapid sand filter beds operated by "push-button" controls; a 150,000 gallon elevated steel wash water tank. In addition an older structure will be modernized to provide space for storage and conference rooms.

New Water Storage

Four of the existing slow sand filter beds will be demolished for the new facilities, while 14 others will be converted to water storage.

With modernization, the Belmont Plant's rated water treatment capacity will rise slightly (from the present 70 million gallons daily to 78 million), but peak load capacity—the

(Continued on Page 3)



MOTOR SCOOTERS THAT SCOOT through traffic and into narrow parking spaces are the latest tool of Customer Service personnel working the crowded center city stretch. The scooters enable the Water Department's service wing to respond more easily to emergency calls from distressed householders.

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

Published Bi-Monthly By
THE WATER DEPARTMENT

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Water Treatment..... Dave McDermott
Belmont Plant..... Richard Pinder
Roxborough Plant..... Carl Righter
Torresdale Plant..... Rose Sideman



JOHN McGOWAN, assistant chief of Customer Service (front row, 2nd from right) says farewell to co-workers just before retirement. Electric saw was good-bye gift from group.

NAME 23 QUALIFIERS TO DEPARTMENT JOBS

Twenty-three new employees have entered the Water Department in the past few weeks, as a result of Civil Service tests. They are:

Distribution Section—Marilyn E. Josie, clerk-typist I; Joseph W. Adens, laborer; Richard M. Jones, clerk I; Jeanette Jones, clerk-typist I; and David Buchanan, field inspector I.

Northeast Sewage Works: William H. Lingham, laborer; Theodore Morris, chemist I; Roddy J. Nelson, engineering aide III; and Raymond Jackson, chemist I.

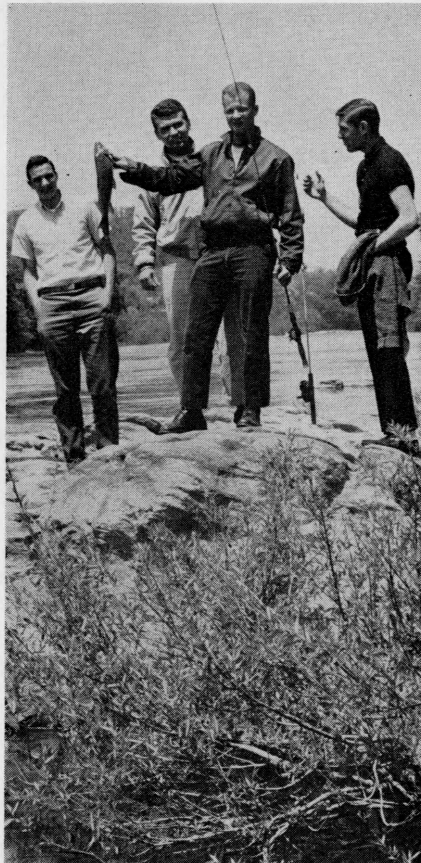
Customer Service Section: Delores E. Thomas, clerk-typist II; Julia E. Lewis, clerk-typist II; and Rose Arangio, clerk-stenographer I.

Logan Garage: Steven Jackson, clerk-typist I; Eugene Jhinis, trades helper; and Richard Walters, automotive mechanic.

Torresdale Water Plant: Bonita B. Dixon, clerk-typist I; and Floyd Carson, Jr., chemist I.

Sewer Maintenance Section: Herbert Smothers, Jr., and Raymond Irvin, laborers.

Others: Joseph Rozier, laborer, Southeast Sewage Works; Ruth M. Stevens, clerk-typist II, Delaware Pumping Section; John J. Coscia, graduate engineer, Engineering Division; and Charles M. Pearsall, trades helper, Plant Maintenance Section.



LAST ISSUE of THE NEWS showed good fishing downstream on the Schuylkill River. The fishing is good upstream too as the fishermen above prove.

JOHN F. McGOWAN RETIRES AFTER 36 YEARS WITH CITY

Many of the department's customers will look in vain for a familiar face in the future. John F. McGowan, the efficient and well liked assistant chief of the Customer Service Section, has retired after 36 years with the City.

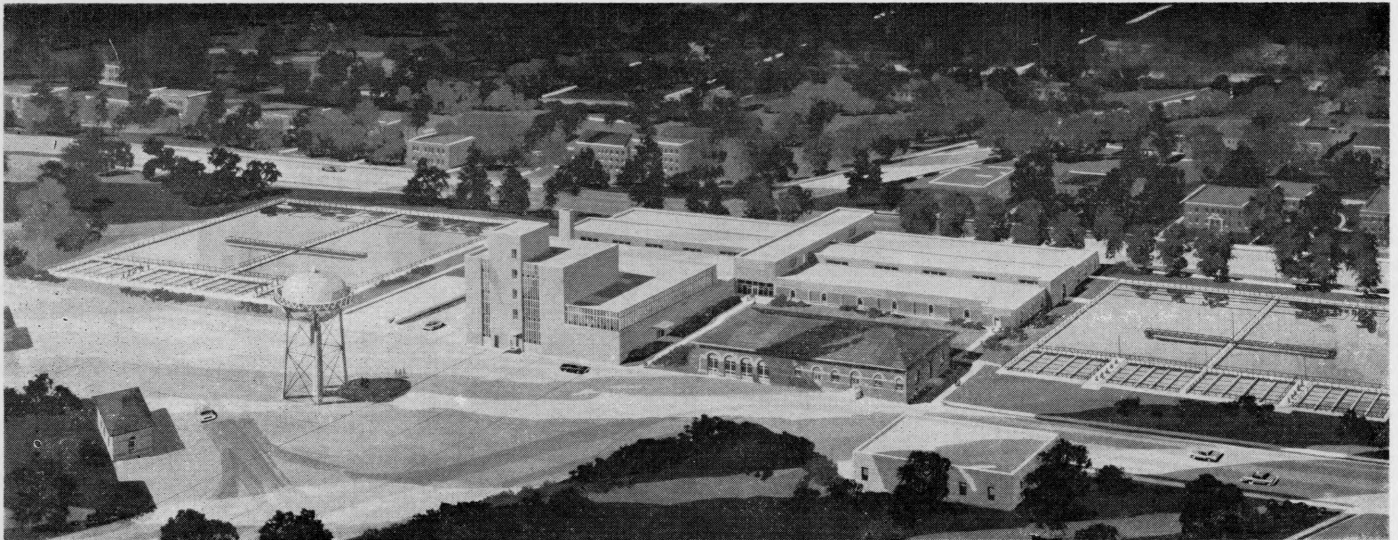
Mr. McGowan, who cultivated personally the good will of countless citizens in the last few years, plans to become a "gentleman of leisure." His co-workers in the Customer Service Section presented him an electric sawing machine to make this easier.

Joining the old Water Bureau in 1925, Mr. McGowan worked in various capacities. He was made an inspector in the bureau's registry division in 1933, and 10 years later he became an assistant senior water service inspector supervisor. In 1947 he was appointed a senior water service inspector.

In 1952 Mr. McGowan entered the Department of Licenses and Inspections where he supervised a small force of clerks engaged in the handling of permits. He came back to the Water Department in August, 1956.

He lives at 2223 Hicks Street.

Horse sense is what keeps horses from placing bets on people.



THE NEW BELMONT WATER TREATMENT PLANT as conceived by the artist will be a resplendent addition to West Philadelphia. Semi-automatic, the plant will have a rated capacity of 78 million gallons of water daily, and be capable of peak loads at rate of 105 mgd. Wash water tank and new four-story chemical building can be seen in center above; new filter building at rear.

BELMONT PLANT

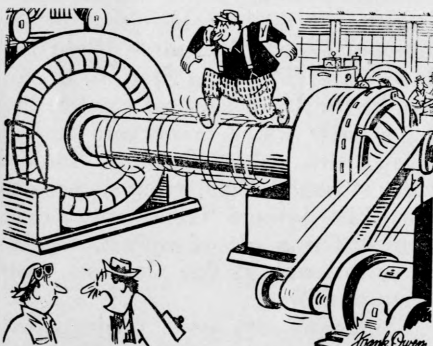
(Continued from Page 1)

ability of the plant to meet high demand at crucial times—will climb from the present 80 million gallons daily to 105 million gallons. Thus the plant will have much greater flexibility. Modern equipment will also ensure better control over the purity and palatability of water.

COMMENTS

From Frank K. Boal, Deputy Secretary of Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry:

"Thanks for the Water Department News. It is a well edited, neatly printed booklet. The photography is clear and outstanding . . . I wish this department would circulate a news journal on a par with the Water Department News."



"Go tell the personnel department if they hire any more lumberjacks, don't send them in here!"

DEADLINE NEARS FOR UNITED FUND GIFTS AS WATER DEPARTMENT TRIES FOR \$24,700

Time is growing short for contributions to the United Fund. Yet the great human need in the community is as pressing as when the campaign started September 13. With a goal of \$24,790 this year—more than ever before—the Water Department is fighting to uphold its magnificent record of last year.

In 1960 the department responded to the needs of thousands of less fortunate citizens by piling up 133% of its United Fund quota. As a percentage of goal achieved, this was better than the performance of any other governmental agency (federal, state or local) in the Philadelphia area. In all, the department's employees contributed \$20,322.

Whether the department will do as well this year depends once more upon its employees. Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter urges 100% participation. "If everyone helps out, we have a good chance of making it," said the Commissioner. "I am confident that our employees will do all they can, not only because of the great pride which they have in the Water Department, but also because the need in our city is so real. I cannot think of any wiser way to invest a few dollars than in preserving the human resources of our community."

More than 250 private agencies,

which provide care for the aged, the feeble, the medically needy, and the many troubled or homeless children in Philadelphia, are seeking aid through the United Fund campaign.

The campaign will run until the end of October, but the Water Department is striving to make an early report. B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director, heads the department's drive, while Cornelius J. O'Kane, acting personnel officer, is coordinator of collections.

How to Contribute

Employees desiring to contribute are asked to do so in one of two ways: By payroll deduction at the minimum rate of \$1 on 13 (or less) alternate pay days up to the full amount donated, or by quarterly billing from the United Fund.

Many employees ask: How much should I contribute? Obviously this is a question which only the employee can decide. One sure way, however, to help the Water Department reach its goal this year is to follow certain rules of thumb worked out by the City and the United Fund. It is suggested that employees earning less than \$7,500 annually may wish to consider contributing the equivalent of 10 hours of work. For those earning \$7,500 or more, a table for giving is available from the United Fund.

RATE RISE TO COST CUSTOMER ONLY TWO CENTS MORE A DAY

Two cents more a day!

That's what is needed from the average Philadelphia family to help guarantee high quality water and sewer service during the next four years.

These two cents, plus modest increments from industry, are the essential meaning of the 26% increase in water and sewer rates recently announced by Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter. The proposed increase, to take effect next January 1, would mean \$8 more a year for the average family, which consumes 6,000 cubic feet of water annually.

Putting it another way, the family will pay 10½ cents per ton for water, or about 2½ cents more than now. Dad, if he is extravagant, could take an eight-minute shower with the water running full blast at the rate of five gallons a minute, and he would pay only 1¾ cents for water plus 1⅜ cents for sewerage. Since most people will not brave an eight-minute torrent, they will pay less.

Washing the family car depends on the point of view. Some people use a moist cloth; others let loose a flood. But allowing 50 gallons for the flooders, the cost will still be less than four cents for water and sewerage.

You can still mix 400 cool glasses with a penny's worth of water, and this doesn't include the ingredients that the mixer may casually add.

The New Rates

Does this reassuring picture apply to non-average families, as well as to merchants and industrialists? If you are looking through a cool glass of Philadelphia water, the picture is very clear.

Nearly one-fifth of all Philadelphians use less than 4,000 cubic feet of water a year, and thus are non-average. For them the cost will be about \$7 more a year, or less than two cents a day.

While the new rates will vary for 12 different sizes of water meters, 95% of all consumers will pay charges for the smallest (or ⅝-inch) meter. This meter is found in practically all private dwellings, as well as in many commercial establishments. Consumers in this group will pay a minimum yearly charge of \$17.50 for water, plus \$1.16 for each 1,000 cubic feet of water over 4,000 (compared with \$13.60 minimum and 90 cents excess

previously). For these consumers the new sewer charge will be 94% of the water bill rather than the current 98%.

Philadelphians using less than 4,000 cubic feet of water a year will pay \$33.95 for water and sewer service compared with \$26.93 previously. The typical family (6,000 cubic feet) will pay a total of \$38.45, rather than the existing \$30.49.

For the 4,800 firms and stores using the one-inch meter, the minimum water charge will rise from \$31 a year to \$40, while the charge for each 1,000 cubic feet over 9,000 will be \$1.16 instead of 90 cents. The sewer charge for this group will be 84% of the water bill compared with the present 88%.

Comparison With Other Cities

Philadelphians will continue to pay much less for water than will their neighbors in the suburbs. In many Pennsylvania communities bordering Philadelphia, the residents pay \$38.95 for 6,000 cubic feet, compared with \$19.82 under the new rates in Philadelphia; for 10,000 cubic feet they pay \$60.19 compared with a future \$24.46 in Philadelphia. At 20,000 and 40,000 cubic feet the disproportion is ever greater. The new Philadelphia rates will also be somewhat lower than those in Camden, New Jersey.

Our city's water rates also compare favorably with the rates in many large cities.

For example: At 6,000 cubic feet Philadelphia's new water rates will fall approximately \$4 below those of Pittsburgh and San Francisco and will be only a couple of dollars above the rates in Los Angeles. All of these cities have self-supporting water systems... like Philadelphia.



"A raise, eh? My boy, with nerve like that you belong in Customer Service. I'm transferring you right away—at the same salary."

WHY AN INCREASE IN WATER-SEWER RATES?

An increase in water and sewer rates is needed because—

1. The Water Department must complete its \$409 million modernization program (1946-66). This is essential to ensure Philadelphia's future civic and industrial growth. About \$134 million of projects remain to be completed. Many of these, such as the modernization of the Belmont Water Treatment Plant and expansion of the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, are vital to large areas of the city.
2. Construction costs have been climbing nationally and locally at an average speed of 5% a year, thus affecting seriously the department's large construction program.
3. Debt service costs (representing principal and interest on water and sewer bonds) have been rising at an average of 14% a year.
4. There have been necessary increases in operating costs despite substantial departmental economies and modern, labor saving equipment.
5. Revenues are lagging behind climbing expenditures and costs, with the prospect of a \$2 million operating deficit for 1961 and a \$26 million operating deficit by the end of 1965.

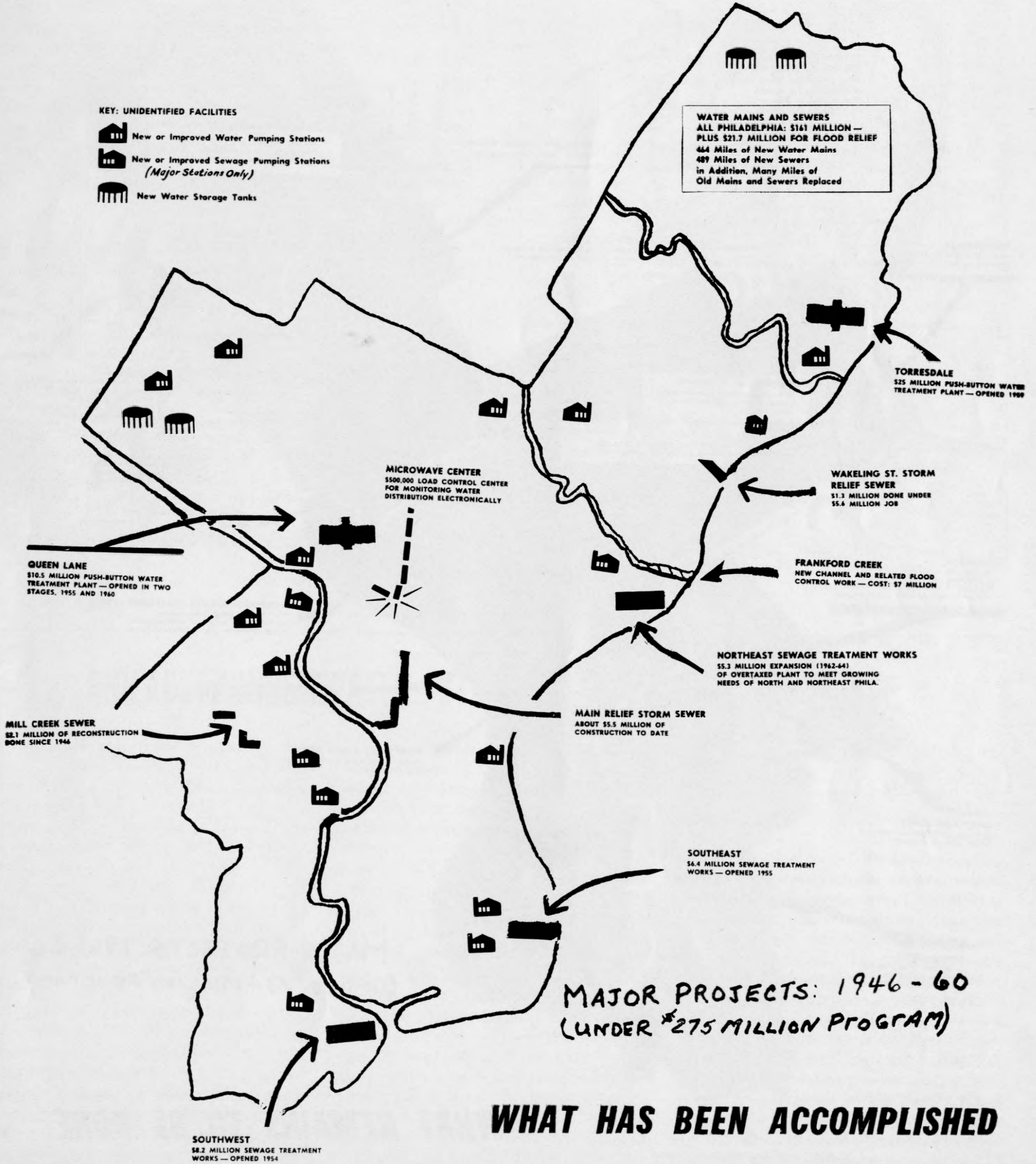
VOTE FOR CITY LOANS

Would you like to keep Philadelphia's modernization programs rolling? You can do this by supporting the five public loan proposals on November 7. More than \$65.5 million is being sought to carry out 118 public works projects.

Included in the proposals is one to borrow \$19,770,000 for the water and sewerage system. These funds would provide for the rehabilitation of the Belmont Water Treatment Plant and Raw Water Pumping Station, expansion of the Load Control Center, laying of new water mains and sewers, construction of additional filtered water storage basins, expansion of the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, reconstruction of old sewers, digging of additional sludge lagoons, and other purposes.

The many city wide projects will have an important effect on Philadelphia's future.

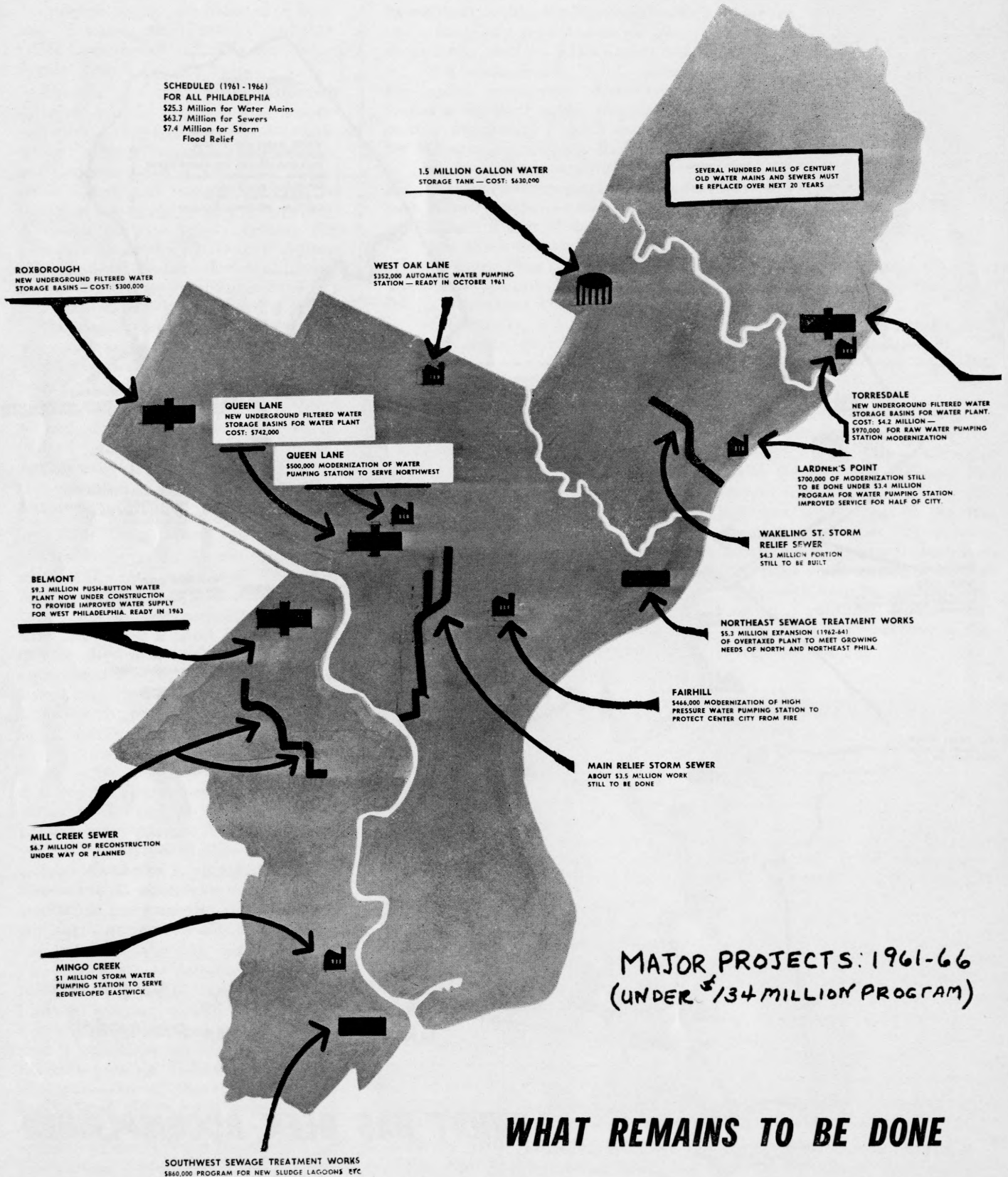
WATER AND SEWERAGE MODERNIZATION



WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED

WATER AND SEWERAGE MODERNIZATION

SCHEDULED (1961 - 1966)
FOR ALL PHILADELPHIA
\$25.3 Million for Water Mains
\$63.7 Million for Sewers
\$7.4 Million for Storm
Flood Relief



MAJOR PROJECTS: 1961-66
(UNDER \$134 MILLION PROGRAM)

WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE

NEVER IN OUR TOWN . . . THANKS TO GOOD PLANNING



PHILADELPHIA'S WATER: STRIKING CHANGE IN A DECADE

Most Philadelphians remember the time . . . back in the 1940's and the early 1950's . . . when Philadelphia's water tasted bad . . . smelled bad . . . looked bad . . . because it came from highly polluted rivers and was inefficiently treated and distributed. The rivers were receiving thousands of tons of raw sewage solids every year; the city's old water plants and pumping stations could not even turn out enough water, let alone good quality water.

Anyone who compares the situation today with that in the past would be astonished by the change. Here are some of the changes.

High Quality Water: The city's water is rated very high in purity today; tastes and odors have largely vanished; discoloration occurs infrequently and then only as the result of special conditions. This profound

change has resulted from more varied use of chemicals, improved laboratory control, opening of two new and highly equipped semi-automatic water treatment plants, construction of new water mains, and cleaning and lining of many old mains.

Water quality complaints have tumbled drastically as a result of improved methods at the new Torresdale and Queen Lane Plants.

Abundant Water: There was a time when many Philadelphians failed to get more than a trickle of water on hot summer days. The city's old slow sand filter plants and obsolete pumping stations could not cope with unusually high demand. Their capacity was too limited, and breakdowns in equipment were frequent. Today, thanks to the new facilities, Philadelphia has abundant filtering and pumping capacity, while water supply

and pressures have been further improved by new water storage tanks, new or reconditioned mains, and electronic-microwave monitoring of distribution.

Improved Rivers: Today, as a result of interstate-federal programs and the sewage disposal plan of the Water Department, the condition of the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers has greatly improved. The department's three modern sewage works now treat 96% of Philadelphia's raw sewage, besides millions of gallons daily from neighboring communities. New interceptor sewers and pumping stations have also aided the process, while the Water Department and industry have cooperated in bottling up or rendering harmless the industrial wastes that normally go into the rivers. Automatic monitoring instruments keep a watch on changing river conditions.

MYSTERY EMPLOYEES REFUSE "TO TALK" !!

With the appointment of two new employees to the position of Watchdog Trainee, civil service subclass 000-1, desperate officials let out a formal yelp today for help.

Though the new recruits passed all civil service examinations (medical, physical, psychiatric and intelligence) with flying tails, their personnel dossiers have a strangely doggy odor. There are mysterious gaps in the past histories of the employees. A check of paw prints against the vast records of the FBID in Washington (Federal Bureau for Identifying Dogs) showed no criminal record . . . and unfortunately no record at all.

The department . . . frankly speaking . . . is up against a tree. The new employees have no names, or at least aren't saying.

Now this situation is without precedent in the 250 years or so of Philadelphia municipal government. A City employee has been known on rare occasion to forget where he lives, but never his name.

Doing Good Job

The department is not trying to sniff at the new employees. They are fine young fellows (16 months and two years of age respectively), and they are doing a good job, guarding the fire hydrants and other valuable equipment stored at the Water Distribution Headquarters, 29th and Cambria Streets. They are getting high marks in joint training with their security guard handlers, and there is no reason why they should not receive permanent civil service status at the end of the six months' probationary period. At the end of a year they will be eligible for promotion to Watchdog I, provided the City Personnel Department can be persuaded to pass up the usual written test for a performance test.

Be all that as it may, rules are rules . . . and there are definite rules about nameless municipal employees. Employees without names confuse the City's elaborate accounting machines, and it would be no surprise if some reader's pension deductions were assigned to one of these nameless accounts and the reader were retired eventually (through an oversight, of course) to the S.P.C.A. It could happen to you.

Do you wish to avert such tangled red tape? See the box at top right.

Hi, Fellow Employee

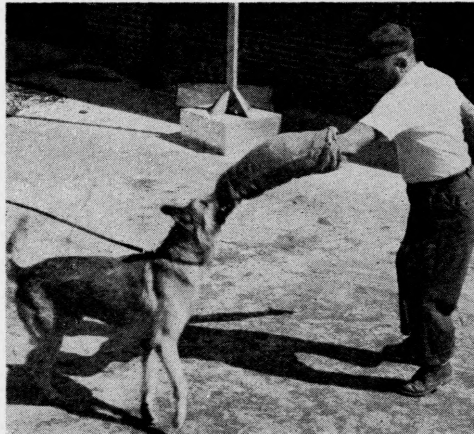
Want to send in names for me and my buddy? We are your new watchdogs.

We just started on the job, but some bureaucrat is dogging us already. He told us we can't keep our jobs unless we get names. How do you like that for government red tape?

In a snide article (left), containing some of the usual newspaper distortions, the editor makes a big deal of the fact that we don't have names. Personally I don't care a yip or a bark for his opinions, but my buddy is sensitive.

So how about sending in some names to save our jobs and ease my buddy's feelings? My boss, Elmer Goebel (a real, regular guy) is offering \$5 from Water Distribution's Sunshine Fund for each name accepted. Just mail your entries . . . not more than two . . . to Mr. Goebel, Water Distribution Chief, at Water Distribution Headquarters, 29th and Cambria Streets. The deadline is November 17.

Incidentally, my buddy and I are boys. Send in a girl's name, and it's your pants, Bub . . . Say, could that bureaucrat be spoofing?



ON THE JOB TRAINING is given a new employee at Water Distribution Hdq. by Fairmount Park Guard Paul Tucker. The course is intended to make disciplined watchdogs of the two German shepherds recently acquired by the Water Department. The dogs walk a regular beat at night with security guards, protecting valuable equipment. Night time prowlers avoid Distribution Hdq.



CITY'S DOG TRAINING EXPERTS are Sgt. Charles Turner (left) and Pvt. Paul Tucker, of the Fairmount Park Canine Corps. With years of experience in dog handling, they are now conducting a course for Water Department security guards and new watchdogs.

WORD AND PICTURE TELL WATER STORY

The Water Department, never bashful about giving the public the facts, has been telling its story in various ways during the past two months.

Twenty pages of press releases accompanied the August 22 announcement of an increase in water and sewer rates; there were also charts and a press conference. Television and radio interviews followed.

Here are some of the more recent twists:

Poster: "Most people taste the difference" proclaims a 4-color poster now beaming down from 500 Water and Streets Department trucks, as well as from bulletin boards in many municipal facilities. The difference in what? You guessed it. "Progress in water treatment means better tasting water for Philadelphians."

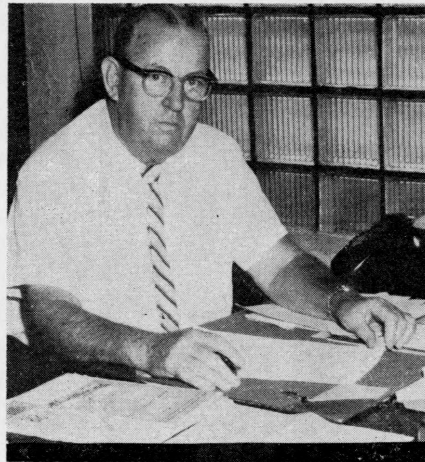
Folder: Thousands of copies of a new color folder which suggests visits to the department's new "push-button" water plants and other facilities have been distributed to playgrounds, tourist information centers, school teachers, heads of civic and engineering organizations, etc.

Exhibit: From August 30 to September 13 the Water Department participated in an exposition sponsored by the Philadelphia Inquirer in the John Wanamaker auditorium. Thousands of Philadelphians saw the department's flashing display on plant modernization and helped themselves to several thousand pieces of literature.

Visitors continue to stream by the hundreds monthly to the new Torresdale Plant, where they are given red carpet treatment . . . from the showing of a color strip film to provision of free guide service and literature.



NEW PLAN SENDS ALL CALLS TO CUSTOMER SERVICE SECTION



FRANK J. KEOUGH

FRANK KEOUGH RETIRES TO EASIER MOTORING LIFE

Frank J. Keough is a friendly man who has carried on a life long love affair . . . with motors.

For 42 years Frank has been tinkering with the City's passenger cars, trucks and other equipment . . . watching the endless evolution of the motor car from the Model "T" to today's streamlined power houses.

This past month Frank retired as automotive maintenance supervisor of the Water Department's big Logan repair garage.

While not calling the love affair with motors entirely quits, Frank decided on a quieter life up at Pennsburg, where he has built a new home and can "sleep until nine o'clock in the morning."

Besides mending the City's vehicles over the years, Frank, like other true motor enthusiasts, roamed widely, driving his family on vacations to Arizona and other parts of the West as well as to Florida.

When did it all begin? In his youth Frank worked for the Packard Motor Company, and then in 1919 he went into the City's Bureau of Highways. In 1937 the bureau was merged into the Bureau of Mechanical Equipment. He came to the Water Department in 1955. "I've found no finer people than here," says Frank feelingly of his Water Department co-workers.

A love for motors—whatever the type—apparently runs in Frank's family. He has one son presently in

Water customers in need of fast service day or night may now telephone MU 6-3900 and get a direct line to the Water Department's Customer Service Section.

The 45-man section, which moved from City Hall Annex to Water Distribution Headquarters at 29th and Cambria Streets on August 1, now receives all incoming calls for departmental service or information. Its personnel on duty around the clock handle almost any conceivable problem or question posed by two million customers.

Calls which previously went to scattered offices are now received by a battery of trained interviewers. The purpose is to spare the customer . . . so far as possible . . . the inconvenience of dealing with more than one departmental office. "The customer ought to be able to dial one number and get all the action he needs," commented Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter.

Service Enlarged

The new moves represent an enlargement of the service which the Customer Service Section has been giving the public for a number of years. Its employees will continue to receive calls relating to leaking water mains, flooded cellars, open fire hydrants, low water pressures, and the like; added to these, however, will be many calls not regularly handled before. Chief among them at the moment are queries about the proposed increase in water and sewer rates.

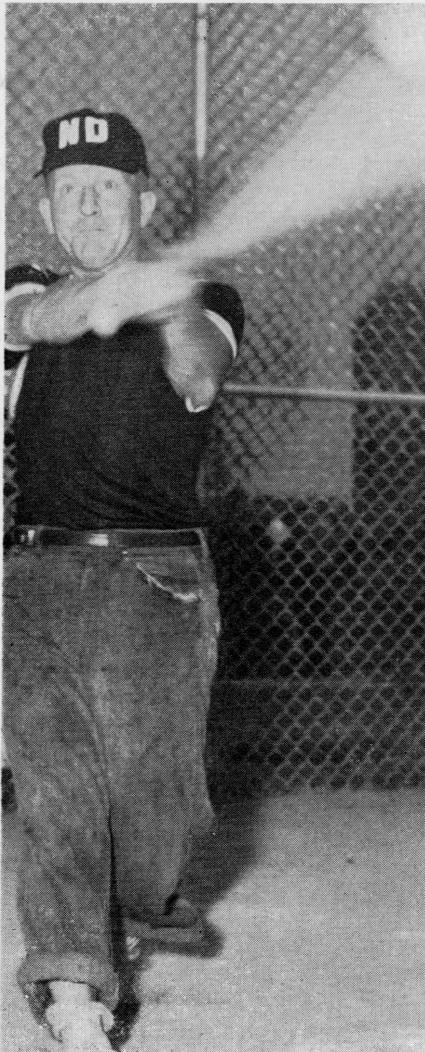
Questions concerning water and sewer bills, however, will continue to be handled by the City Department of Collections.

The move to 29th Street headquarters gives Customer Service personnel easier access to water meter records and other vital files kept there, and permits closer contact with water distribution and sewer maintenance crews. Easier parking space for roving field inspectors is another bonus.

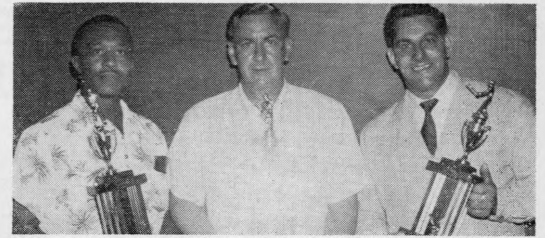
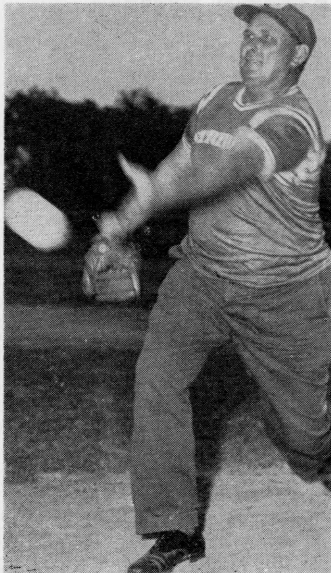
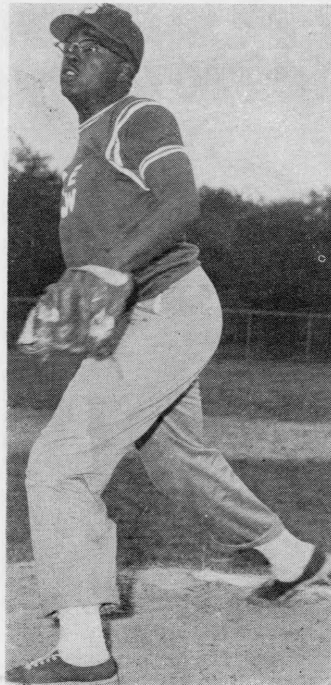
Two Customer Service men remain at City Hall Annex to interview visitors.

the Air Force, and another son who served a hitch in that outfit.

Frank himself intends to give his lawn mower increased attention, up at his new house at Pennsburg. Happy mowing, Frank.



BATting FORM of Harry Sweeney, Jr., of the Northeast Works, looks good as he lends a hand in game between the Southeast-Southwest and Distribution Section teams. Pitchers Richard Wiggins, top center, and Howard Mawson also are in trim.

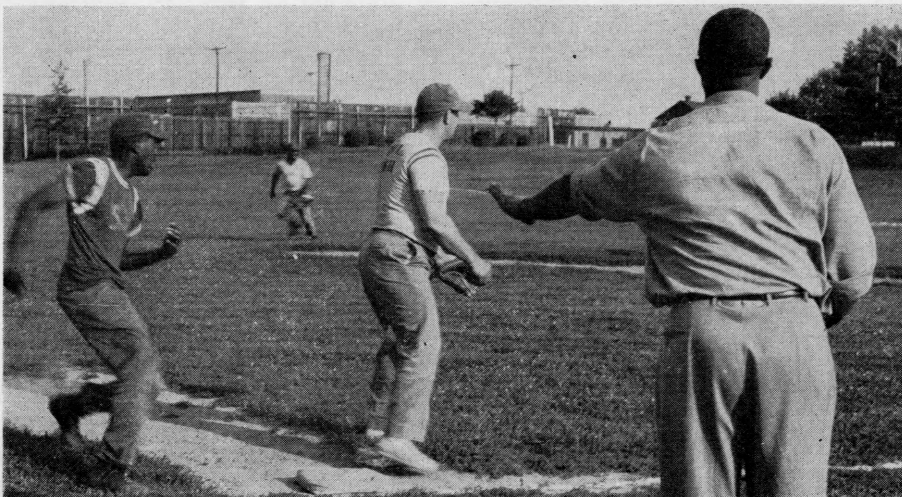


**Softball League Closes
A SEASON OF ACTION**

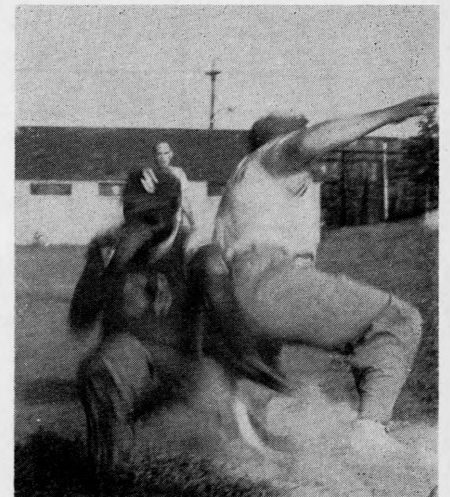
Team managers above hold the spoils of victory after closing of an action packed season for the Water Department Softball League.

Water Distribution, represented by John Catalano (center), carried off the league championship. Second place was captured by Schuylkill Pumping, Robert Kershaw (right), while third place was nailed down by Southeast-Southwest, Robert Easley (left). Northeast-Delaware finished fourth, Construction-Survey fifth, and Queen Lane Filters sixth.

Some of the action is shown on this page.



"PLAY IT SAFE" motions coach in tense battle between Southeast-Southwest and Schuylkill Pumping teams.



"WOULDN'T TAKE THE COACH'S ADVICE, EH?"

Personal Notes

Commissioner's Office

Mary Wolicki, *News* editorial assistant, will wed Robert Schmidt at 2:00 P.M. November 4th in St. Joachim's Church, Griscom and Church Streets. The wedding will be followed by a 7:00 P.M. reception in the Polonia Beneficial Association Hall. The newlyweds will honeymoon in Miami Beach. Mr. Schmidt is employed at the RCA missile and radar plant, Moorestown, N. J.

Administrative

Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky became a proud and happy grandfather on July 26, for the first time, when his son and daughter-in-law presented him with a lovely granddaughter, Karen.

On September 10 John Sassman of Personnel, and Virginia Kotyk, formerly of Universal Metering, were wed at the Russian Orthodox Church in North Philadelphia. John, a "top" amateur comedian, has been with the Water Department for 11 years and Ginny, who was with the Water Department for seven years, are both very popular people in the Annex.

Another September bride was Edna Foster, clerk in the mail room. Edna has been with us for two years and left on August 25. She married her high school sweetheart, William Millard, of North Carolina.

Mrs. Yvonne Reid Bostic, in the Accounting Unit, left the middle of August with her Navy enlisted husband to spend about two and one-half years in France.

Mrs. Janice James Hatcher, of Sewerage Operations, gave birth to a baby girl on August 8 at Albert Einstein Medical Center. Sharon Kay weighed six pounds, 14 ounces.

Southeast Works

Southeast employees would like to extend their get well wishes to the following: Alvin Walker and Fred Hicks who are confined at Philadelphia General Hospital.

Bernard Burse vacationed in the Southland and Earl Bantom, sewage treatment operator in Canada.

Francis Papaleo has just returned from military leave. We understand Papaleo has not unpacked his bag yet and is standing by.

Construction

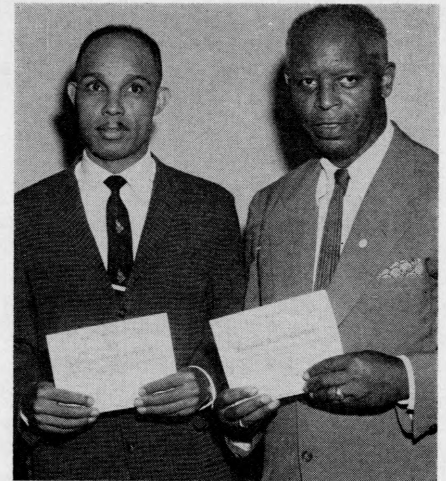
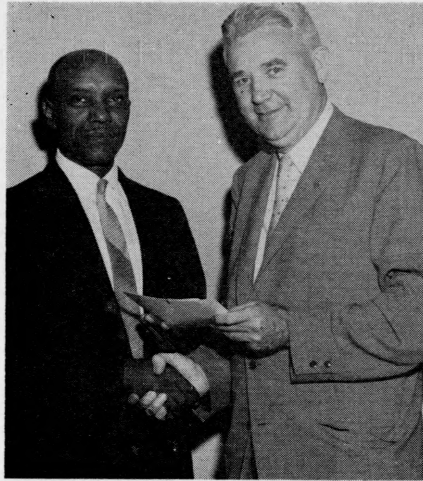
Walter Clark, division engineer, became the father of a baby boy on August 14—Curtis Antony Clark.

Betty Ziegler became the proud grandmother of a baby girl on July 31. The baby, Jennifer Gorman, is the sister of Jonathan Gorman, who was two in April.

Joseph F. Stork has now been transferred to the Nazareth Hospital. He seems to be improving slowly and we hope it won't be too long before he is back in the office.

Torresdale

Torresdale welcomes Floyd W. Carson, Jr., chemist I, to its staff.



CHECKS GO TO THREE EMPLOYEES under the City's suggestion award program for new ideas. Leon E. Taylor (left) receives award from Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, while James Wilkerson (middle) and Frank Boyer hold their awards for good thinking.

FROM REGULATORS TO PENCILS: EMPLOYEES SPOUT IDEAS

Water Department employees are still collecting for periodic brainstorms.

Leon E. Taylor, chemist at the Southwest Sewage Treatment Works, decided that his plant's biochemical oxygen demand incubators needed an improvement. He suggested equipping them with inverse thermo-regulators to maintain the constant temperature required in such units. Result: He won \$25 under the City's suggestion award program.

James Wilkerson, technician in the Materials Testing Laboratory, found

a way for cutting in half the time required for analysis of paint samples for their alkyd resin content. He also pocketed \$25.

A new type pencil for marking test cylinders was the brainstorm of Frank Boyer, public works inspector in the Construction Branch. Not only does the new pencil replace paint, but it can be used on wet surfaces. Mr. Boyer was paid \$15 for his idea.

There's still plenty of money awaiting employees with really good suggestions. Turn them in now.

THREE WINNERS IN A ROW? MUST BE A RABBIT'S FOOT

Members of the Water Quality Control and Research Section have developed a knack for being at the right place at the right time.

At the last session of the Pennsylvania Water Works Operators' Association, Walter C. Ringer, section superintendent, won a door prize.

Four days later one of Mr. Ringer's assistants, Richard Pinder, sanitary engineer, won a door prize in the same auditorium.

Leon Jones, driver, was fishing from the "Cock Robin," which sails from Pt. Pleasant, N. J., when he caught not only the largest fish (over five lbs.) but also the ship's \$38 pool.

INSTITUTE OPENS FOR CITY WORKERS

Opening of the Philadelphia Government Training Institute October 16 means another season for the successful venture which began in 1959. Designed to teach City employees new administrative and technical skills, the institute has drawn crowded classes each term.

Nine courses—two of them new—are being offered this year. Work simplification and electronic data processing will be taught for the first time. Other courses cover communication, basic and advanced supervision, budget preparation and management, modern office practices, personnel practices, and City governmental organization.

EXTRA! All Recreation Association members. See special showing of "West Side Story" November 6, 8:30 P.M., Midtown Theater. Special \$2 price for members.

NEW TELEPHONE NETWORK PERMITS DIRECT DIALING TO MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Philadelphia switched over to a new municipal telephone system October 8.

The new service affects about 6,000 telephones in government agencies throughout the city, and is designed to increase the speed and efficiency of connections by making it possible to dial most of the instruments directly.

The heart of the system is called "Centrex," a direct dial service connecting some 4,000 phones in centrally located offices. Philadelphia is the first City in the nation to have the advanced service.

With the direct dial service a citizen no longer will have to call MUncipal 6-9700 and then ask the operator for a particular extension. He can merely dial MU 6- followed by a four-digit extension which will connect him directly with the person or office he wishes to contact.

For example: To be connected with the Mayor's Office for Information and Complaints, the caller used to dial MU 6-9700 and ask the operator for the office. Under the new system the office has 10 extension numbers—MU 6-3000 to MU 6-3009. Callers may dial MU 6-3000 and be connected directly with the complaint desk or MU 6-3006 and be connected directly with an information clerk.

One of the numbers that is unchanged is the direct line to the police radio dispatcher, LO 7-5100. For persons unable to make use of the direct dial service, special information operators will be on duty at the MU 6-9700 number.

Extensions Served

The 4,000 extensions served by "Centrex" are located at City Hall, City Hall Annex, Commercial Trust Building, Health Department at 500 South Broad Street, main library, all police units except the Police Academy, Market Street National Bank Building, Municipal Court, Penn Square Building, Traffic Court and Youth Study Center.

The 12 principal locations to be served by operators at MU 6-9700 are: Automotive Maintenance, Bartram Service Building, Child Welfare Center, Commercial Museum, Fairmount Park (Belmont Office), Northeast Airport, Northeast Sewage Works, Northwest Service Building, Queen Lane Filters, Southeast Service Building, Torresdale Filters and Water Distribution Headquarters.



GOOD DEEDS HAVE THEIR REWARD as City employees who rescued pigs from an overturned truck learn. William S. Savage, right, administrator of Women's S.P.C.A., presents \$25 savings bonds to (l. to r.) William Mathis and James L. Sullivan, of the Queen Lane Raw Water Pumping Station, Park Guard Mark Edwin and Fire Lt. Alfred Pomante.

DROP THAT GUN, PODNER THAT'S SHERIFF SIEGEL!

All things come to him who waits . . . and talent helps.

Paul Siegel, Construction Branch employee, who has played so many roles with local theater groups, has landed a part in a movie.

Paul has been offered the part of the sheriff in "The Country Girl" (tentative title), produced by Edgar B. Braveris. This motion picture is to be filmed in Philadelphia and surrounding areas. Maybe this will be the break that Paul has been hunting for so long.

DUFFY AND McKINNEY END FIFTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE

Two employees have retired after 15 years of service. They are:

Francis J. Duffy, 65, of 2981 Weikel Street, a trades helper in the Building Maintenance Section, who formerly worked for the Federal Government.

Washington McKinney, 65, of 2132 Pemberton Street, a laborer in the Distribution Section, who was previously employed by the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

The department extends to them its best wishes for many happy years.

TIPS ON GARDENING

By ELWOOD UNRUH

Torresdale Gardener

Early last spring, after the last of the snow finally melted, many lawn owners may have noticed that their grass was greener, privet hedges were a vivid green and all foliage plants had a bright fresh green appearance. This was not a mere optical illusion, as might be suffered because of the contrast of the white snow and the relief that the tiresome stuff was at last gone. It was a fact caused by the nitrogen content of the snow. Many lawn owners who never treated their little patch of earth to fertilizer were given it "free of charge" by Mother Nature.

Lawns respond very favorably to a fertilization program of spring and fall feeding. A fertilizer with a 10-6-4 formula is the one recommended most often by the experts. That means the fertilizer contains 10% nitrogen, 6% phosphorus, and 4% potash.

In a recent test of the University of California at Los Angeles and Berkeley it was found that a square foot of unfertilized grass contained 9,000 grass plants, whereas a square foot of fertilized grass contained 16,000 plants.

In practical reasoning this means that the thicker the turf, the finer the weeds and the less crab grass infestation. For this last mentioned there are other procedures to be considered along with fertilization. Next spring we'll touch on that.

Chrysanthemums are coming into their own now. If you don't have any, invest in a pot or two. You'll find they pay large dividends because they can be divided very easily. In a few years you'll have far more than you will have need of and you'll be giving them away.